

# Professor Norbert Bräu

James J Peters VA Medical Center, New York, USA

COMPETING INTEREST OF FINANCIAL VALUE $\geq$ £1,000:	
Speaker Name	Statement
Prof Norbert Bräu	None
Date	November 2013

**British HIV Association – BASL – BVHG**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for the Management of**  
**HIV / Hepatitis Co-infection**

**Hepatocellular Carcinoma**  
**in HIV-infected Patients**

**Wednesday, 13 November 2013**

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Mount Sinai School of Medicine



JJ Peters VA Medical Center

32 ½ years ago ...

5 June 1981

CDC  
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL  
AND PREVENTION

June 5, 1981 / Vol. 30 / No. 21

# MMWR™

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY  
WEEKLY REPORT

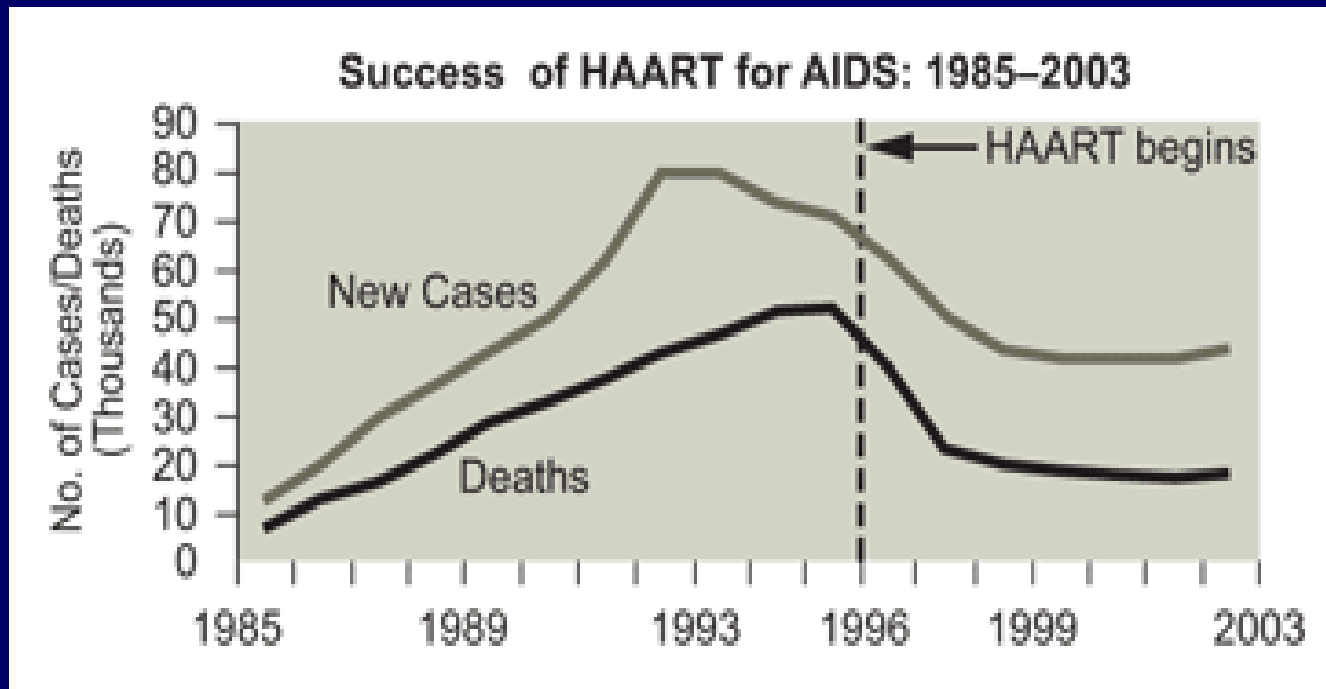
249 Dengue Type 4 Infections in U.S. Travelers to the Caribbean  
250 *Pneumocystis* Pneumonia — Los Angeles  
252 Measles — United States, Five Weeks  
253 Risk-Factor-Prevalence Survey  
259 Surveillance of Childhood Lead Poisoning — United States  
261 Quarantine Measures

## *Pneumocystis* Pneumonia — Los Angeles

In the period October 1980–May 1981, 5 young men, all active homosexuals treated for biopsy-confirmed *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia at 3 different hospitals in Los Angeles, California. Two of the patients died. All 5 patients had laboratory-confirmed previous or current cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection and candidal infection. Case reports of these patients follow.

**Patient 1:** A previously healthy 33-year-old man developed *P. carinii* pneumonia, oral mucosal candidiasis in March 1981 after a 2-month history of fever associated with elevated liver enzymes, leukopenia, and CMV viremia. The serum complement C3 titer in October 1980 was 256; in May 1981 it was 32. The patient's condition deteriorated despite courses of treatment with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, zalcitabine, and acyclovir. He died May 3, and postmortem examination showed *P. carinii* pneumonia, but no evidence of neoplasia.

