

# Levertransplantatie bij uitgezaaide darmkanker



Carlijn Buis MD,PhD, FEBS | **chirurg**

**Hepato-Pancreato-Biliaire Chirurgie en Levertransplantatie**

c.i.buis@umcg.nl



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Wat komt aan de orde vandaag

- Het verhaal van deze (nieuwe) indicatie
  - Historie OLT
  - Aantallen
  - (Oncologische) indicaties
  - CRLM
  - Noorwegen
  - Tekort aan donoren
- NATIONAAL PROTOCOL OLT CRLM
- Wie komt er (niet) voor in aanmerking
- (veel) vragen, mag ook tussendoor



University Medical Center Groningen

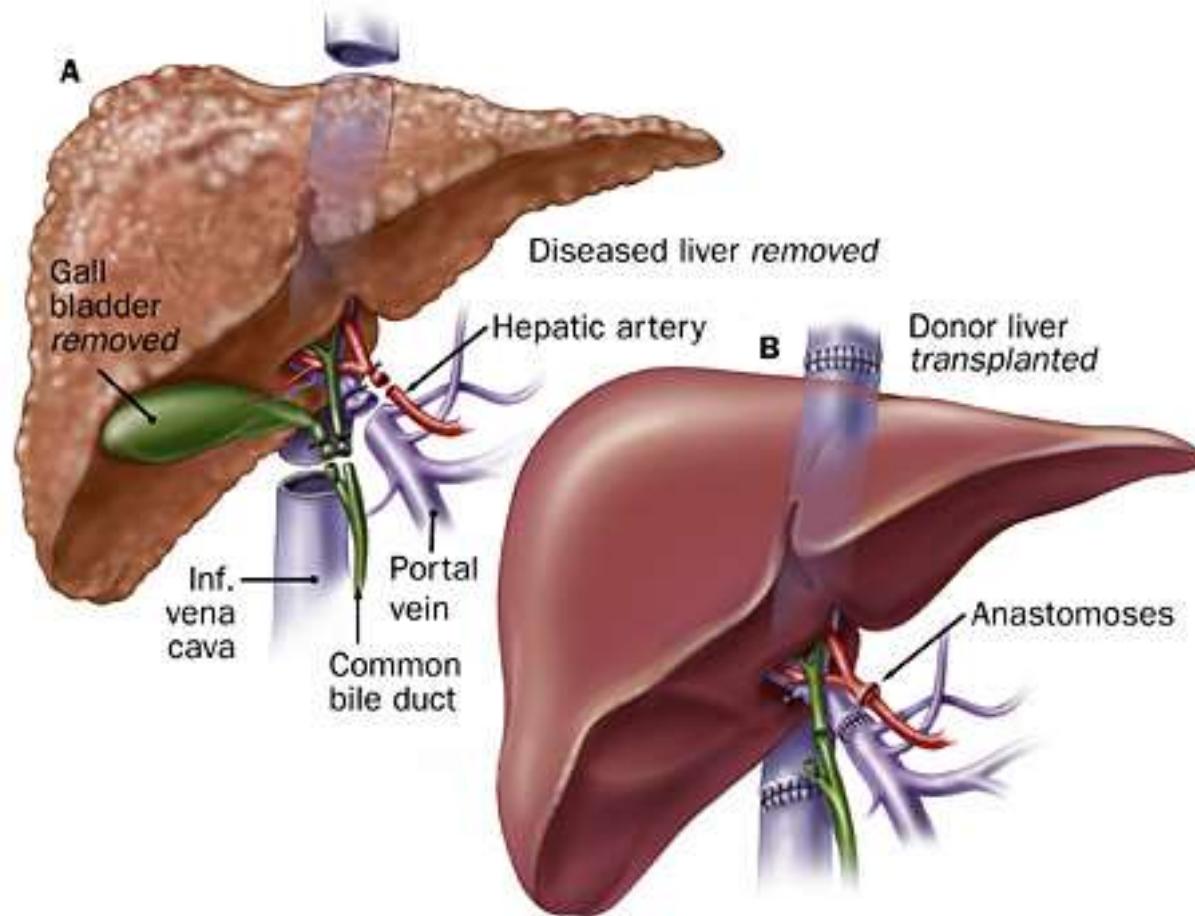


UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Korte Historie Livertransplantatie

- 1963 eerste succesvolle Levertransplantatie in USA (Thomas Starzl)
- 1979 eerste succesvolle Levertransplantatie in NL (UMCG)
  - Nog immer in leven! (oudste ontvanger ter wereld)
- 1982 eerste Levertransplantatie bij een kind
- Jaarlijks ca. 170 OLTs in Nederland
  - Rotterdam, Leiden, Groningen
- 2022 (record jaar)
  - 88 OLTs in UMCG
  - Wv 17 LDLT





University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Greep uit enkele veelvoorkomende indicaties OLT

- Eind stadium chronische leverziekten
  - Cirrose obv
    - Galwegaandoeningen (PSC, PBC)
    - Viraal (Hepatitis B,C)
    - Post-alcoholisch
    - MAFLD
- Acuut leverfalen,
  - Falend transplantaat (HAT, PNF)
  - Intoxicaties (PCM, Groeneknolameniet)
- Metabole ziekten (Wilson, MMA, CF etc)
- Oncologische indicaties
  - HCC
  - NET
  - Cholangiocarcinoom

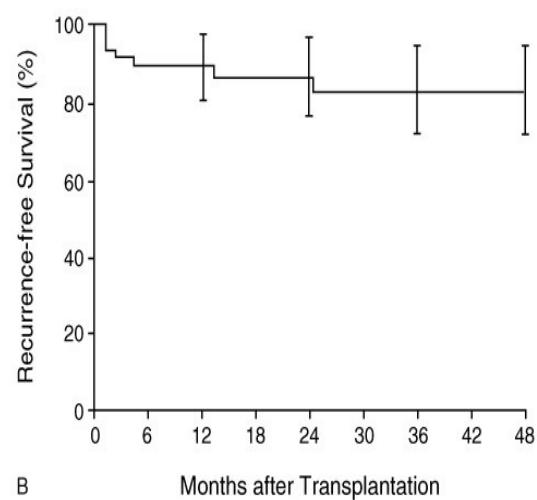
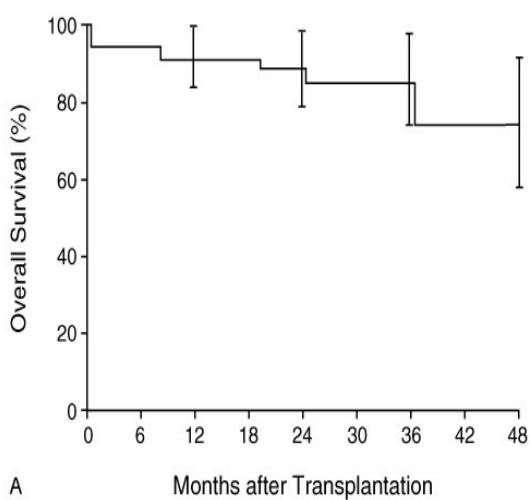


University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# OLT voor Hepatocellulair carcinoma (HCC)



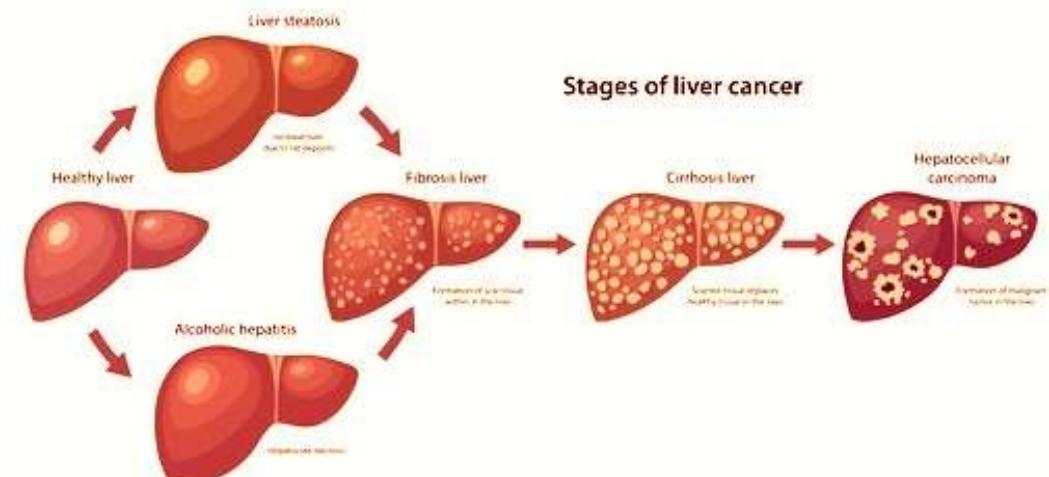
PATIENTS AT RISK

48 45 40 32 27 21 17 9 5

PATIENTS AT RISK

48 43 38 29 25 19 15 9 5

Mazzaferr et al. N Engl J Med  
1996;334:693-9



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Voorwaarden OLT HCC

- Verschillende modellen
  - Milaan-criteria
  - AFP model
- Downstaging
  - Ablatie
  - SIRT
  - TACE
  - SABR

