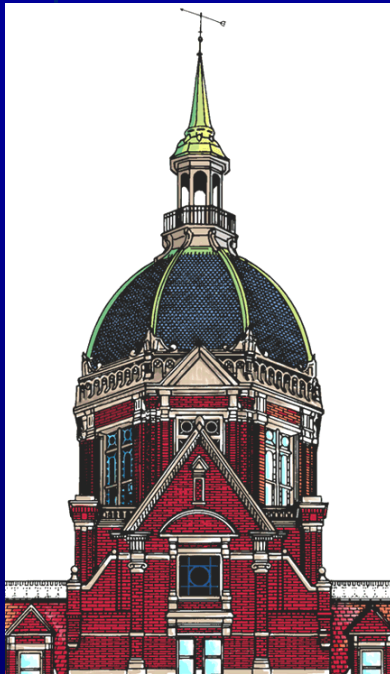


Active Surveillance for Men With Newly Diagnosed Prostate Cancer: Critical Role of Pathology



Jonathan I. Epstein

**The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, MD**



Gleason Grading System

Assign most common and 2nd most common pattern and add together resulting in Gleason Score 2-10

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gleason Scores 2-6 | Well differentiated (I/V) |
| Gleason Score 3+4=7 | Moderately differentiated (II/V) |
| Gleason Score 4+3=7 | Mod./poor differentiated (III/V) |
| Gleason Score 8 | Poorly differentiated (IV/V) |
| Gleason Score 9-10 | Undifferentiated (V/V) |

Staging

- **T1 – Nonpalpable cancer on digital rectal exam**
 - T1a ($\leq 5\%$ cancer on TURP & GS 2-6)
 - T1b ($> 5\%$ cancer on TURP or $GS \geq 7$)
 - T1c (cancer detected on needle biopsy)

- **T2 – Palpable cancer**

In the 1980s, limited adenocarcinoma of the prostate incidentally detected on TURP was not considered as a significant disease as patients did well with short-term follow up

Patients often not even told they have cancer.

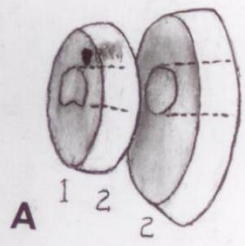
**Prognosis of Untreated Stage T1a
Prostatic Carcinoma: A Study of
94 cases with Extended Follow-up**

**Epstein JI, Paull G, Eggleston JC, Walsh PC
J Urol 1986**

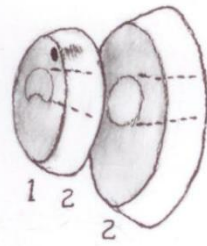
- **26/94 men died of other causes <4 years after diagnosis (mean age 75 years).**
- **Of the 50 men who remained at risk ≥ 8 years, 8 (16%) had progression of disease with 6 dying of prostate cancer.**

**The Volume and Anatomical
Location of Residual Tumor in
RP Specimens Removed for Stage
T1a Prostate Cancer**

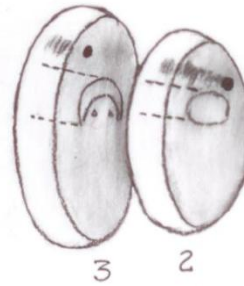
**Epstein JI, Oesterling JE, Walsh PC
J Urol 1988**