# Effect of HAART on Survival



# Rising rate of liver-related deaths and of HCC

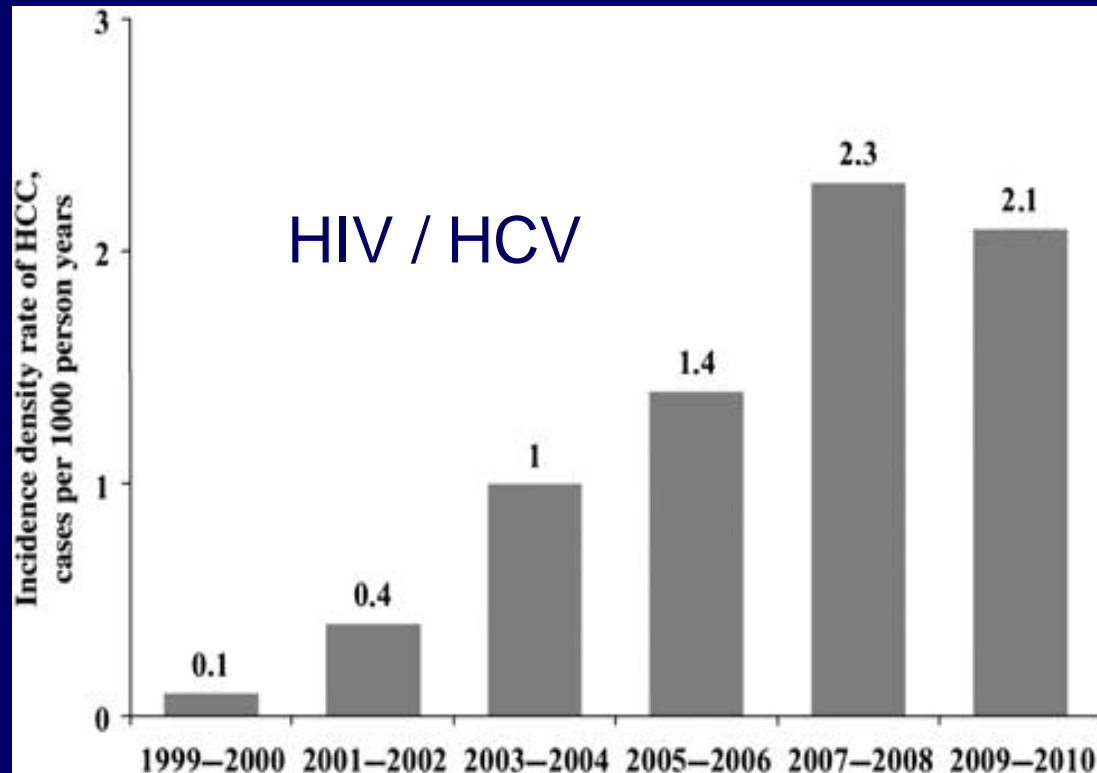
## France: Mortalité 2000 & 2005

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>	
N HIV+ patients	~64,000	78,000	
Deaths	964 (1.5%)	1,042 (1.3%)	
Liver deaths:	13.4%	15.4%	
→ HCC deaths:	15%	25%	p=0.03

# HCC in HIV – Rising Incidence

## Andalucia (Spain) 1999 – 2010

n = 14,300 (2010)



All HIV patients

0.1

0.2

0.5

0.7

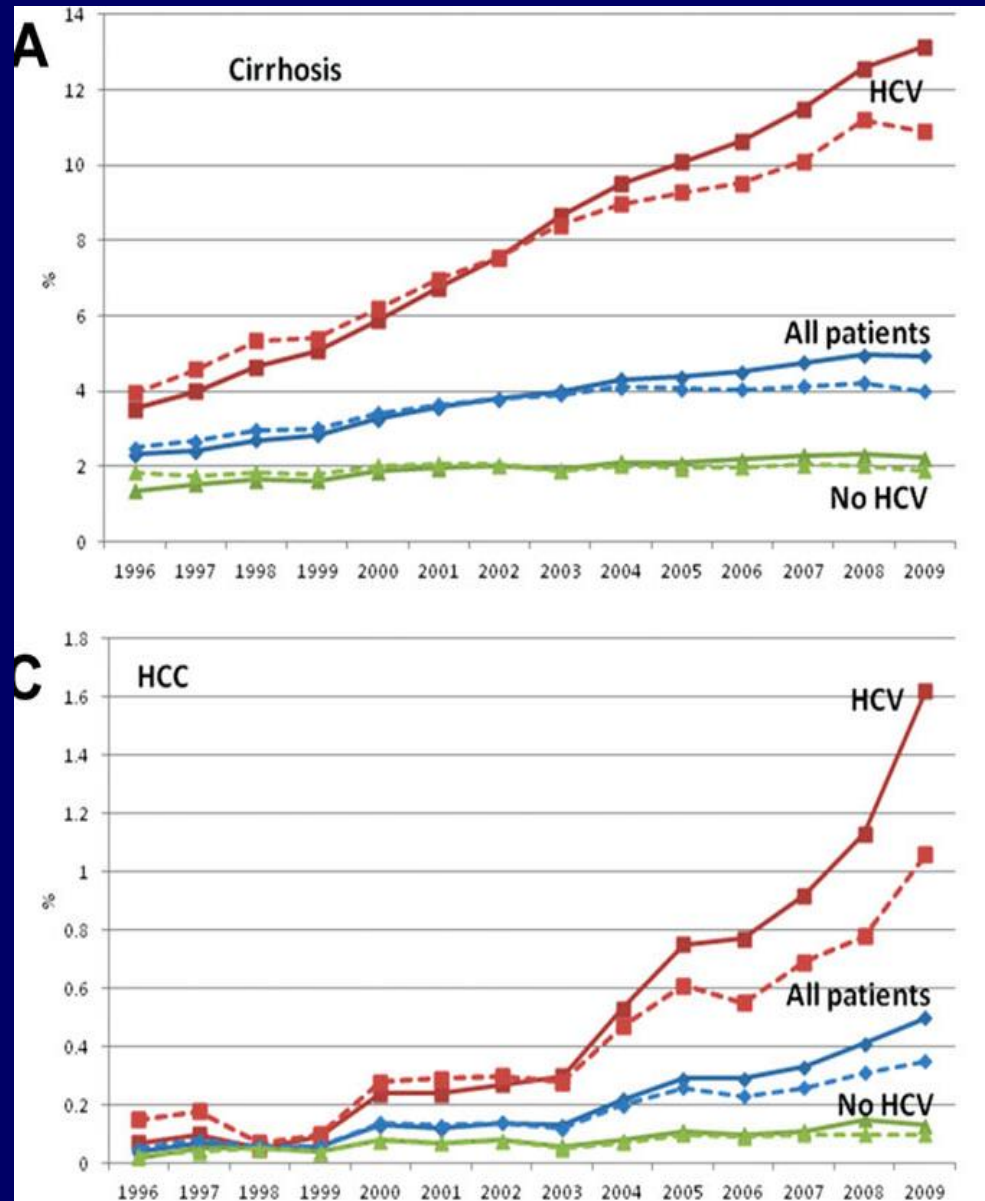
1.0

0.9

# HCC in HIV – Rising Prevalence

VA System (USA)  
1996 – 2009

n = 24,000 (2009)



# HIV and HCV or HBV coinfection Epidemiology

## HCV or HBV within HIV+ pts:

HCV strongly depends on  
mode of transmission of HIV itself:

Anti-HCV[+], total	42.5%
IDU	91 %
blood transfusion	71 %
sexual transmission	7.1 %