Enter: AFP -model/French model

Variables	$\beta$ coefficient	Hazard ratio	Points
Largest diameter, cm			
≤3	0	1	0
3–6	0.272	1.31	1
>6	1.347	3.84	4
Number of nodules			
1–3	0	1	0
≥4	0.696	2.01	2
AFP level, ng/mL			
≤100	0	1	0
100–1000	0.668	1.95	2
>1000	0.945	2.57	3

Duvoux et al. Gastroenterology 2012

AFP score ≤ 2

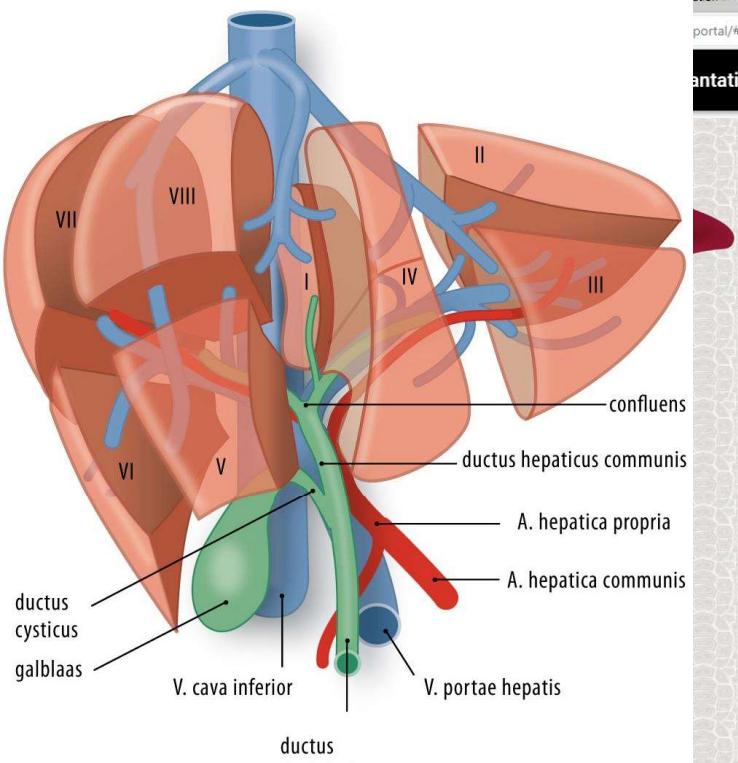


University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# OLT voor hilair cholangiocarcinoom



**FIGUUR 1** Segmentale anatomie van de lever. De lever wordt verdeeld in 8 segmenten, ieder met separate arteriële en portale aanvoerende vaten en een afvoerende galweg, die in de confluens van linker en rechter ductus hepaticus draineren vóór de overgang naar de ductus hepaticus communis.

liver transplantation cl | Liver transplantation fo | Full article: Liver trans... | Strict Selection Alone | Yearly statistics - Eurotransplant | Eurotransplant - Statistics | portal/#/document/47c71dc5-46b1-4f55-9598-8e6850516bcf

## Indicatiestelling en selectie voor levertransplantatie bij patiënten met perihilair cholangiocarcinoom

FAVORIET DELEN OPMERKING PLAATSEN AFDRUKKEN DETAILS MEER

Pagina weergave Hardop voorlezen Tekst toevoegen Teken

**Landelijk Overleg Levertransplantatie:**  
Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen, Groningen  
Erasmus MC, Rotterdam  
Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum, Leiden

Versie 1.0 - Datum: 25-05-2011  
Versie 2.0 . Datum 18-06-2011  
Auteur: R.J. Porte

In Transplant Center

- Nationaal protocol sinds 2010

# Voorwaarden OLT Hilair Cholangiocarcinoom

- Irresectabel
- Niet te groot (3 cm)
- Geen metastasen (stagerings laparoscopie (ROBOT))
- NSE (38 MELD punten)
- Bij OLT geen metastasen
  - Lymfeklieren ligament
  - Peritoneaal
- Vaak ook HJ reconstructie galwegen



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center



#VOS2023UMCG

# Even naar ander onderwerp - CRLM

## Colorectale levermetastasen



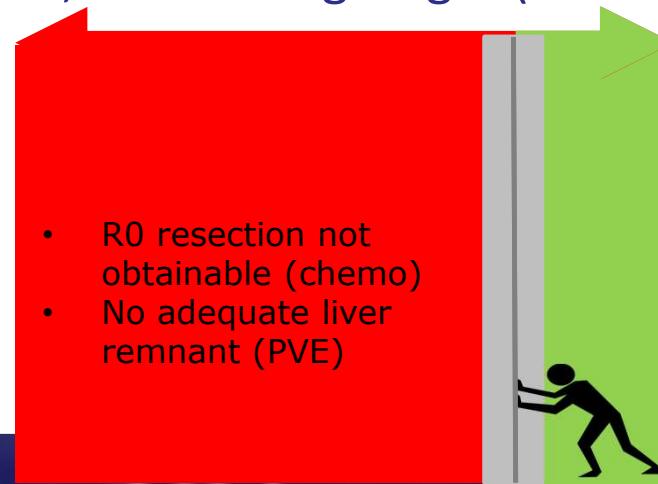
University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Colorectal liver metastasis (CRLM)

- Colorectal cancer most prevalent solid malignancy (NL incidence 2016: 15.000, 2019: 13.000)
- 50% liver metastasis
- Hepatectomy/local treatment is the only curative treatment (5-jrs OS up to 55%)
- Curative resection possible in only 20% of cases, but moving target (liver remnant, R0, EHD)

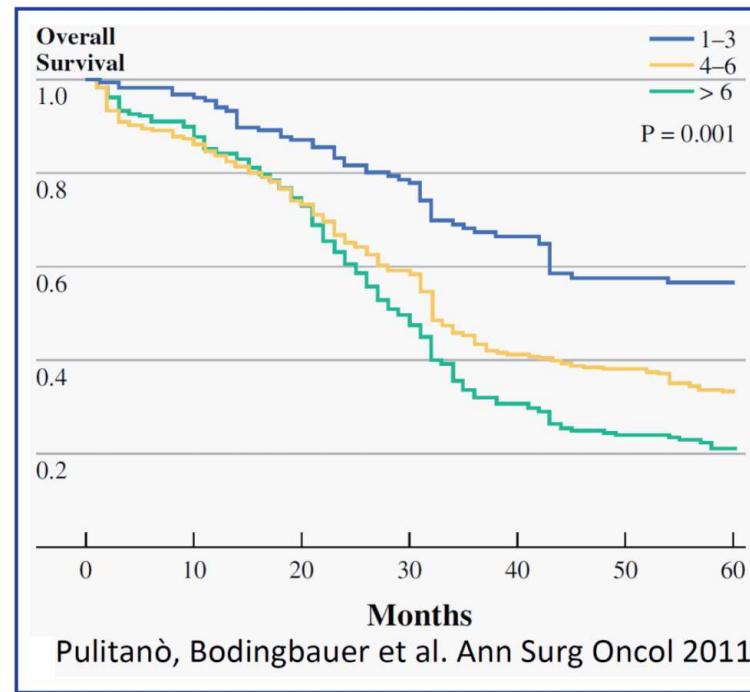
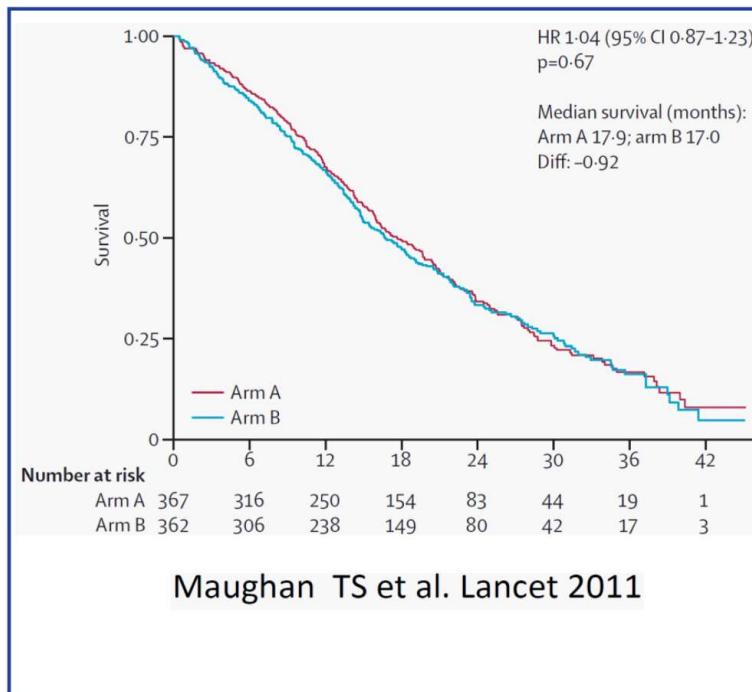