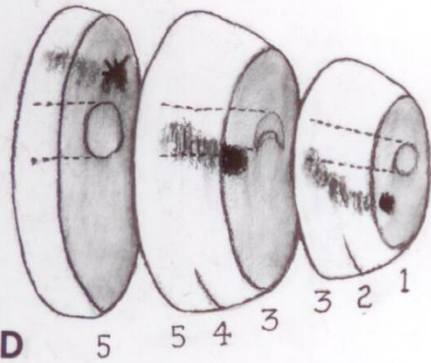
A
L.lateral



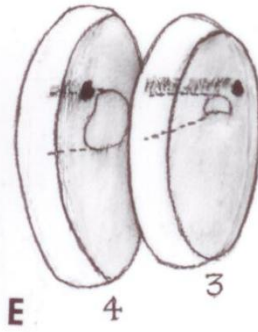
B
L.lateral



C
R.lateral



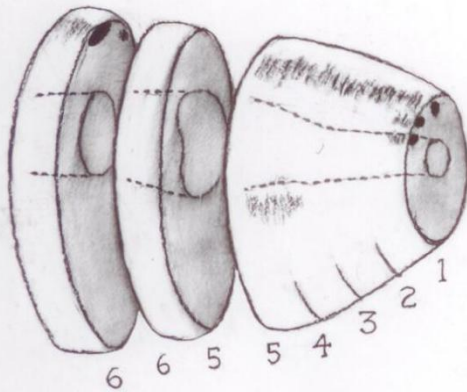
D
R.lateral



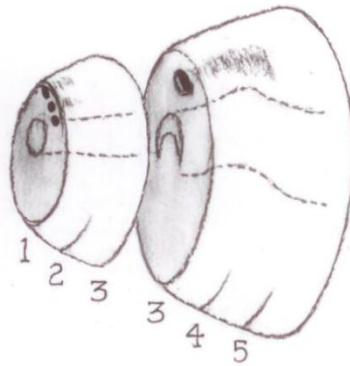
E
R.lateral



F
L.lateral



R.lateral

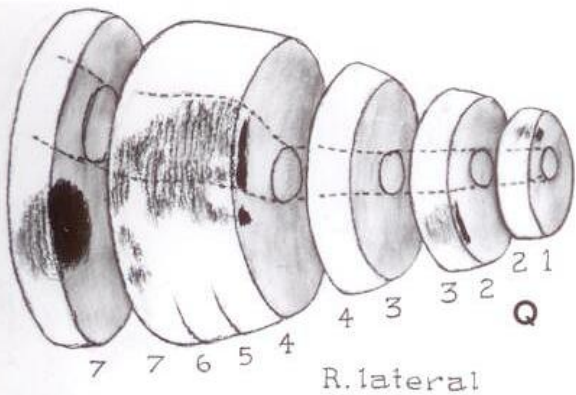


L.lateral

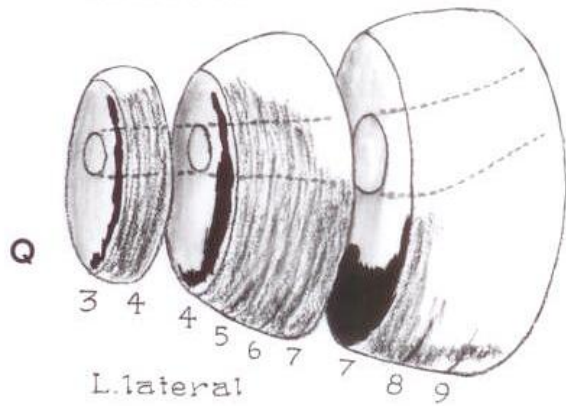
Dr. Allenberg

**No Tumor
3/21 (14%)**

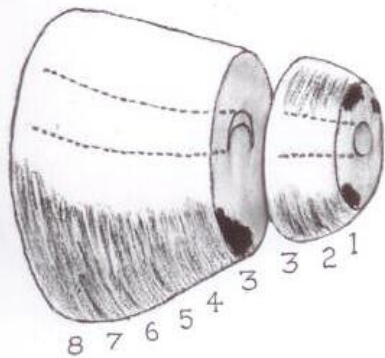
**Minimal Tumor
13/21 (62%)**



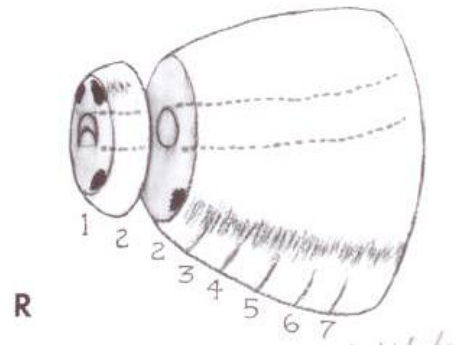
R.lateral



L.lateral



R.lateral



L.lateral

Substantial Tumor
5/21 (24%)