HBV less pronounced

HBsAg[+], total	6.9%
MSM	11.0%;
IDU	6.4%;
blood Tx	2.5%

N=1,935



# HCC Incidence in HIV / HCV vs. HCV

## VA System (USA) 1991 – 2000

	<b>HIV/HCV</b> n = 4,760	<b>HCV</b> n = 26,600	<b>IRR</b>	<b>adj. HR*</b>
<b>Incid. /1000 PY</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>1.04</b>
		<b>p</b>	<b>0.046</b>	<b>0.87</b>

\* Adjusted for age, race, sex, HBV, DM, alcohol, drug use

# HCC Incidence in HIV - HCV – alcohol

## VA System (USA) 1997 – 2004

matched 1:2	HIV(+) n = 14,018		HIV(-) n = 28,036	
	Model 1 IRR	95% CI	Model 2 IRR	95% CI
HIV	<b>1.68</b>	1.02 - 2.77	0.96	0.56 - 1.63
HCV	—	—	<b>12.54</b>	6.46 - 24.35
Alcohol ab.	—	—	<b>1.85</b>	1.03 - 3.35
Age	<b>1.05</b>	1.03 - 1.06	<b>1.08</b>	1.05 - 1.10

# HCC in HIV - Outcome

## Case Series

2001                      n= 7                      García-Samaniego J et al. (Madrid), *Am J Gastro*

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2001	n= 7	García-Samaniego J et al. (Madrid), <i>Am J Gastro</i>
2004	n=41	Puoti M et al. (Italy), <i>AIDS</i>
2007 Group	n=63	North American Liver Cancer in HIV Study Bräu N et al., <i>J Hepatol</i>
2011	n=102	Berretta M et al. (Italy), <i>Oncologist</i>

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2011	n=102	Berretta M et al. (Italy), <i>Oncologist</i>
2012	n=26	Yopp AC et al. (Dallas), <i>Clin Gastroent Hepatol</i>
2012	n=23	Lim C at al. (Paris), <i>JAIDS</i>
2013	n=48	Pavoni M et al. (Bologna, Italy), <i>Dig Liver Dis</i>

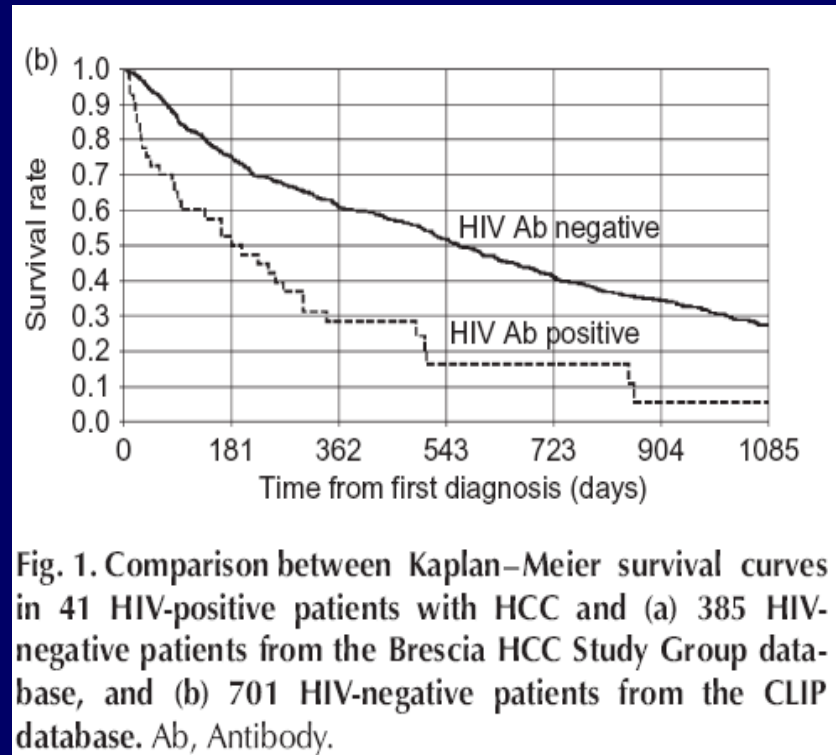
# HCC in HIV - Outcome

## 1<sup>st</sup> Italian HCC in HIV study (2004)

Median survival:

HIV-pos. (n=41)      **5.9 mo**

HIV-neg. (n=701)    **18.0 mo**



# 1<sup>st</sup> Italian HCC in HIV study

## (2004)

Table 4. Multivariate analysis of clinical, biochemical and pathologic variables significantly associated with survival in 742 patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (41 HIV-infected patients and 701 HIV-uninfected patients from the CLIP database).

Variables and categories	Hazard ratio	95% confidence interval	<i>P</i>
Liver function status			
Child-Pugh class A	1.0		
Child-Pugh class B	1.5	1.25–1.82	
Child-Pugh class C	2.29	1.77–2.96	< 0.0001
Portal Vein invasion			
No	1.0		0.024
Yes	1.32	1.04–1.69	
Lesion morphology [diameter (cm)]			
< 5 cm	1.0		< 0.0001
> 5 cm	1.92	1.52–2.41	
Serum alfafetoprotein (ng/dL)			
< 400	1.0		< 0.0001
≥ 400	1.42	1.17–1.73	
Treatment:			
Any type	1.0		< 0.0001
None or medical treatment	2.12	1.74–2.59	
Anti HIV reactivity			
Negative	1.0		0.045
Positive	1.63	1.02–2.61	

# North American Liver Cancer in HIV Study Group



\* 12 sites (US, Canada) HIV-pos. HCC (n=63)

\* 4 sites HIV-pos. + HIV-neg. HCC (n=226)



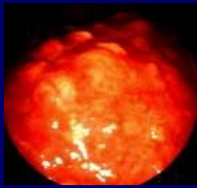
# N American HCC in HIV Study: Patient Characteristics

	HIV-positive n=63	HIV-negative n=226	P
<b>Age, mean (years)</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Etiology of HCC (%)</b>			
<b>Viral Hepatitis</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
HCV	72%	67%	
HBV	25%	4%	
<b>Non-viral</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>29%</b>	
Alcohol	2%	17%	
Iron Overload	0%	2%	
Unknown	2%	10%	