University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Colorectal liver metastasis (CRLM)



Oncological treatment

Liver resection



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Predicting outcome after liver resection

- Fong Clinical Score

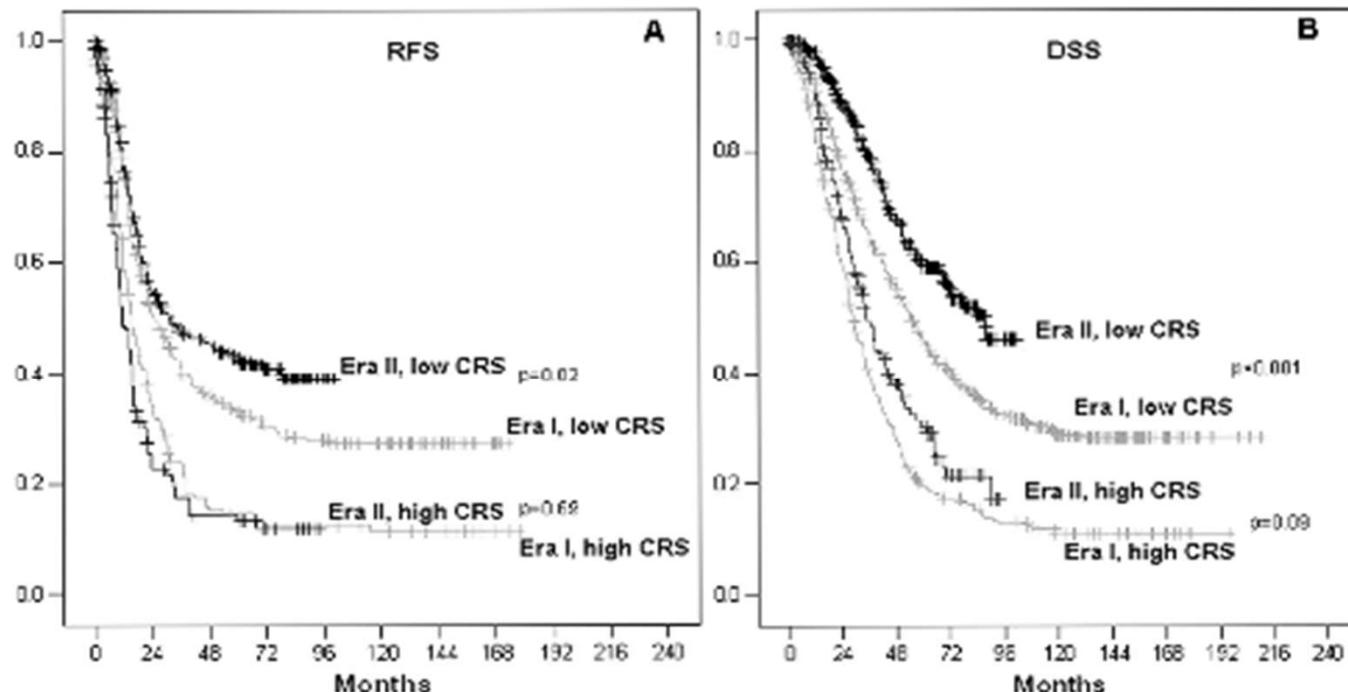


Figure 2. Actuarial (A) recurrence-free survival (RFS) and (B) disease-specific survival (DSS) for low Clinical Risk Score (CRS) (0, 1, 2) and high CRS (3, 4, 5) patients in eras I and II. Era I: 690 low CRS patients, 347 high CRS. Era II: 404 low CRS, 159 high CRS.

Fong Y, Fortner J, Sun RL, Brennan MF, Blumgart LH. Clinical score for predicting recurrence after hepatic resection for metastatic colorectal cancer: analysis of 1001 consecutive cases. Ann Surg. 1999 Sep;230(3):309–318

House MG, Ito H, Gonan M, Fong Y, Allen PJ, Dematteo RP, et al. Survival after Hepatic Resection for Metastatic Colorectal Cancer: Trends in Outcomes for 1,600 Patients during Two Decades at a Single Institution. J Am Coll Surg. 2010 May;210(5):744–52.



# Oslo experience OLTx for CRLM

**Background: no shortage of organs**



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# SECA 1 study

**Design:** Open, prospective pilot study 2006-2011  
N=21 (population 5 million)

**Main inclusion criteria:**

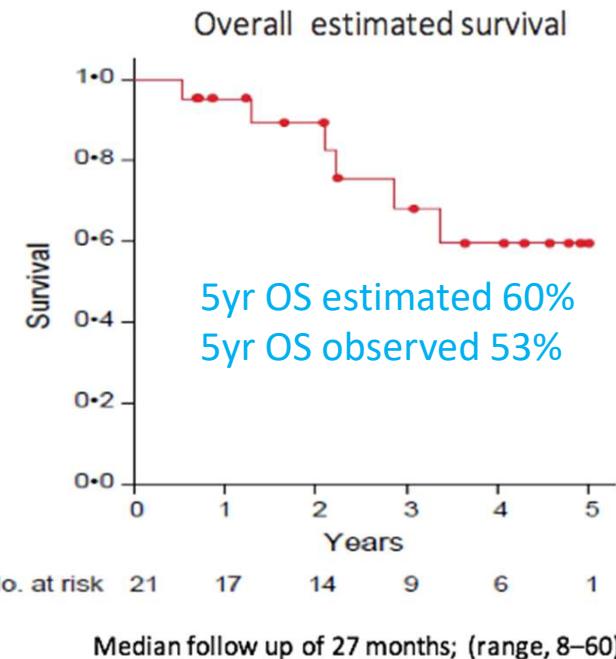
- CLM not eligible for resection
- Minimum six weeks of chemotherapy
- No extra-hepatic disease
- Good performance (ECOG 0-1)

**Heterogeneous group**

- Extent of disease
- No of mets (4-40)
- Lines of chemotherapy given
- N status of primary tumor (7-7-7)