**Can Stage T1a Tumor Extent in
RP be Predicted by TURP Tumor
Per cent or Grade?**

Larsen MP, Carter HB, Epstein JI

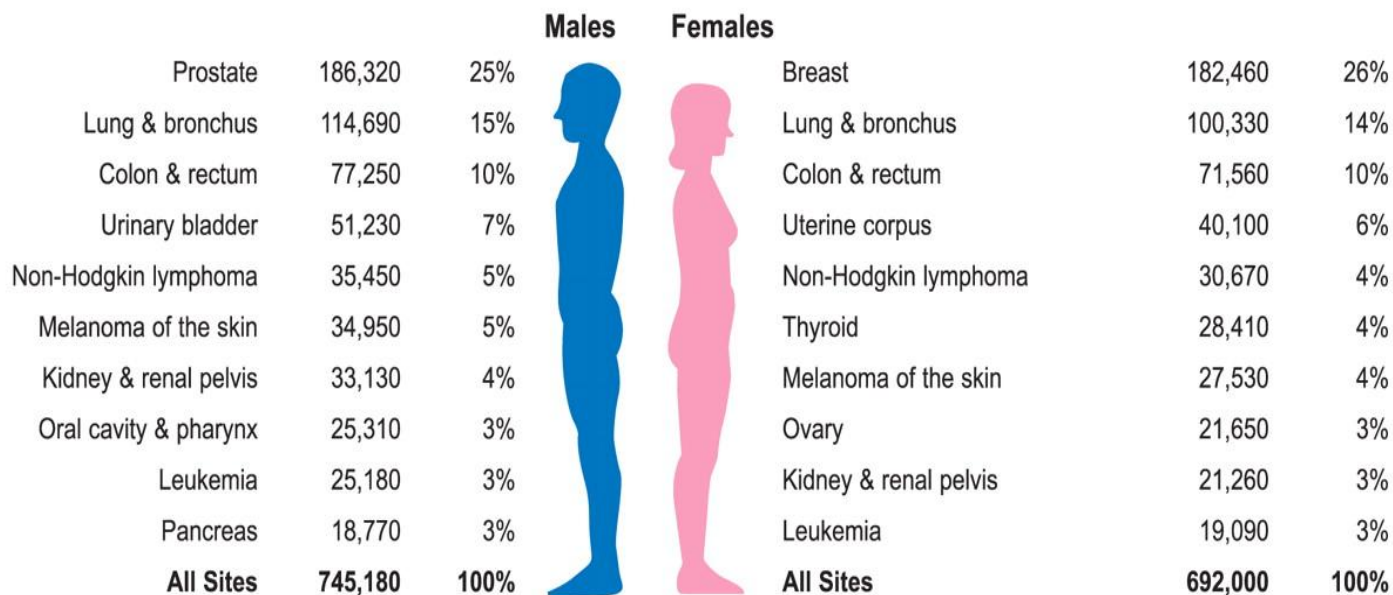
J Urol 1991

- **64 totally embedded RP for T1a prostate cancer.**
- **6% - No residual tumor**
- **74% - Minimal tumor**
- **20% - Substantial tumor**
- **TURP cancer grade (Gleason score 2-6) and per cent (1%-5%) not predictive.**

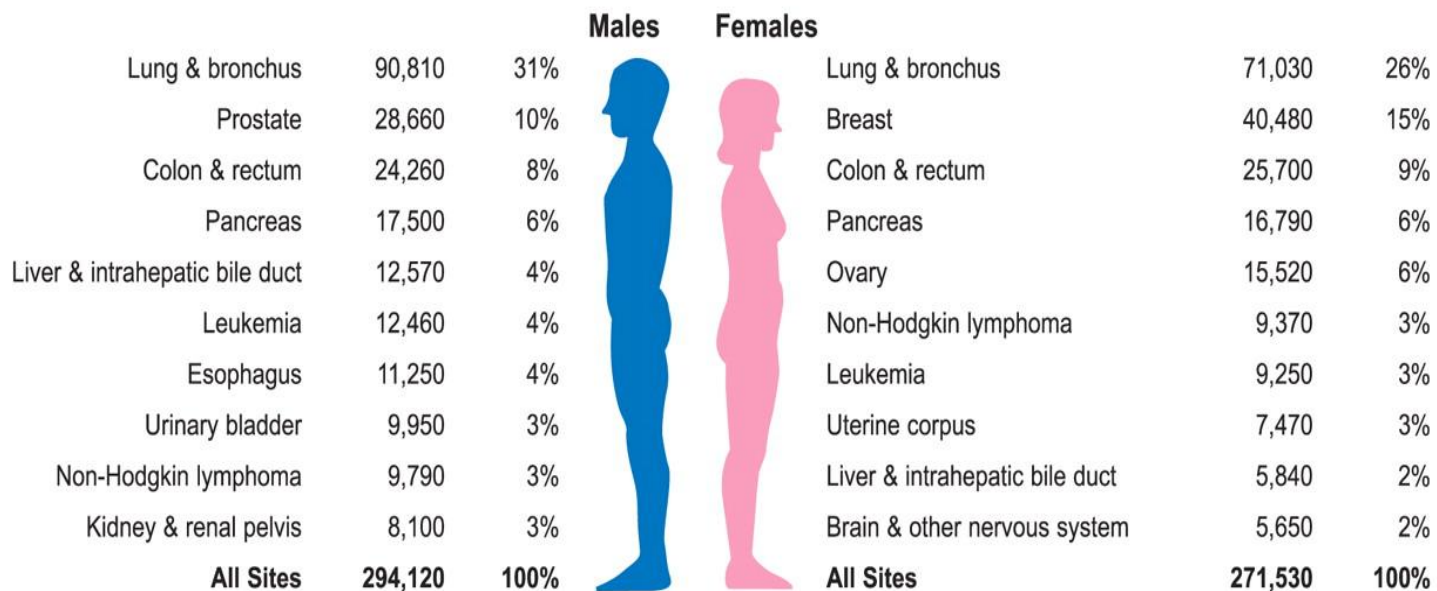
Change in Prostate Cancer Detection

- **TURPs have dramatically decreased in frequency due to:**
 - **1. Medical therapy for BPH**
 - **2. Ablative therapy for BPH (ie. laser)**
 - **3. Discovery of serum PSA test**
- **Currently most cancers are nonpalpable detected by needle biopsy done for elevated serum PSA levels (Stage T1c).**