# N American HCC in HIV Study: Patient Characteristics

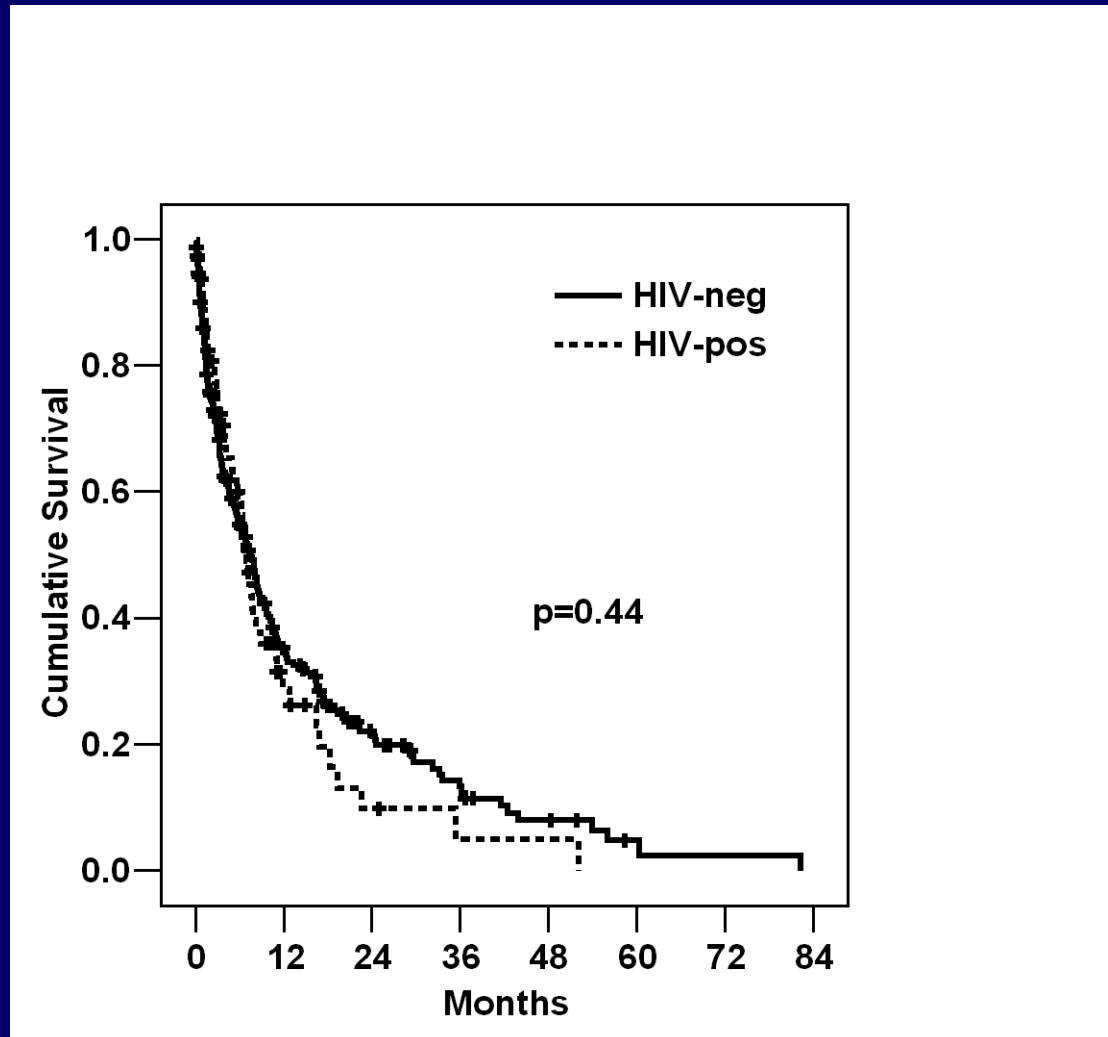
	HIV- positive n=63	HIV- negative n=226	P
<b>Initial Presentation</b>			
Liver Mass on Imaging (Screening)	32%	51%	<b>0.048</b>
Elevated AFP (Screening)	18%	11%	
<b>Symptoms</b> Abdominal Pain, Weight Loss, Abdominal Distension	<b>51%</b>	<b>38%</b>	
<b>Extrahepatic Metastases</b> Skeletal, Lungs, Inferior Vena Cava, Heart, Adrenal, Gall Bladder, Lymph Nodes, Multiple Sites	13%	8%	0.25
<i>Bräu N et al., J Hepatol, Oct 2007</i>			

# N American HCC in HIV Study: Tumor Staging



	HIV-positive n=63	HIV- negative n=226	P
Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer (BCLC) Stage, %	n=62	n=214	
A	26%	21%	0.47
B	24%	21%	
<b>C</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>40%</b>	
<b>D</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>18%</b>	
<u><b>Advanced BCLC Stage (C+D)</b></u>	<u><b>50%</b></u>	<u><b>58%</b></u>	

# N American HCC in HIV Study: Survival All Patients



At risk HIV[-]	226	64	29	14	7	2	1	median survival: 7.5 mo
At risk HIV[+]	63	11	3	1	1	0	0	median survival: 6.9 mo

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Italian HCC in HIV study (2011)

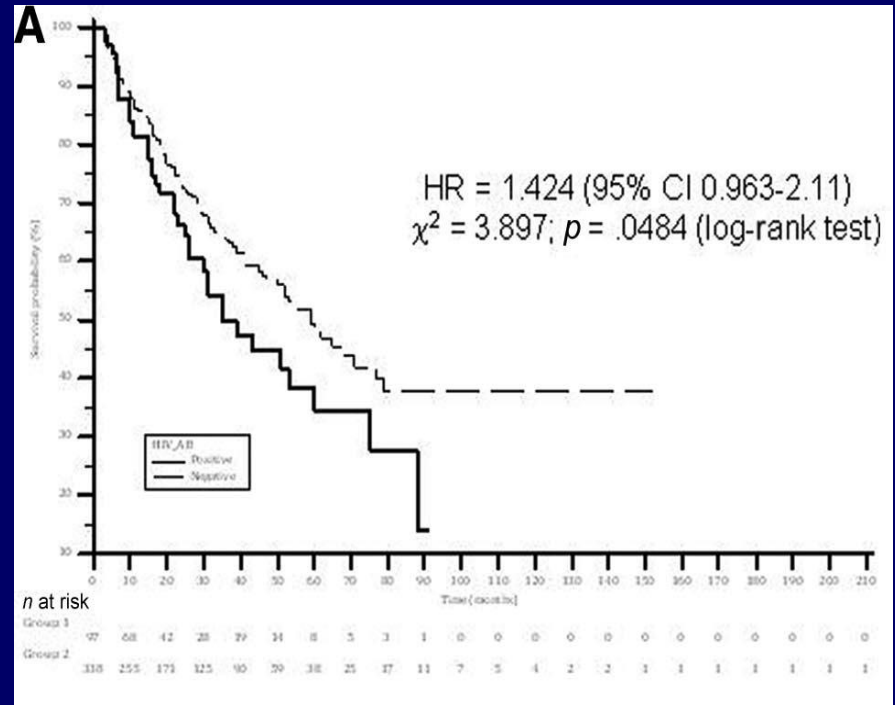
Median survival:

HIV-pos.