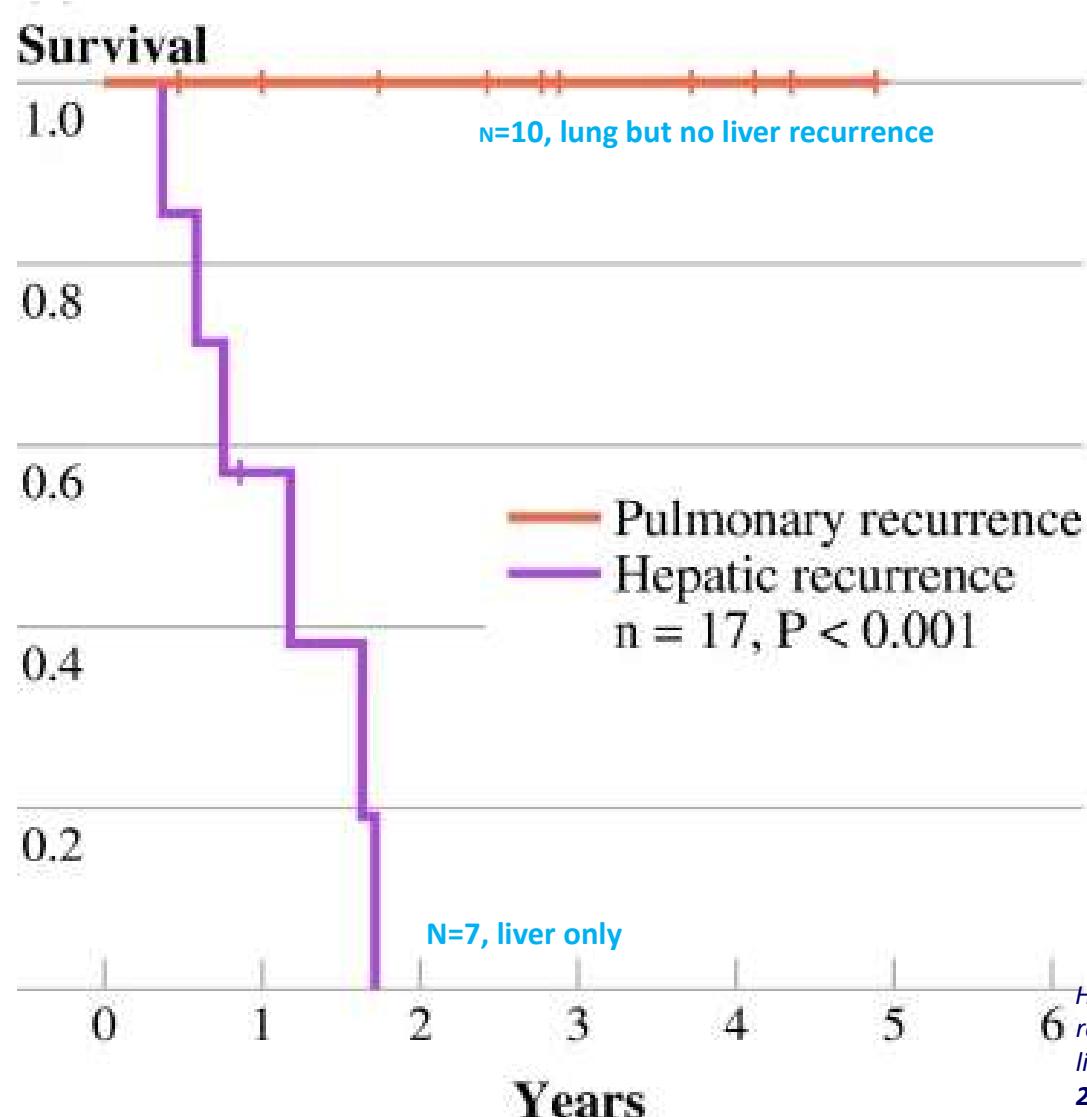
## Liver Transplantation for Nonresectable Liver Metastases From Colorectal Cancer

Morten Hagness, MD,\*† Aksel Foss, MD, PhD,\*‡ Pål-Dag Line, MD, PhD,\* Tim Scholz, MD, PhD,\*  
Pål Foyn Jørgensen, MD, PhD,\* Bjarte Fosby, MD,\*† Kirsten Muri Boberg, MD, PhD,‡  
Øystein Mathisen, MD, PhD,§ Ivar P. Gladhaug, MD, PhD,†§ Tor Skatvedt Egge, MD,¶  
Stefnar Solberg, MD, PhD,|| John Hauken, MD,\*\* and Svein Dueland, MD, PhD††



Hagness M, Foss A, Line P-D, Scholz T, Jørgensen PF, Fosby B, et al. Liver transplantation for nonresectable liver metastases from colorectal cancer. Ann Surg. 2013 May;257(5):800-6.

# Outcomes – Patterns of Recurrence-SECA-1

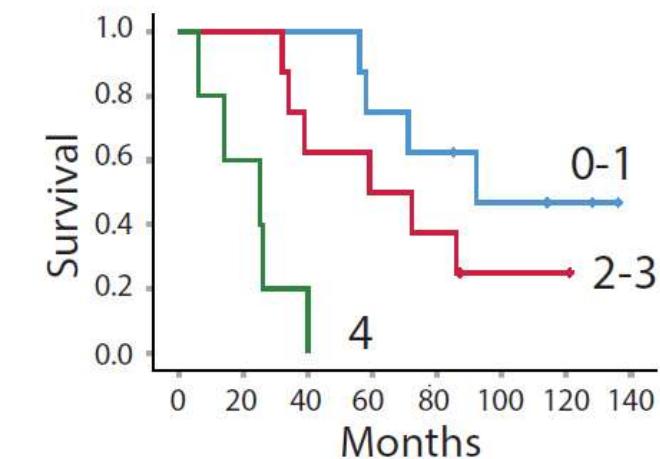


Hagness, M., Foss, A., Egge, T. S. & Dueland, S. Patterns of recurrence after liver transplantation for nonresectable liver metastases from colorectal cancer. *Ann Surg Oncol* **21**, 1323–1329 (2014).

# Risk scoring

Oslo Score	
Maximal Tumor diameter > 5,5 cm	1
Pre transplant CEA > 80 µg/l	1
Progression on chemotherapy	1
Time interval: diagnosis to tx < 2 yrs	1
Summary score	0-4

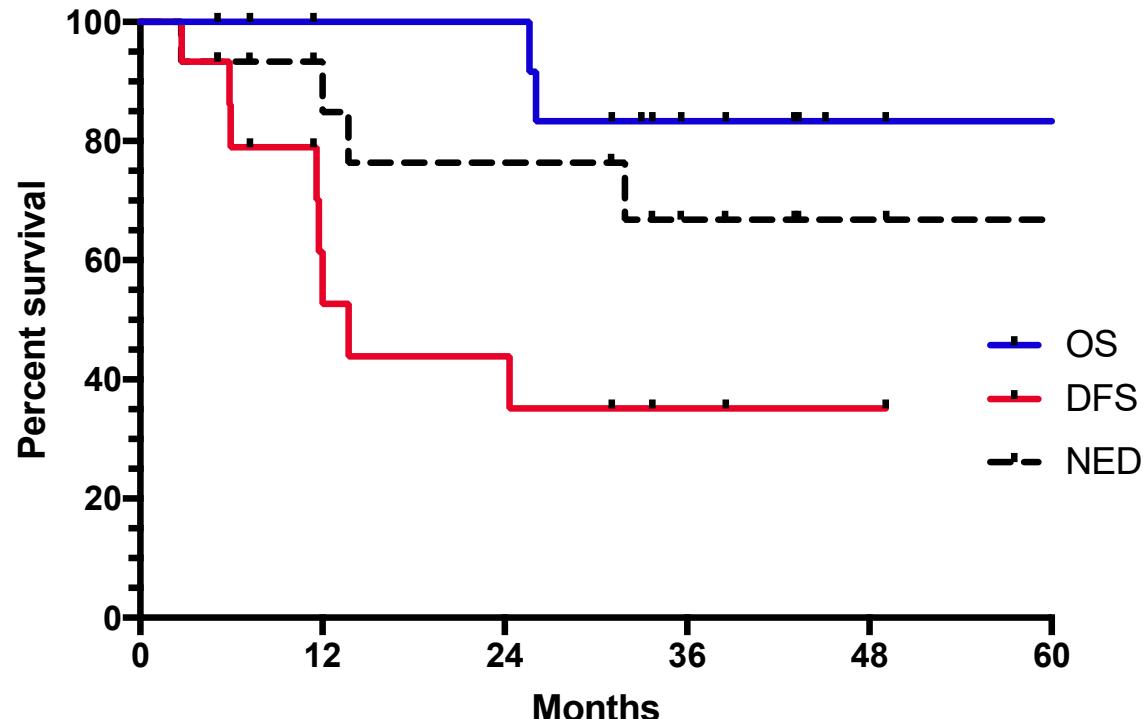
Score: 0-1:  
5 year OS 75%,  
10 year OS: 47%



Hagness M, Foss A, Line P-D, Scholz T, Jørgensen PF, Fosby B, et al.  
Liver transplantation for nonresectable liver metastases from colorectal cancer. Ann Surg. 2013 May;257(5):800–6.