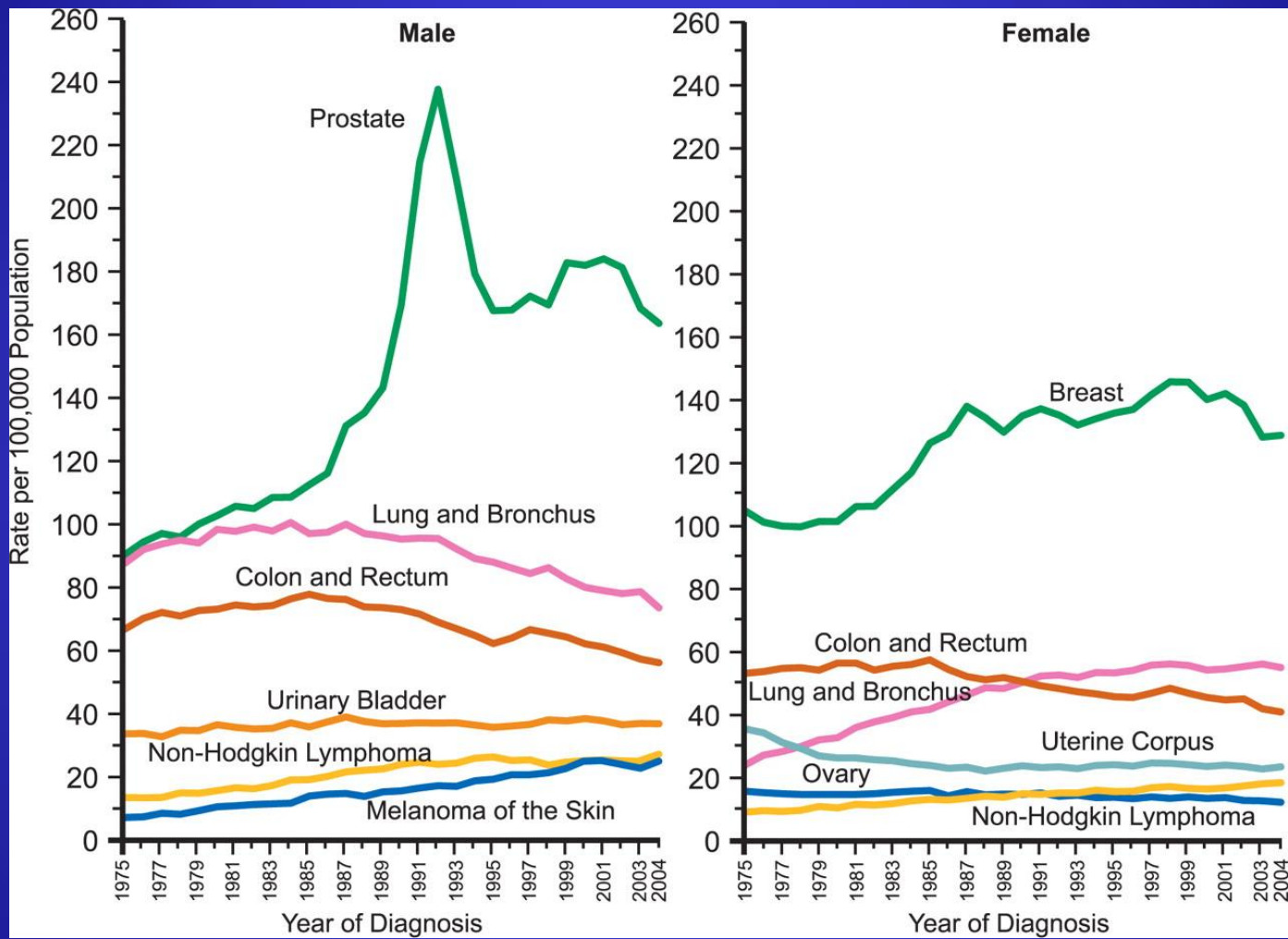
Estimated New Cases*



Estimated Deaths



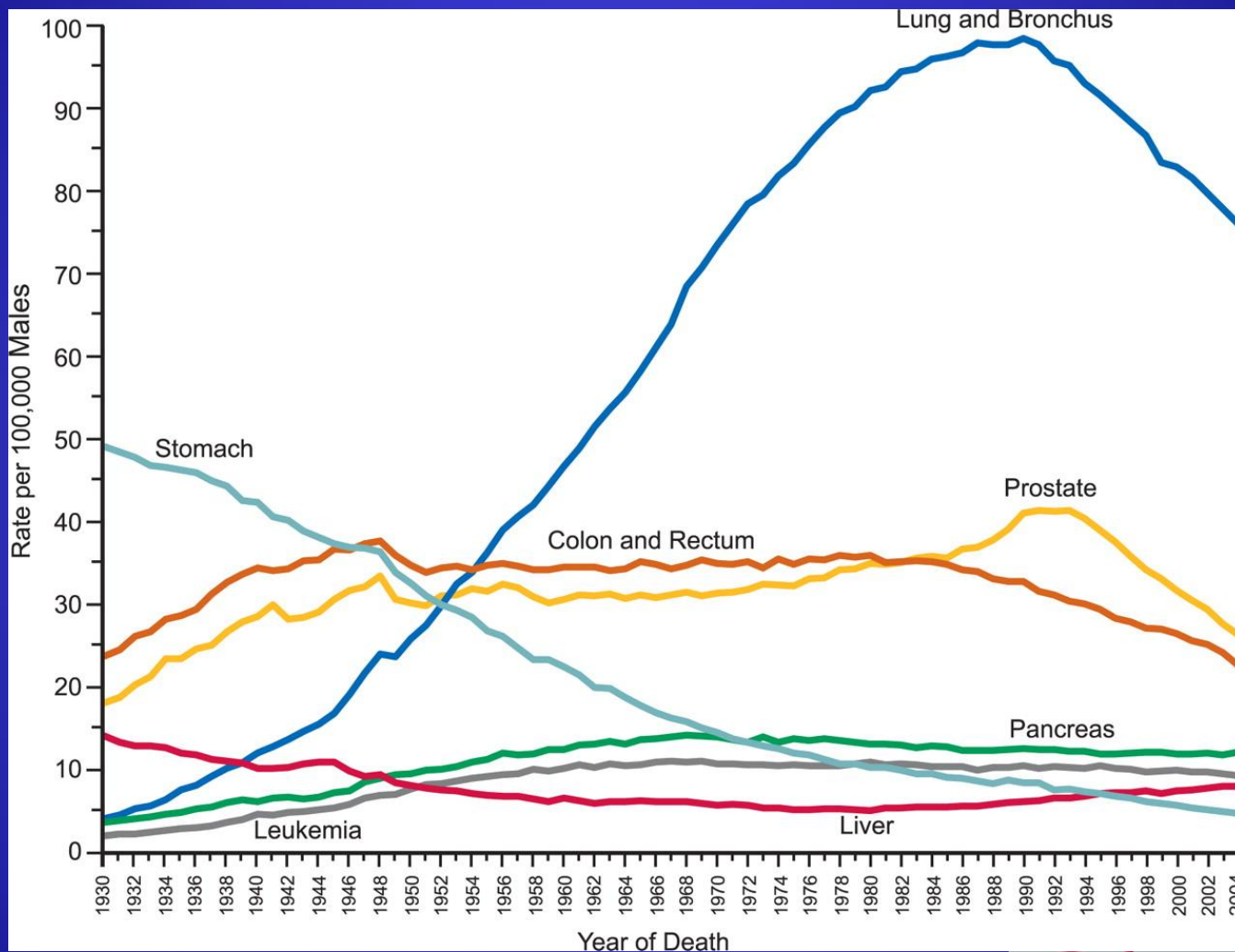
Annual Age-adjusted Cancer Incidence Rates* for Selected Cancers by Sex United States, 1975 to 2004



From Jemal, A. et al.
CA Cancer J Clin 2008;58:71-96.



Annual Age-adjusted Cancer Death Rates* Among Males for Selected Cancers United States, 1930 to 2004



From Jemal, A. et al.
CA Cancer J Clin 2008;58:71-96.



$\geq 50\%$ of men with newly diagnosed prostate cancer have low risk disease (Cooperberg et al, 2003)

- Lowering PSA trigger for biopsy**
- More biopsy cores sampled per biopsy session**

Over Treatment of Prostate Cancer in the PSA Era

- Only 16 of every 100 patients between ages 50-70yrs with screen detected cancer will have life extended by surgery (McGregor et al, CMAJ 1998)
- 102 screen detected cancers would need to be treated per 17 lives saved at age 65yrs (Ross et al, Urology 2005)
- Treatments required to save a life double by age 75yrs and triple by age 80yrs

Most Older Men With Prostate Cancer Receive Active Treatments

| Age (years) | # Men | Percentage of Men | | |
|-------------|-------|-------------------|----------------------|-----|
| | | Watchful Waiting | Radiation or Surgery | ADT |
| 70-79 | 1263 | 15% | 58% | 27% |
| ≥80 | 212 | 21% | 21% | 58% |

Cooperberg et al, JNCI 2003 (data from CaPSURE)

Changes in Detection and Management of Prostate Cancer Have Led to Overtreatment of Disease