**35 mo**

HIV-neg.

**59 mo**



# Comparison Survival HIV(+) vs. HIV(-)

Study	N		Median survival (mo)		p
	HIV(+)	HIV(-)	HIV(+)	HIV(-)	
Italy (2004)	41	701	5.9	18.0	<b>0.045</b>
North America (2007)	63	226	6.9	7.5	0.44
Italy (2011)	104	484	35	59	<b>0.048</b>
Dallas (2012)	26	164	9.6	5.2	0.85
Paris (2012)	23	46	18	26	0.2
Bologna (2013)	48	234	16	30	<b>0.035</b>

# HCC in HIV - Therapy

## Sorafenib

### Italian cohort (2007 – 2010)

**HIV(+)**

**N=27**

HIV(-) in SHARP trial

N=299

*Llovet JM, NEJM, 2007*

Overall Survival (median)

**12.8 mo**

10.7 mo

Time to Progression

**5.1 mo**

5.5 mo

Grade 3-4 toxicity

Diarrhea

4 (15%)

8%

Hand & Foot Skin Reaction

4 (15%)

8%

Hypertension

3 (11%)

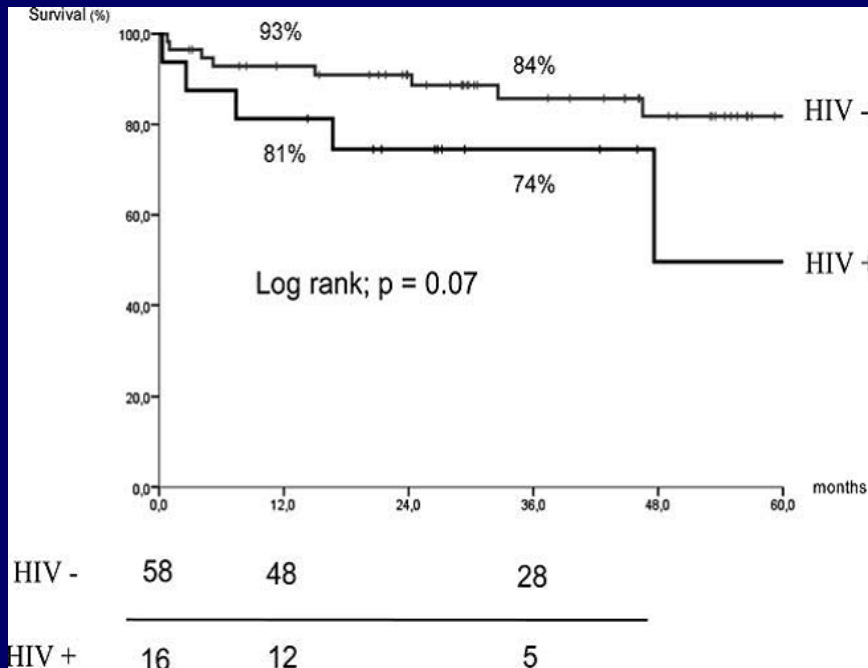
2%

# HCC in HIV - Therapy

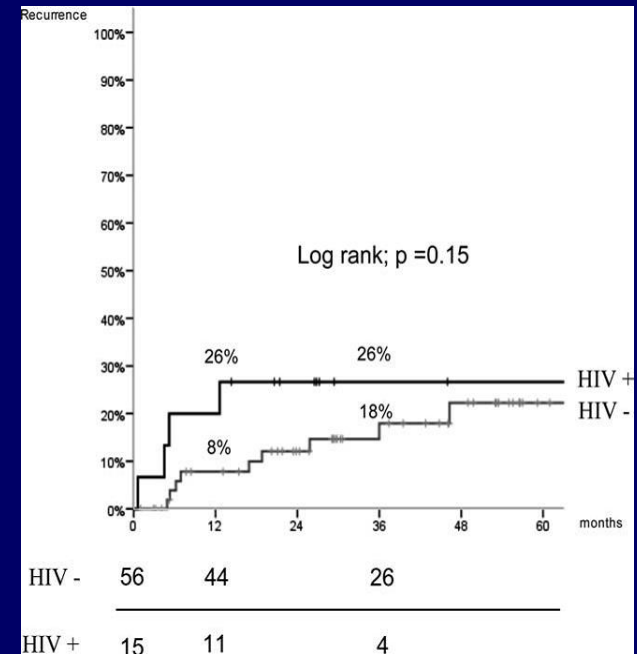
## Transplantation

Single center, Paris HIV(+) 21 → 16 OLT HIV(-) 65 → 58 OLT

### Survival



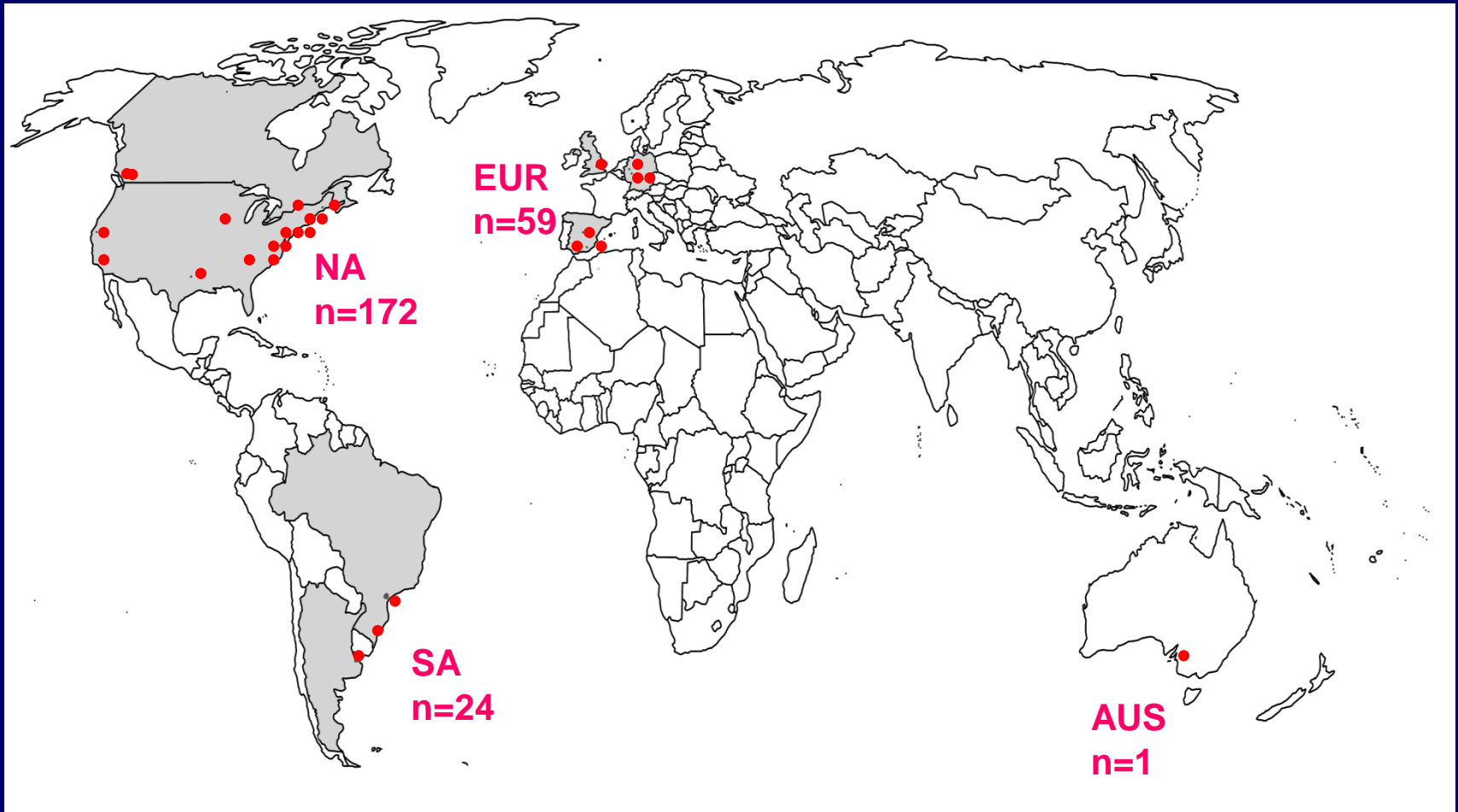
### HCC Recurrence





# Liver Cancer in HIV Study Group

N=256 as of 15-Sep-2013



# Does Screening for HCC in HIV/HCV Patients Improve Survival ?

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## Method:

**N=167 HIV/HCV patients with HCC**

**Diagnosis of HCC via Screening vs. Symptoms**

## **Compare:**

- \* Staging**
- \* Therapy**
- \* Survival** (adjust for lead-time bias)