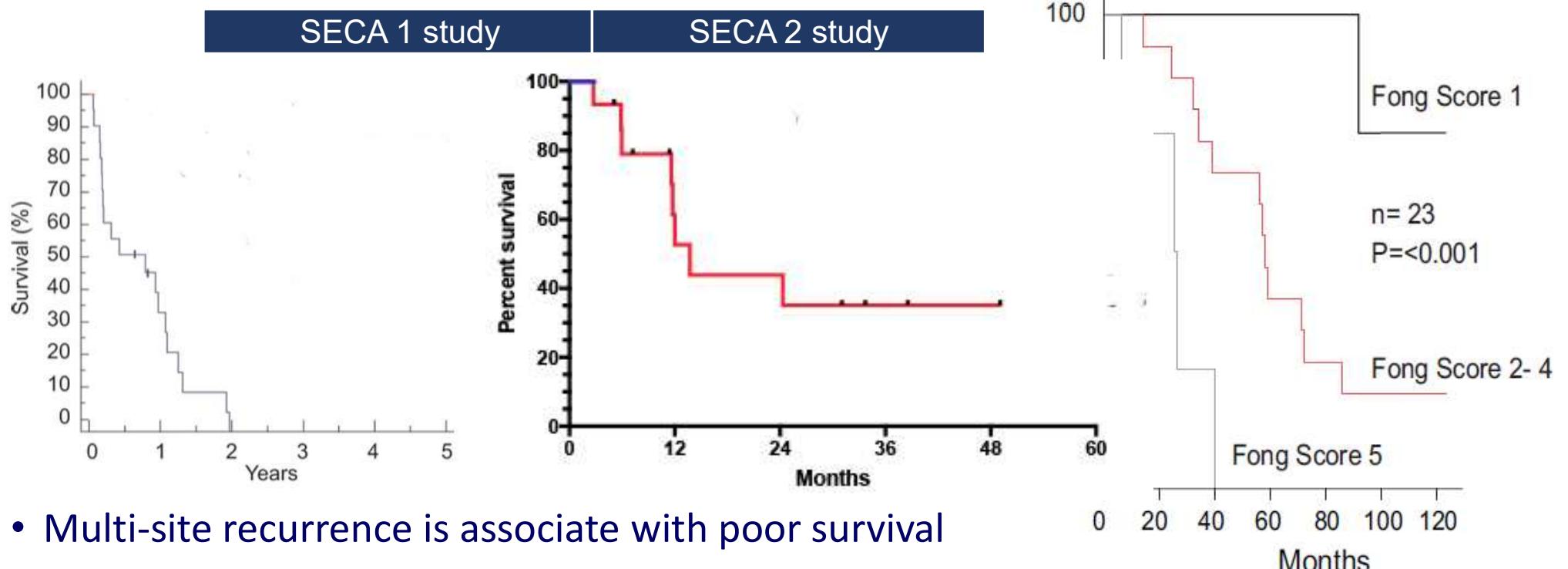
# SECA 2 study

- Estimated 5 yr OS 83%
- N=15: 8 males / 7 females 2012-2016
- Median waiting time after listing 29 days (7-148)
- Median age: 59,4 years (39-71)
- All patients had chemotherapy response of  $\geq 10\%$  (RECIST)
- Median Fong score (FCRS) at transplantation: 2 (1-3)
- Median observation time: 36 months (5-60)
- Immunosuppression: Pred, MMF, Basiliximab+low dose Tac, with switch to Rapamune at 6 weeks and gradual steroid tapering
- No routine chemotherapy postop.
- Aggressive treatment of all resectable recurrences



Dueland S, Syversveen T, Solheim JM, Solberg S, Grut H, Bjørnbeth BA, Hagness M, Line PD. Survival following liver transplantation for patients with non-resectable liver only colorectal metastases. Annals of Surgery 2019

# Outcomes – Recurrence and DFS



- Multi-site recurrence is associate with poor survival
- About **70 %** of the relapses are pulmonary metastases
- The majority of the pulmonary metastases are resectable
- 40-50% of lung metastases might be staging failures

**Annals of Surgery Publish Ahead of Print**

Hagness, M., Foss, A., Egge, T. S. & Dueland, S. Patterns of recurrence after liver transplantation for nonresectable liver metastases from colorectal cancer. *Ann Surg Oncol* **21**, 1323–1329 (2014).

Fundamental problem:  
*Large gap between number of eligible patients and available organs*



- *Use of ECD grafts*
- *Living donation*
- *Technical innovations*



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

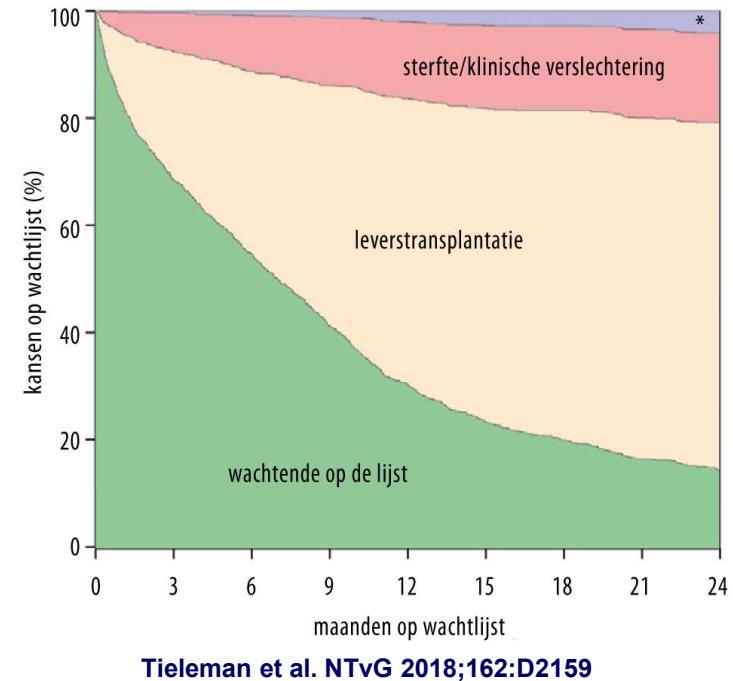
# Machine preservation of liver grafts

- Rescue organs to avoid waste of organs
- Optimize organs to improve outcome



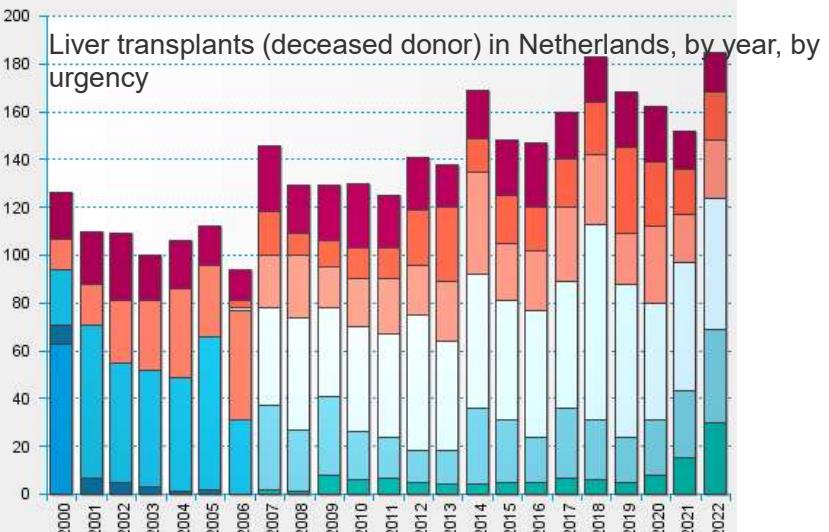
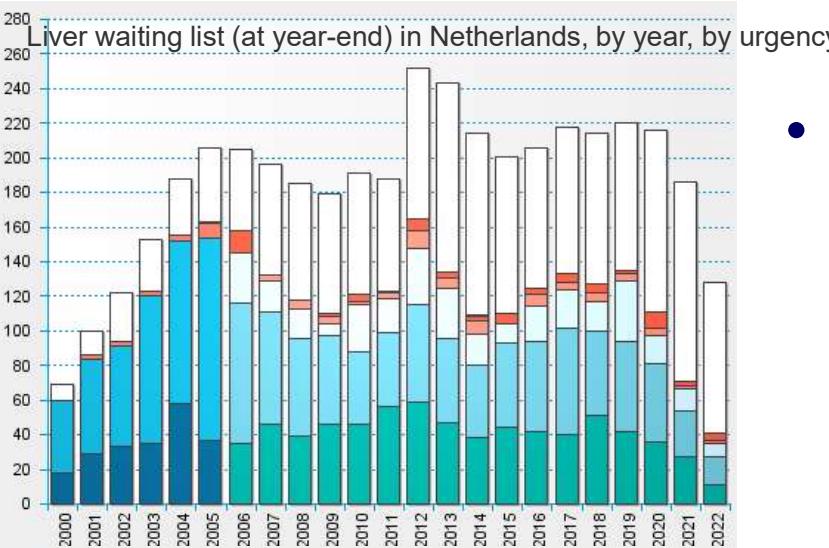
# Orthotopic liver transplantation (OLTx)

- Allocation of donor livers is based on ‘most ill patient first’
- Model for end-stage liver disease (MELD)
  - based on bilirubin, kreatinine and prothrombin time
- Survival 1yr 90 , 5yr 75 %
- In NL: 65% chance to receive a LTx within 2 years on the waiting list
- In NL: **17% death on waiting list!**
- IN NL: 30% oncological diagnosis, mainly HCC



# We doen meer, mensen wachten minder lang

- Let op! Dit is een selectie





University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

- Landelijk protocol tot stand gekomen na bijeenkomsten in NL en Oslo
- Goedgekeurd door brede groep professionals (ook uit niet-transplantatiecentra)
  - LOL (Landelijk Overleg Levertransplantatie)
  - ELITA (European Liver and Intestinal Transplantation Association)



Welke rol kan #levertransplantatie spelen bij behandeling van colorectale levermetastasen?  
 Gezamenlijke delegatie uit [Erasmus MC](#), [Leiden University Medical Center](#) en [UMCG Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen](#) naar Oslo.  
 To [Pål-Dag Line](#) & Co. many thanks for cooperation and inspiration! To be continued.