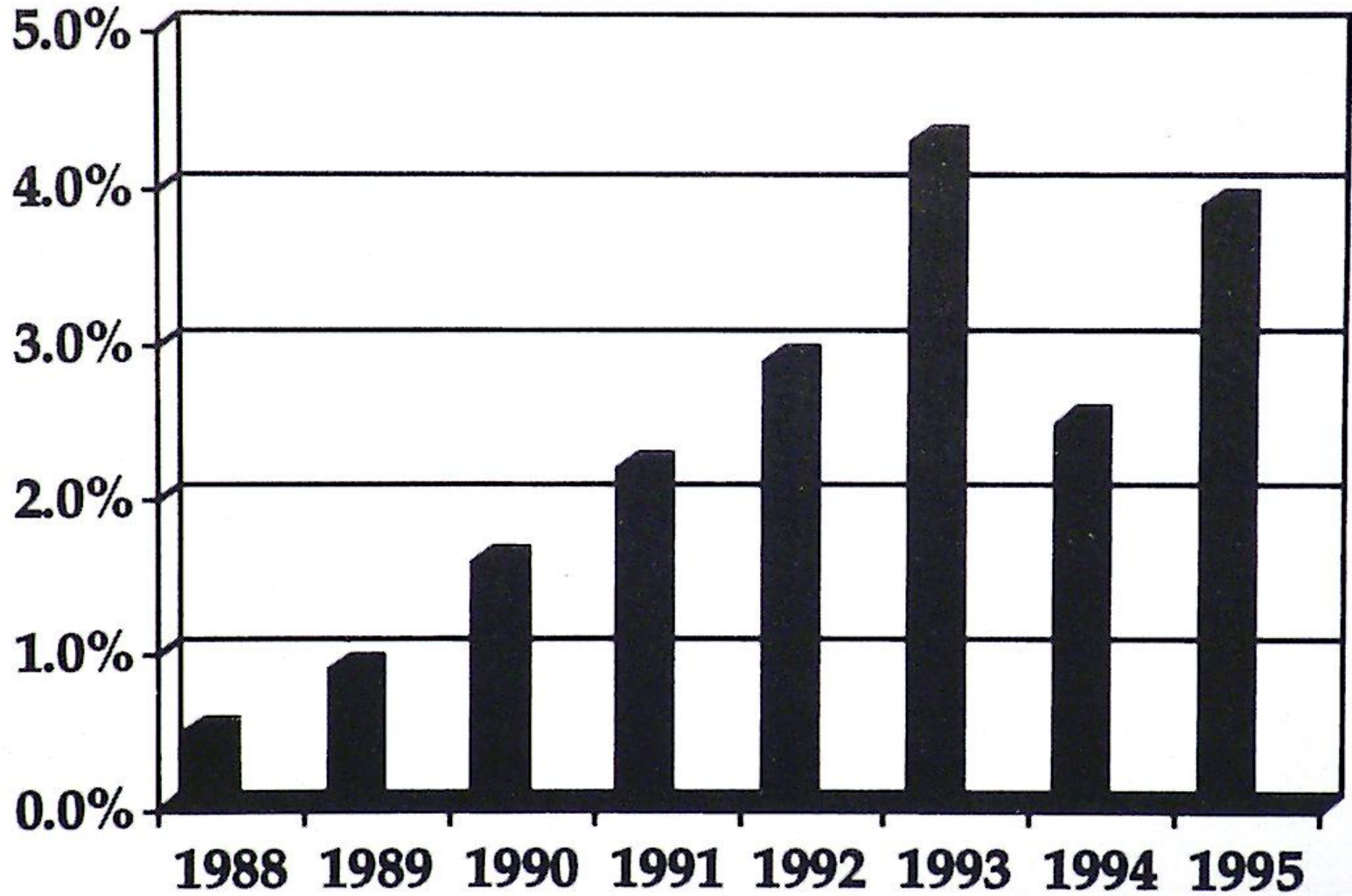
- **High rates of screening among the elderly**
- **Increasing proportion of men undergoing active treatments, regardless of grade and stage**

Increasing Incidence of Minimal Residual Cancer in RP Specimens

**Digiuseppe JA, Sauvageot J, Epstein JI
Am J Surg Pathol 1997**

<0.1 cc

Incidence of Minimal Cancer



Year of Study

**Little to No Residual Prostate
Cancer at RP: Vanishing Cancer
or Switched Specimen?
A Microsatellite Analysis of
Specimen Identity**

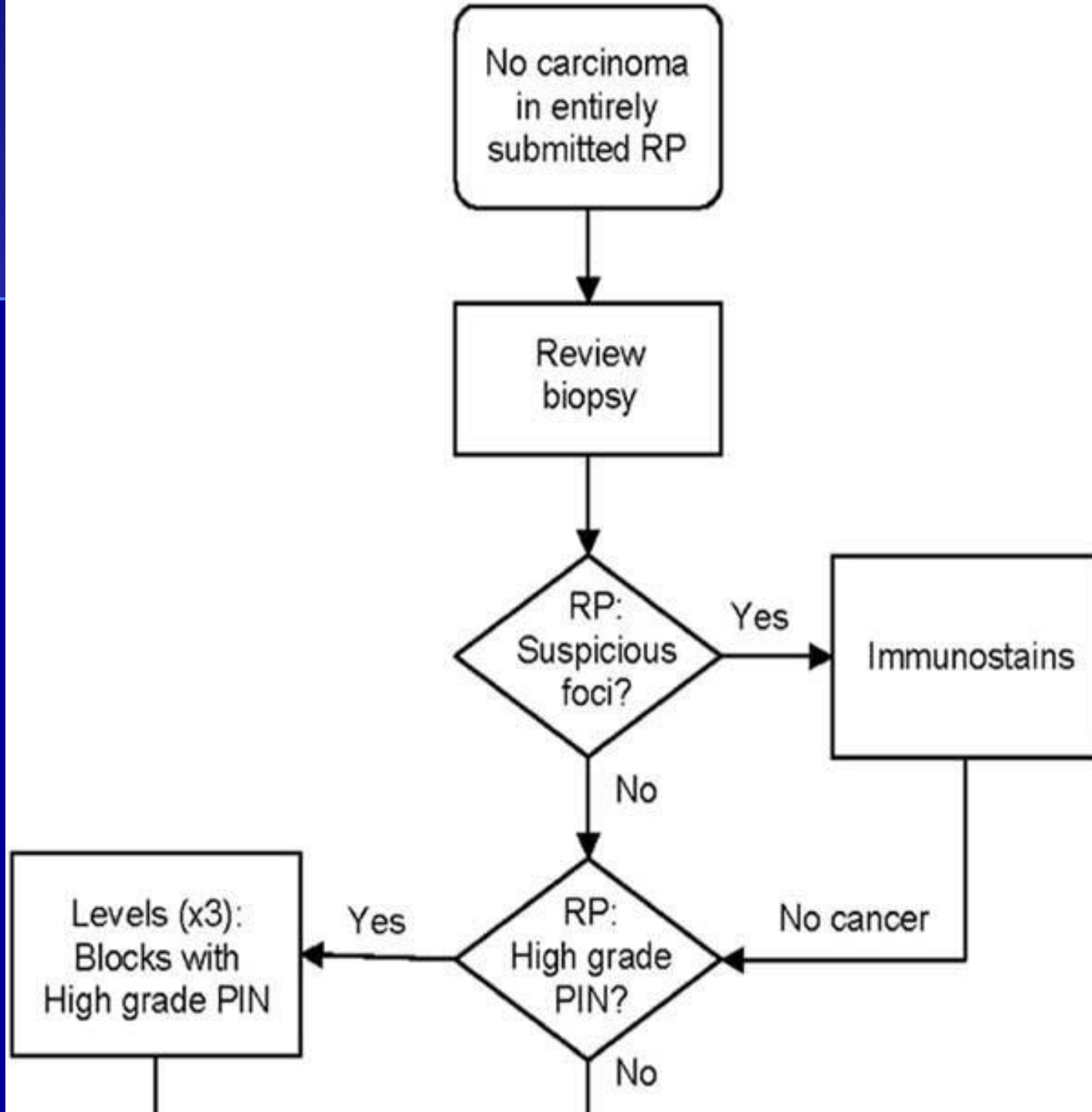
**Cao D, Epstein JI
Am J Surg Pathol 2005**