# Screening for HCC in HIV/HCV Patients

## Patient Characteristics

	<b>Screened n=117 (59%)</b>	<b>Not Screened n=81 (41%)</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Age (yrs), Mean</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0.082</b>
Female Sex	4%	10%	0.162
<b>Alcohol abuse</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>0.003</b>
<b>CTP Score:</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<u><b>HIV parameters</b></u>			
<b>Median CD4+ cells (per mm3)</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>0.027</b>
<b>HIV RNA &lt;400 copies/mL</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>

# Screening for HCC in HIV/HCV Patients

## Tumor Characteristics

	Screened n=117	Not Screened n=81	P
<u>Hepatic Lesions</u>			
Single Tumor	55%	40%	<b>0.035</b>
Multiple Tumors	42%	58%	
Median Size Largest Tumor (cm)	3.0	5.2	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Portal Vein Thrombosis	12%	31%	<b>0.001</b>
Extrahepatic Metastases	9%	28%	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Meets Milan criteria for OLT	64%	29%	<b>&lt;0.001</b>

## HCC Tumor Staging

	Screened n=117	Not Screened n=81	P
<b>BCLC Stage, n (%)</b>			
A	44%	7%	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
B	17%	20%	
C } Advanced,	27%	43%	
D } Incurable	11%	30%	
<b>BCLC Stages C and D</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>