# Nationaal protocol

260

## Transplantatieoncologie: levertransplantatie voor niet-lokaal behandelbare levermetastasen van het colorectaal carcinoom

Transplant oncology: liver transplantation for non-treatable colorectal liver metastases

dr. M.E. Tushuizen,<sup>1</sup> prof. dr. K. Verhoef,<sup>2</sup> dr. A.P. van den Berg,<sup>3</sup> dr. W.G. Polak,<sup>2</sup> dr. M.T. de Boer<sup>4</sup>

### SAMENVATTING

- Colorectaal carcinoom (CRC) is een van de meest voorkomende maligniteiten en voornaamste oorzaken van kankergerelateerde sterfte in de westerse wereld, vooral door gemetastaseerde ziekte. Lokale behandeling van CRC levermetastasen (CRLM)

### SUMMARY

- Colorectal cancer (CRC) is one of the most common malignancies and a leading cause of cancer-related death in Western countries, driven by metastatic disease.  
*Local treatment of CRC liver metastases (CRLM)*



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# OLTx for CRLM in the Netherlands

**Background: shortage of organs = more strict than Norway**



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Justification protocol 'liver-only CRLM' in NL? **It's bad anatomy – it's not bad biology**

- Unethical not to offer OLT in irresectable 'liver-only' CRLM
- Minimal achievable 3 yr survival after OLT > 60% (= protocol hilar cholangiocarcinoma)
- Current evidence? 5 yr survival Oslo-experience
  - SECA 1 53%
  - SECA 2 83%, NB better results due to selection (=less inclusions)
- Reproducible? Single-centre experience (awaiting Transmet protocol (RCT chemo vs OLT)



# Pre-transplant evaluation & patient selection

more strict than Oslo

- Main tasks:

- Ascertain liver-only disease
- Ensure good performance status ECOG 0-1 (ca 50 % gr 3a complication after OLTx)
- Exclude aggressive tumor biology (at least 10% response to chemo RECIST, before chemo no lesion >10 cm, if >30 lesions all less than 5 cm)
- Radical resection primary tumor
- Test of time: don't list within 1 yr from primary CRC diagnosis



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Inclusie -1

- 'Informed consent'
- Leeftijd tussen 18 en 70 jaar
- Histologisch bewezen adenocarcinoom van colon of rectum en levermetastasen, niet geschikt voor lokale behandeling zoals geconcludeerd door MDO
- Geen aanwijzingen voor extrahepatische metastasen of lokaal recidief bij PET/CT-scan (verricht binnen vier weken van MDO)
- Bij MRI-bekken geen aanwijzingen voor lokaal recidief van het rectumcarcinoom (verricht binnen vier weken van MDO)
- Geen lokaal recidief bij coloscopie/CT-colografie verricht binnen 12 maanden van MDO)
- Goede klinische conditie (ECOG 0 of 1)



# Inclusie -2

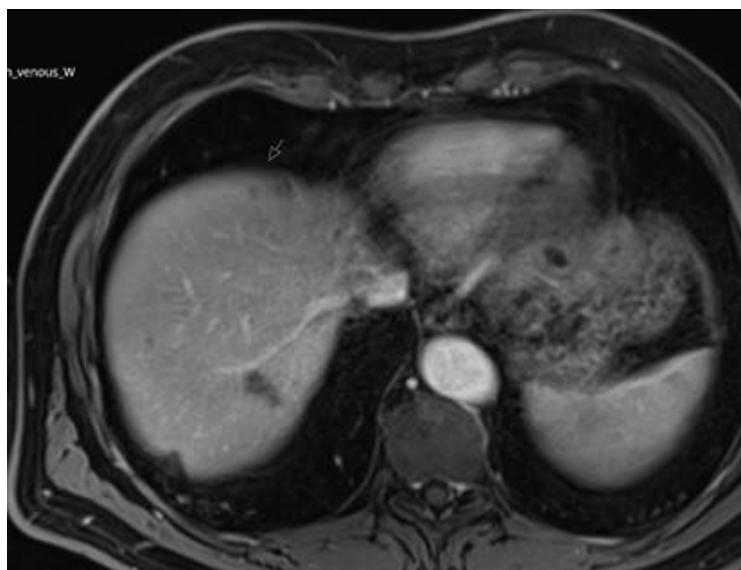
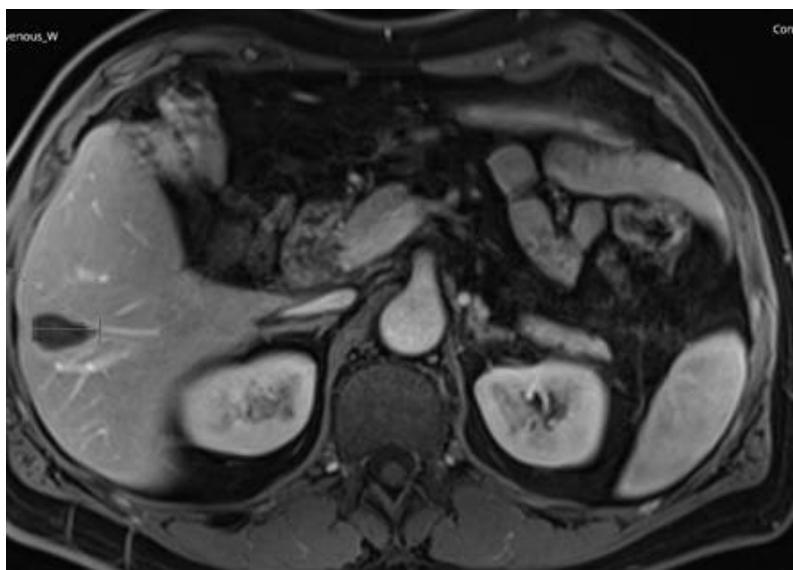
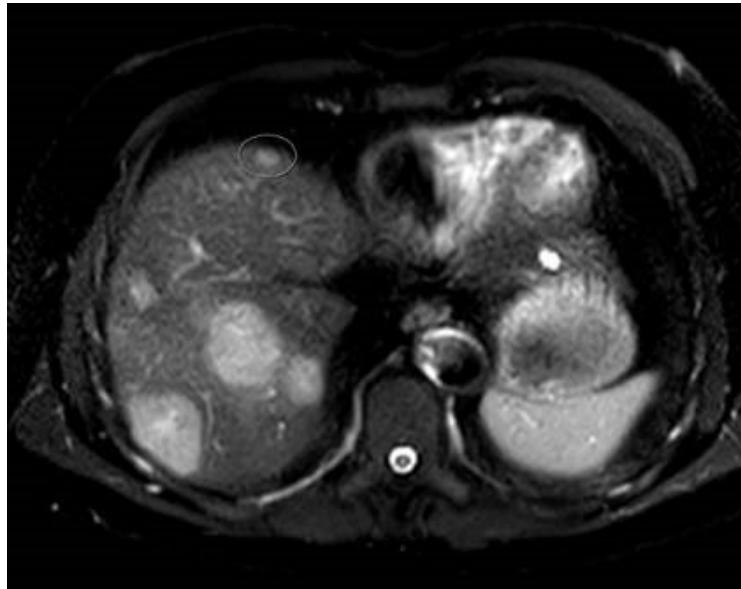
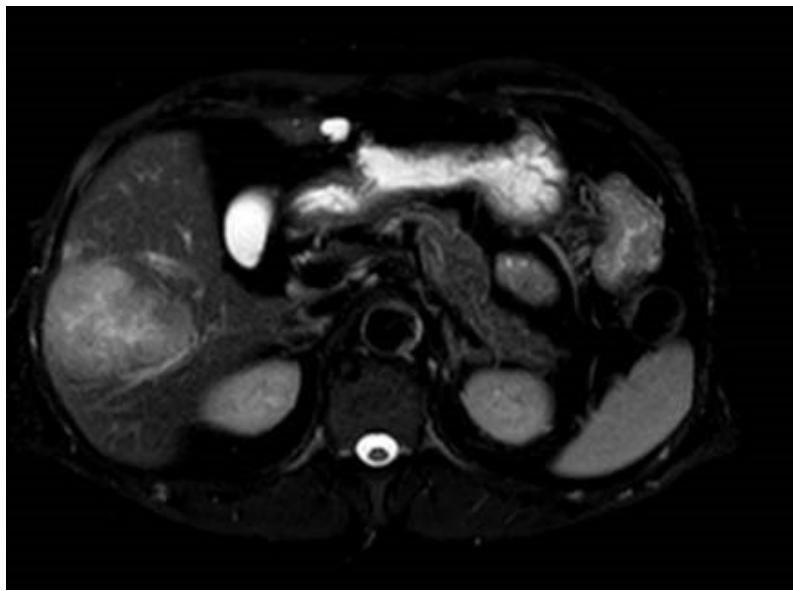
- Status na gestandaardiseerde chirurgische procedure met adequate (R0) resectievlakken, inclusief circumferentiële resectievlakken (CRM) van minstens ≥2 mm bij het rectumcarcinoom)
- Geen aanwijzingen voor progressie onder minstens acht weken behandeling met chemotherapie (volgens RECIST-criteria)
- Minstens 10% respons (RECIST-criteria) bij chemotherapie
- CRLM kleiner dan 10 cm voorafgaand aan chemotherapie. In het geval van >30 CRLM dan kleiner dan 5 cm en minstens 30% respons op chemotherapie (RECIST-criteria)
- Patiënten met minder dan 10% respons op chemotherapie maar minstens 20% respons bij behandeling door middle van TACE (DEB-IR) of TARE (Yttrium)
- Minstens 1 jaar tussen primaire CRC-diagnose en plaatsing op de wachtlijst
- Oslo-score 0-2, elke factor is 1 punt
  - Metastase diameter >5,5 cm
  - CEA >80 ug/l
  - Tijdsinterval tussen primaire resectie tot transplantatie <2 jaar
  - (progressie van metastasen tijdens neoadjuvante chemo, dit is echter een contra-indicatie zoals ook bovengenoemd, derhalve tussen haakjes genoemd)