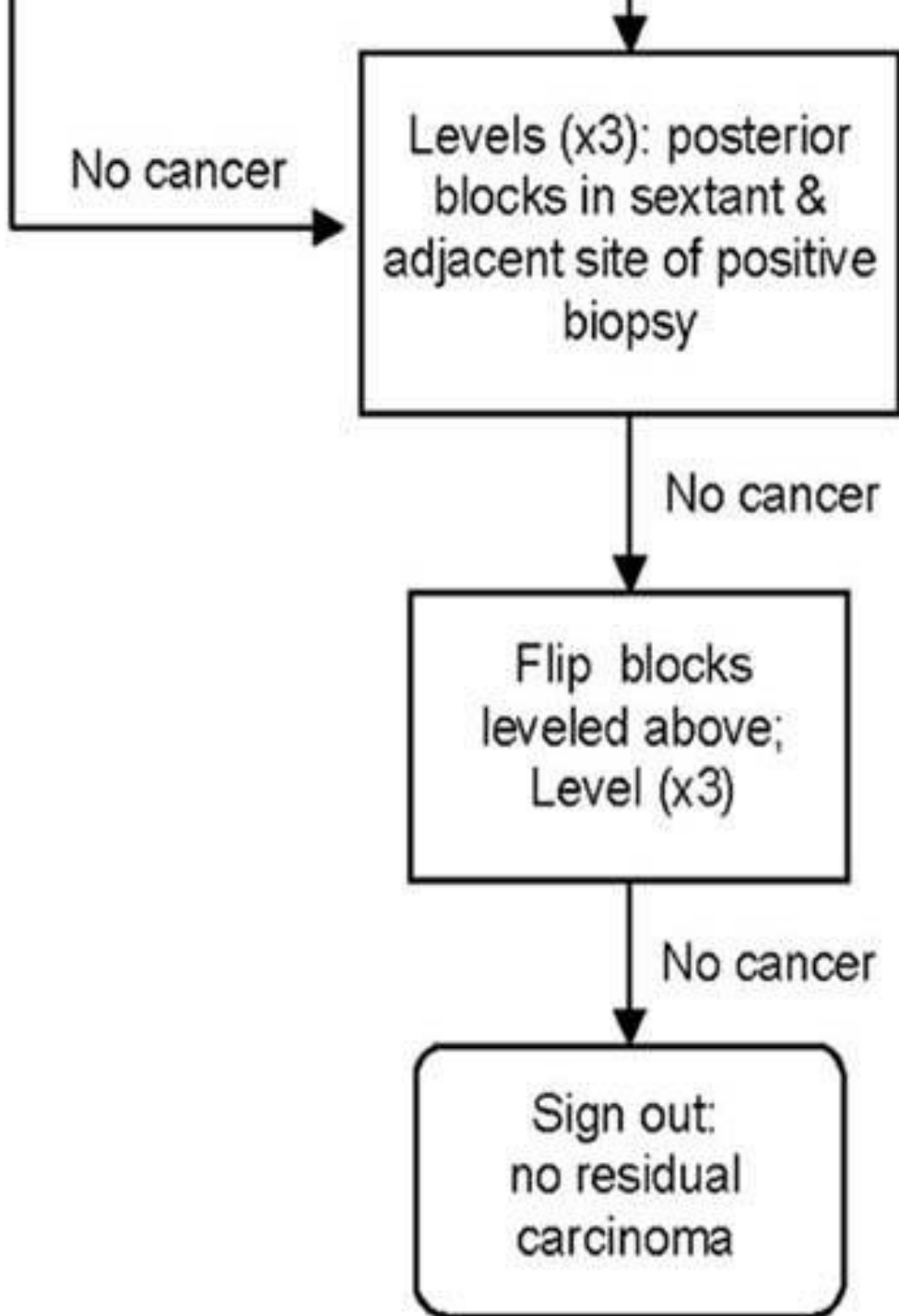
- **31 men with minute and 10 with no residual cancer at RP**
- **None had prior hormonal Tx or TURP**
- **All 31 cases with minute cancer showed specimen identity.**
- **9/10 interpretable cases with no cancer showed specimen identity.**
- **1 mismatch case had GS 4+4=8 9.6 mm with PNI on biopsy**