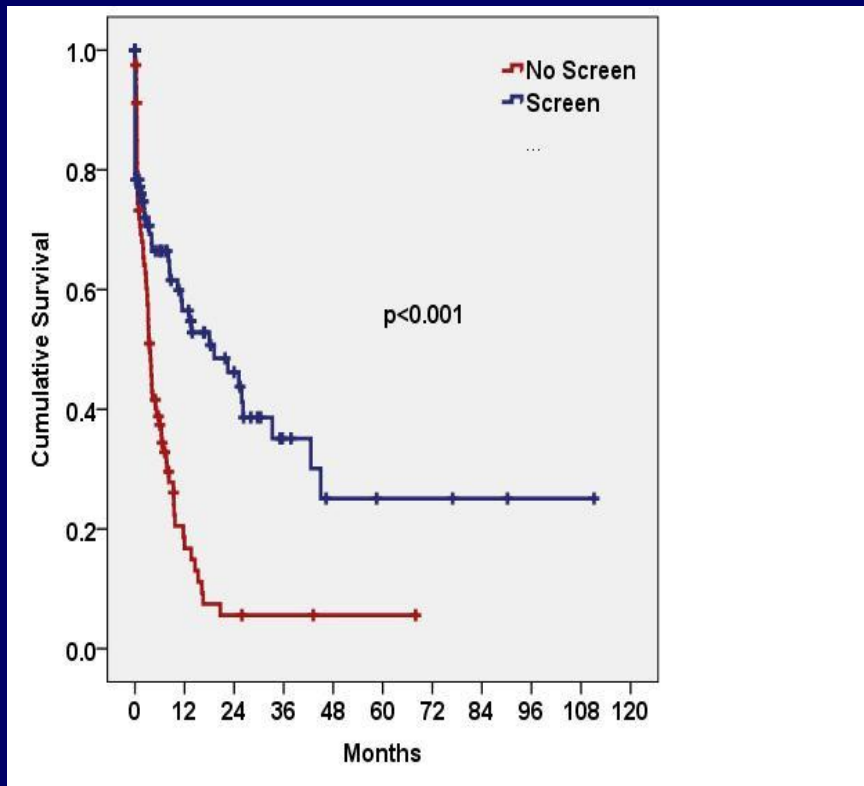
# Screening for HCC in HIV/HCV Patients

## HCC Therapy

	Screened n=117	Unscreened n=81	P
<b>Potentially Curative, n (%)</b>	<b>53 (46%)</b>	<b>10 (12%)</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Radiofrequency Ablation	19	5	
Percutaneous Ethanol Injection	8	2	
Surgical Resection	17	2	
Liver Transplantation	9	1	
<b>Effective, Non-Curative, n (%)</b>	<b>35 (30%)</b>	<b>17 (21%)</b>	
Chemoembolization	28	14	
Sorafenib	4	3	
Sorafenib & Chemoembolization	3	0	
<b>No Therapy, n (%)</b>	<b>28 (24%)</b>	<b>54 (67%)</b>	
<b>Any HCC Therapy</b>	<b>88 (76%)</b>	<b>27 (33%)</b>	

# Screening for HCC in HIV/HCV Patients

## Survival – adjusted for lead-time bias (8.6 mo)



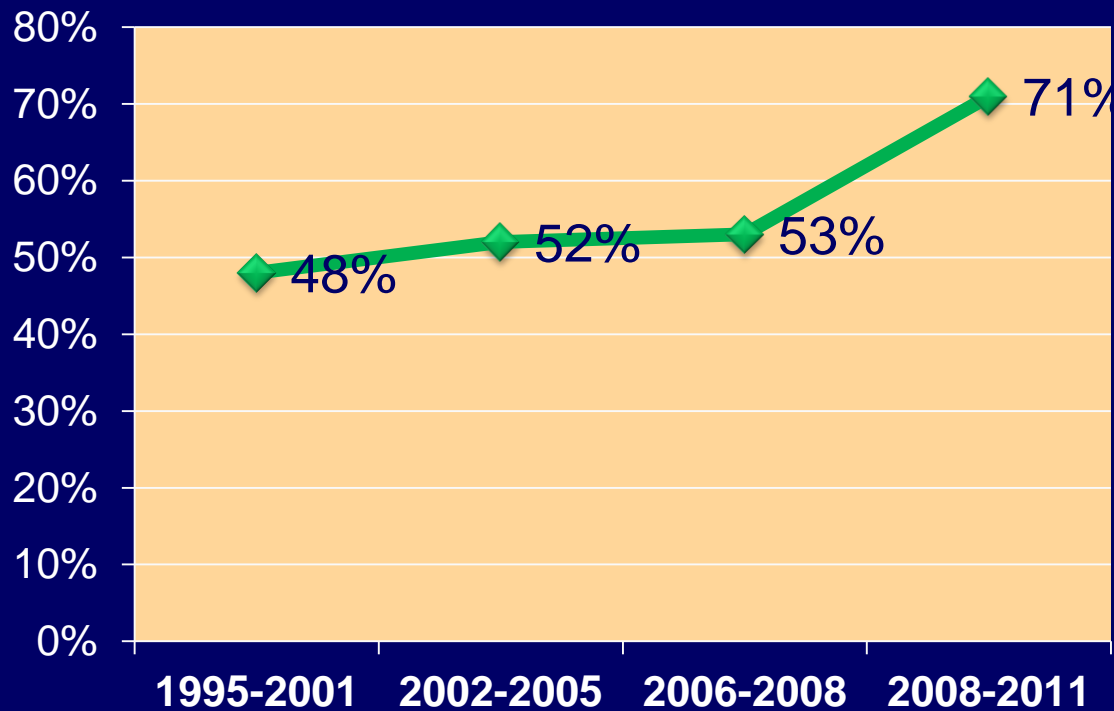
Median survival

**Screened** 19.2 mo

**Unscreened** 3.5 mo

# Screening for HCC in HIV/HCV Patients

## Screening over Time



# HIV Viral Load & Natural History of HCC

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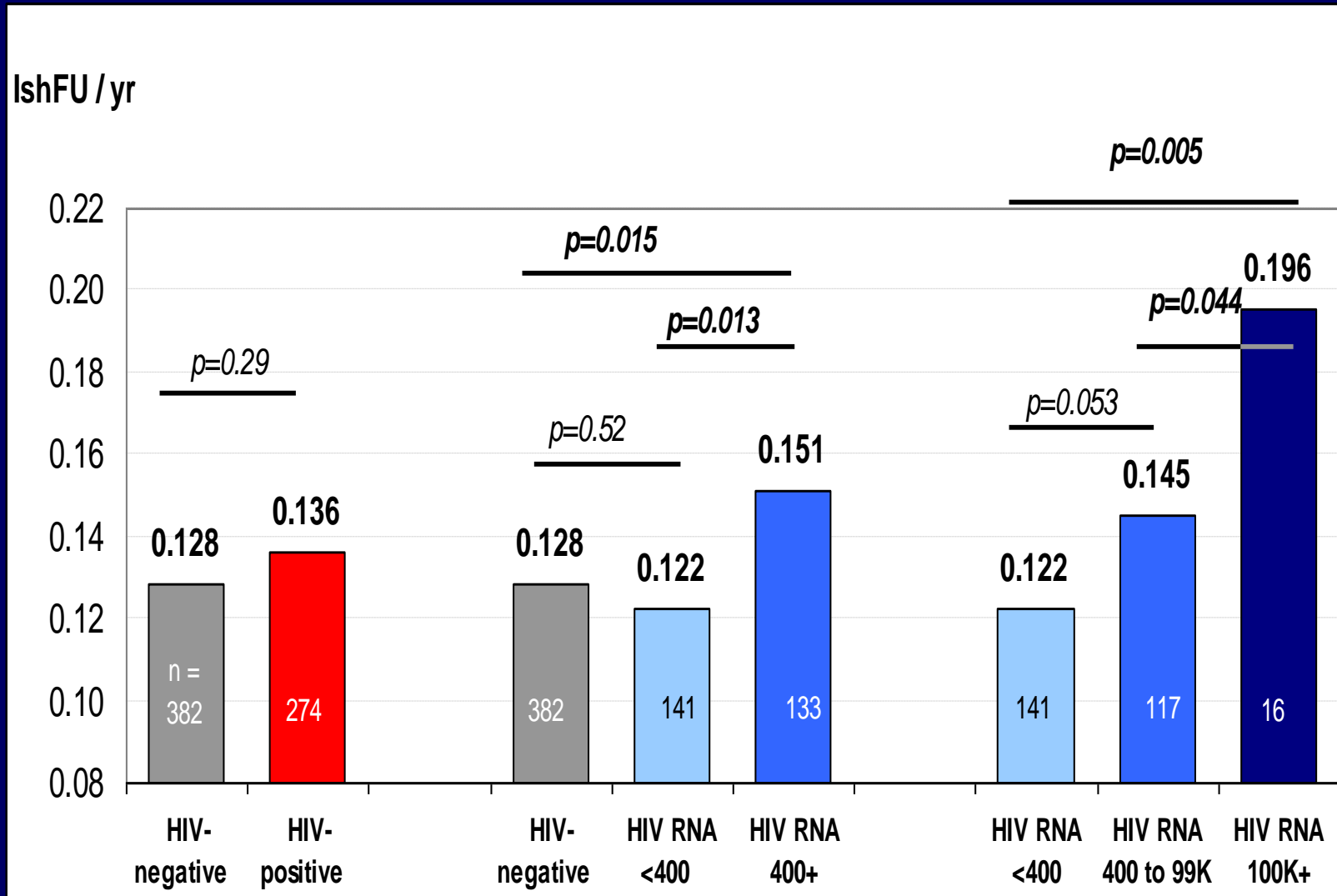
## Hypothesis:

HIV viremia negatively influences course of HCC

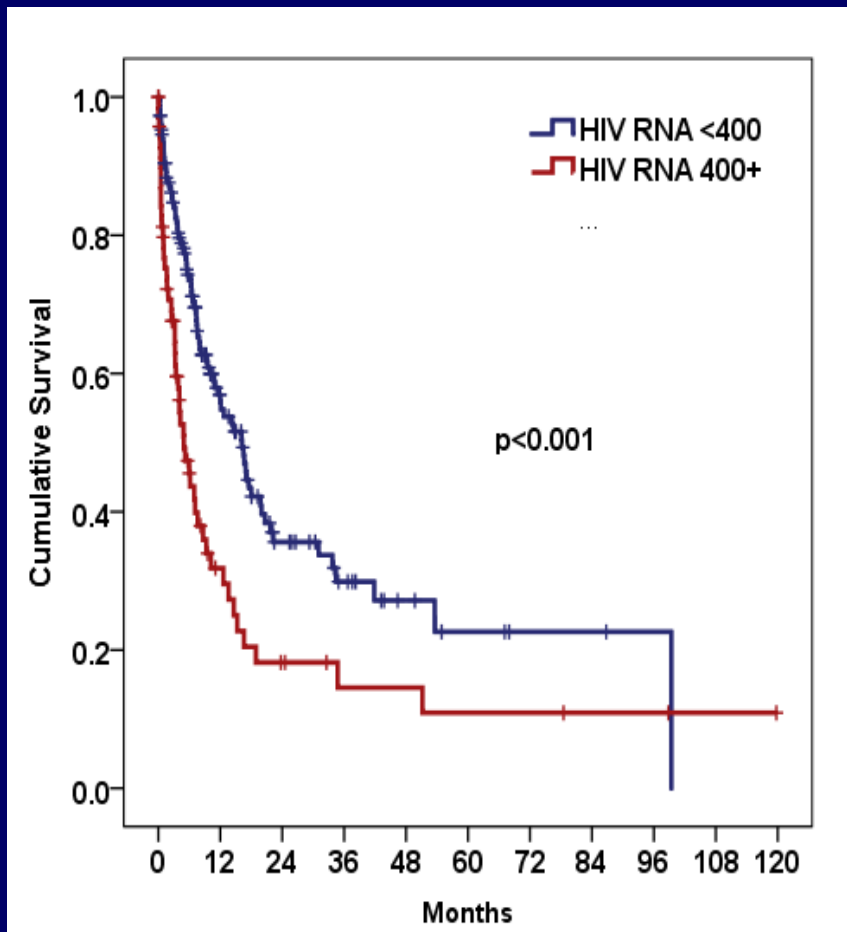
In HIV/HCV: More rapid progression of hepatic fibrosis with HIV RNA 400+ Copies/ml



# Fibrosis Progression Rate by HIV Viral Load in chronic hepatitis C



# HIV Viremia: Influence on HCC Survival



## Median survival

HIV RNA <400 c/ml 16.2 months  
HIV RNA 400+ c/ml 5.0 months

# HIV Viremia: Influence on HCC Survival

## Multi-Variable Cox Regression Analysis

Factor	Hazard Ratio	Univariate P	Multi-variable Hazard Ratio	95% Conf. Interval	Multi-var. P
Initial Presentation through Screening	4.90	<0.01	2.56	1.64-4.00	<0.01
Effective HCC Therapy	6.80	<0.01	2.86	1.82-4.55	<0.01
BCLC stages C&D vs. A&B	0.37	<0.01	0.55	0.35-0.86	0.01
HIV RNA Level (per log10 copies/ml)	0.74	<0.01	0.85	0.72-0.99	0.03
ALT/AST $\geq$ 1.5	0.42	<0.01	0.53	0.35-0.80	<0.01
AFP $\geq$ 200	0.26	<0.01	0.33	0.22-0.50	<0.01
Age (per year)	0.97	0.01	0.97	0.94-0.99	<0.01
CD4+ Cells (per 100/mm <sup>3</sup> )	1.12	0.01			

# HCC in HIV – Future Investigations

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- Comparison of BCLC staging and MESIAH score as predictors of survival
- Continental differences
- Trends of HCC in HIV over time (1992 – 2013)
- Does HIV increase incidence of HCC in cirrhosis? (VACS cohort)

# Summary: HCC in HIV

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- HIV-positive patients: liver disease & HCC increasing as cause of death
- Rise in prevalence and incidence of HCC
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  - smaller tumors, earlier BCLC stages, more frequent HCC therapy,
  - better survival (14 vs. 4 mo)



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- Please send us your cases of HCC in HIV patients: [www.HCCinHIV.org](http://www.HCCinHIV.org)  
[norbert.brau@va.gov](mailto:norbert.brau@va.gov)



NY Botanical Garden



Bronx Zoo



*Thank you for your kind attention*