# EXCLUSIE

- > 10% gewichtsverlies binnen zes maanden
- Extrahepatische metastasen (incl. eerder behandeld)
- Solide tumor <5 jaar of metastase(n) van andere maligniteiten
- Patienten zonder pre-, peri- of postoperatieve behandeling van CRC
- Rechtszijdige primaire CRC (coecum, colon ascendens)
- Palliatieve resectie van primaire CRC
- Positieve moleculaire markers (BRAF)
- MSI hoog (deze patienten kunnen profiteren van immuuntherapie)
- Primaire tumor pN2
- Niet voldoen aan algemene criteria voor levertransplantatie, onafhankelijk van oncologische status en ter beoordeling van het MDO





# Other markers of prognostic significance

- Node status of the primary
  - N0: associated with better outcome
  - N2: associated with recurrence and poor outcome
- BRAF mutation: inferior outcome
  - NB KRAS mutation: no significant effect
- Right sided tumors: poor outcome
- Fong clinical risk score>2
- Oslo score >2
- High Metabolic tumor volume on PET scan

Dueland S. Selection criteria related to long-term survival following transplantation for CRLM. Am J Transplantation 2019

Smedman TM. LTx for unresectable CRLM in patients and donors with ext criteria (SECA2-arm D). BJS Open 2020



University Medical Center Groningen

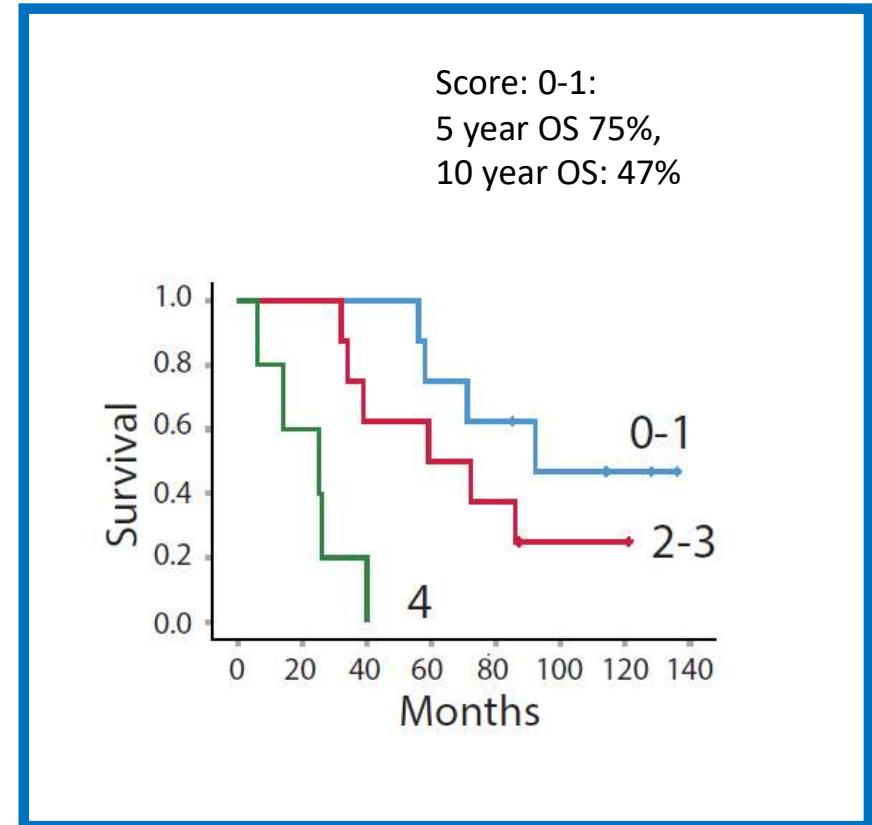


UMC Groningen Transplant Center

# Risk scoring

Oslo Score	
Maximal Tumor diameter > 5,5 cm	1
Pre transplant CEA > 80 µg/l	1
Progression on chemotherapy	1
Time interval: diagnosis to tx < 2 yrs	1
Summary score	0-4

Hagness M, Foss A, Line P-D, Scholz T, Jørgensen PF, Fosby B, et al.  
*Liver transplantation for nonresectable liver metastases from colorectal cancer.* Ann Surg. 2013 May;257(5):800–6.



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

## Long-term quality of life after liver transplantation for non-resectable colorectal metastases confined to the liver

S. Dueland<sup>1</sup> , P.-D. Line<sup>2,3</sup>, M. Hagness<sup>2</sup>, A. Foss<sup>2</sup> and M. H. Andersen<sup>2,4</sup>

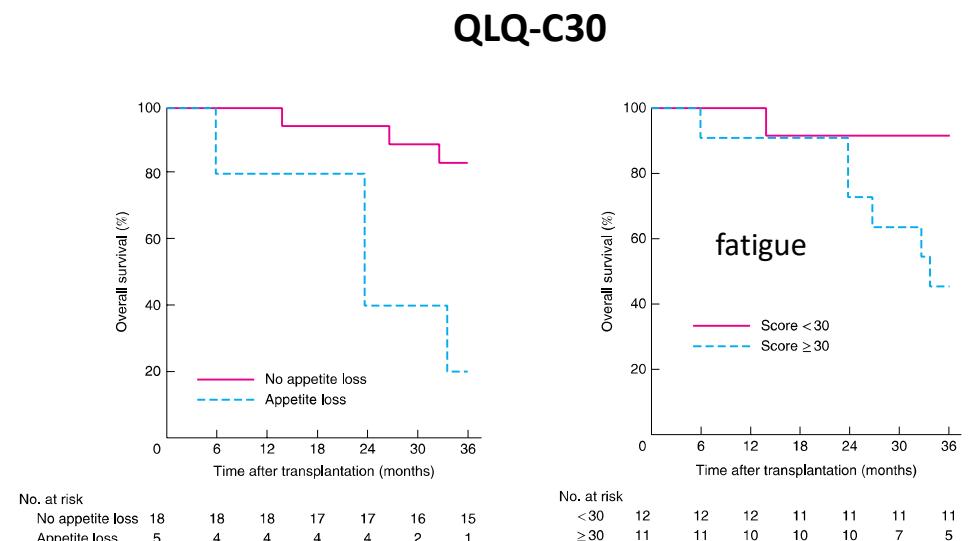
Departments of <sup>1</sup>Oncology and <sup>2</sup>Transplantation Medicine, Oslo University Hospital, and Institutes of <sup>3</sup>Clinical Medicine and <sup>4</sup>Health and Society, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway

*Correspondence to:* Dr S. Dueland, Department of Oncology, Oslo University Hospital, Postbox 4950 Nydalen, N-0424 Oslo, Norway  
(e-mail: svdue@ous-hf.no)

*British Journal of Surgery Open.* October 2018

# Impact of performance status

**Conclusion:** Patients with non-resectable colorectal liver-only metastases receiving liver transplantation had good long-term quality of life. **Patients with elevated symptom scores (fatigue, pain and appetite loss) before transplantation had reduced 3-year overall survival**



**Fig. 3** Kaplan–Meier estimated overall survival up to 3 years after liver transplantation related to symptom scores for appetite loss at baseline.  $P=0.002$  (log rank test)

**Fig. 4** Kaplan–Meier estimated overall survival up to 3 years after liver transplantation related to fatigue symptom scores at baseline. Patients were divided into two groups with fatigue score of less than 30, and 30 or above.  $P=0.023$  (log rank test)

# Eligible patients the Netherlands?

- Estimation:
  - 14 (based on population Norway x 3,4)
  - 20- 35 pts (based on Cairo-5/DHBA numbers) per year
- How to prioritize:
  - no liver disease.
  - Patients with irresectable hilar cholangiocarcinoma (n=6 per year in NL) get 38 MELD points, but is this fair to patients with non-malignant liver disease? (especially when living donor/RAPID is an option?)



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center



# Liver transplantation for non-resectable colorectal liver metastases: the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association consensus guidelines

Glenn K Bonney, Claire Alexandra Chew, Peter Lodge, Joleen Hubbard, Karim J Halazun, Pavel Trunecka, Paolo Mulesan, Darius F Mirza, John Isaac, Richard W Laing, Shridhar Ganpathi Iyer, Cheng Ean Chee, Wei Peng Yong, Mark Dhinesh Muthiah, Fabrizio Panaro, Juan Sanabria, Axel Grothey, Keymanthri Moodley, Ian Chau, Albert C Y Chan, Chih Chi Wang, Krishna Menon, Gonzalo Sapisochin, Morten Hagness, Svein Dueland, Pål-Dag Line, René Adam

Colorectal cancer is a prevalent disease worldwide, with more than 50% of patients developing metastases to the liver. *Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol*

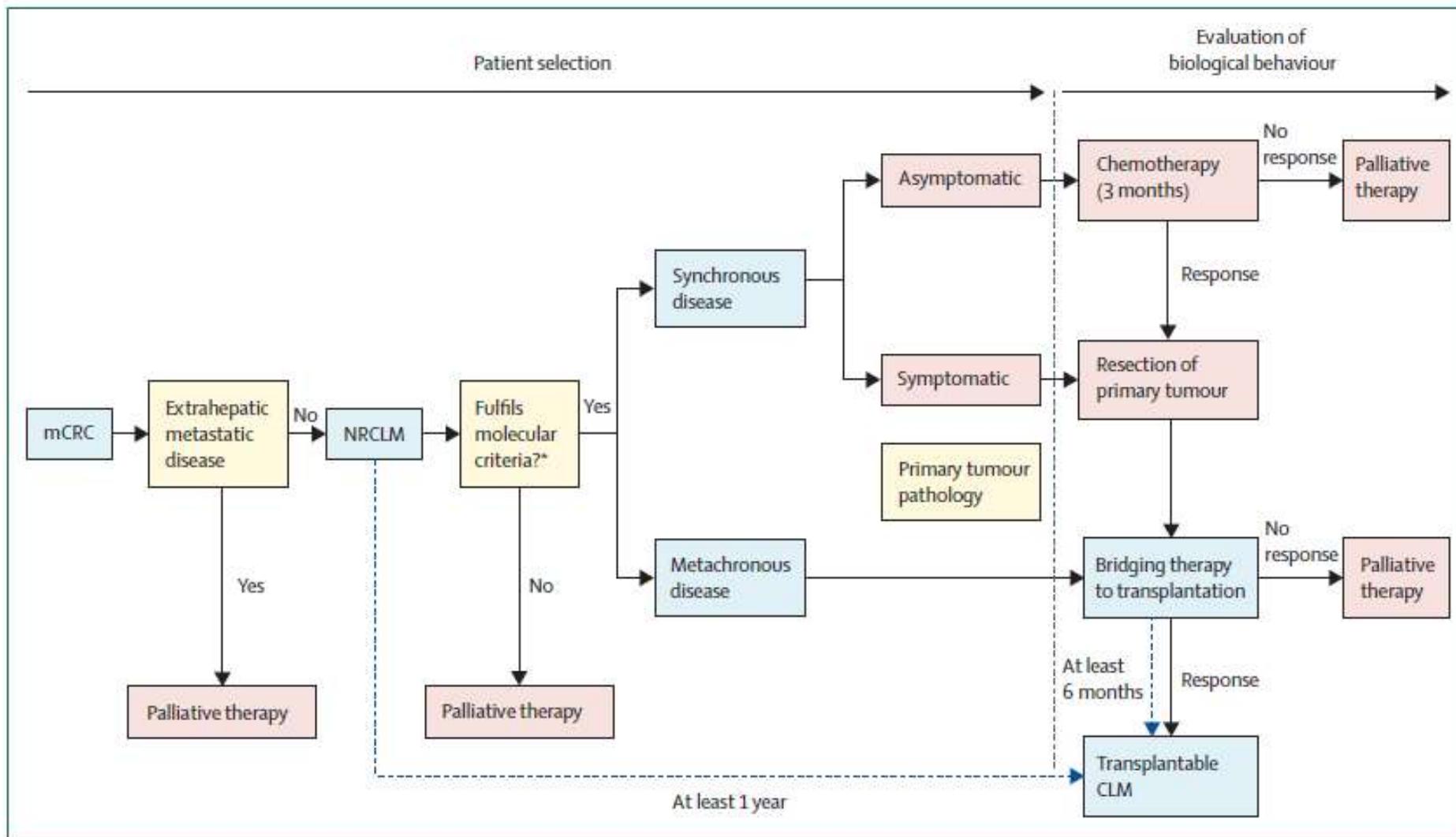


Figure 2: Proposed management algorithm

CLM=colorectal liver metastases. mCRC=metastatic colorectal cancer. NRCLM=non-resectable CLM. \*No BRAF V600E mutation, microsatellite stable, and mismatch repair proficient.

# Hoe gaat in z'n werk?

- Back-up patiënt
- Inspectie peritoneale laesies?
- Lymfeklier sampling ligament + vriesCoupe PA
- 1 st na OLT (UMCG)
  - Nog geen recidief (CT & Lab na 6 maanden)
- 1 op wachtlijst (UMCG)
- 2 in analyse (UMCG)



University Medical Center Groningen



UMC Groningen Transplant Center

## Discussie/Conclusie

- OLT succesvolle behandeling voor leverziekten, maar óók oncologische indicaties
- In geselecteerde patiënten lijkt OLT voor irresectable (liver-only) CRLM een goede behandeling:
  - Selectie belangrijk! to achieve survival of >60% 3yrs
  - After OLTx high chance of recurrence: aggressive treatment of all resectable recurrences is recommended
- NL: protocol with more strict criteria than Oslo
- Liver transplant for CRLM is still a “*work in progress*”



# Contact UMCG

- Chirurgie: Marieke de Boer of Carlijn Buis

[c.i.buis@umcg.nl](mailto:c.i.buis@umcg.nl)

- Hepatologie: Aad van den Berg

[a.p.van.den.berg@umcg.nl](mailto:a.p.van.den.berg@umcg.nl)

Protocol gepubliceerd in NTV  
november 2020 *Tushuizen ME et al*



Leids Universitair  
Medisch Centrum