- **Specimen switch can rarely occur, and if there is high grade or a lot of cancer on the biopsy with no or very minimal cancer in the RP specimen, one should evaluate for patient identity.**
- **However, in most cases of “vanishing cancer” in RP specimens, it reflects a chance sampling of a minute cancer and not a switch in specimens.**

**Detection of Cancer in RP in 34
Specimens with no Residual Cancer
in the Initial Review of Slides**

**Duffield A, Epstein JI
Am J Surg Pathol 2009**





| <u>Method</u> | <u>No. Cases.</u> | <u>%</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| IHC only | 5 | 19 |
| Levels x3 | | |
| -IHC | 12 | 73 |
| +IHC | 2 | |
| Levels x6 | | |
| -IHC | 6 | |
| +IHC | 1 | 100 |

In 1.5% of RP no cancer will be found in initially submitted specimen.

A methodical limited targeted approach can identify cancer in 73% of cases, yet still 0.4% of all RPs where cancer is not identified.

Why Look for Minute Cancer?

- **Patients and urologists concern when no cancer is found following major surgery**
- **Relatively little effort to find residual cancer in the majority of cases**

Overtreatment of Prostate Cancer

- **0.4% no residual prostate cancer at RP**
- **4% minute cancer at RP**
- **26%-33% small volume (?insignificant) cancer**

Standard Treatments for Prostate Cancer

- **Radical Prostatectomy**
- **Radiation Therapy**
- **Active Surveillance**
 - **Watchful waiting**
 - **Expectant management**

AUA Practice Guidelines for Localized Prostate Cancer

- **As a standard, patients should be informed about surveillance**
- **Patients most likely to benefit from surveillance are those with a shorter life expectancy and/or low grade tumor**

Criteria for Selection of Men for Active Surveillance

- Age (life expectancy or follow-up time)
- Patient preference
- Cancer extent (clinical stage)
- Needle biopsy findings (grade, extent)
- PSA criteria
 - PSA
 - Density

Pathologic and Clinical Findings to Predict Tumor Extent of Nonpalpable (Stage T1c) Prostate Cancer

Epstein JI, Walsh PC, Carmichael M, Brendler CN

JAMA 1994

- **Retrospectively compared 157 RP cases done for T1c disease to 64 T1a (small tumors detected on TURP) to 439 T2 (palpable tumors)**
- **26% T1c cases “potentially insignificant”**
 - **No Gleason pattern 4 (Gleason 3+3=6)**
 - **Organ confined**
 - **Tumor volume <0.5cc.**
- **T1c intermediate between T1a and T2**

Pre-Operative Model to Predict Insignificant Cancer

- **Stage T1c (nonpalpable)**
- **Gleason score 6**
- **<3 cores involved by cancer**
- **No core with >50% involvement**
- **PSADensity (PSA/gland weight) <0.15**

Pre Treatment Criteria Accurately Identify Men With “Significant” Cancers

| Study | Study Design | # Men | Small volume (%) | NPV (%) | PPV (%) |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Epstein et al, '94 | Retro-spective | 157 | 26 | 86 | 79 |

Active Surveillance of Prostate Cancer: The Johns Hopkins Program

- Prospective observational study**
- Study initiation in 1995**

**Prospective Evaluation of Men
with Stage T1c
Adenocarcinoma of the
Prostate**

**Carter HB, Sauvageot J, Walsh PC, Epstein JI
J Urol 1997**

Pre Treatment Criteria Accurately Identify Men With “Significant” Cancers

| Study | Study Design | # Men | Small volume (%) | NPV (%) | PPV (%) |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Carter et al, '97 | Pro-spective | 240 | 33 | 81 | 75 |

National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Practice Guidelines

RECURRENCE
RISK

EXPECTED
SURVIVAL

INITIAL
THERAPY

Very Low: (Epstein Criteria)

- T1c
- Gleason score <6
- PSA <10ng/ml
- <3 biopsy cores +
- <50% cancer in each core
- PSA density <0.15

→ <20yr

Active
Surveillance
Preferred

Life Expectancy at age 65 y by Percentiles of Health

Top 25th

25.0 y

Middle

16.7 y

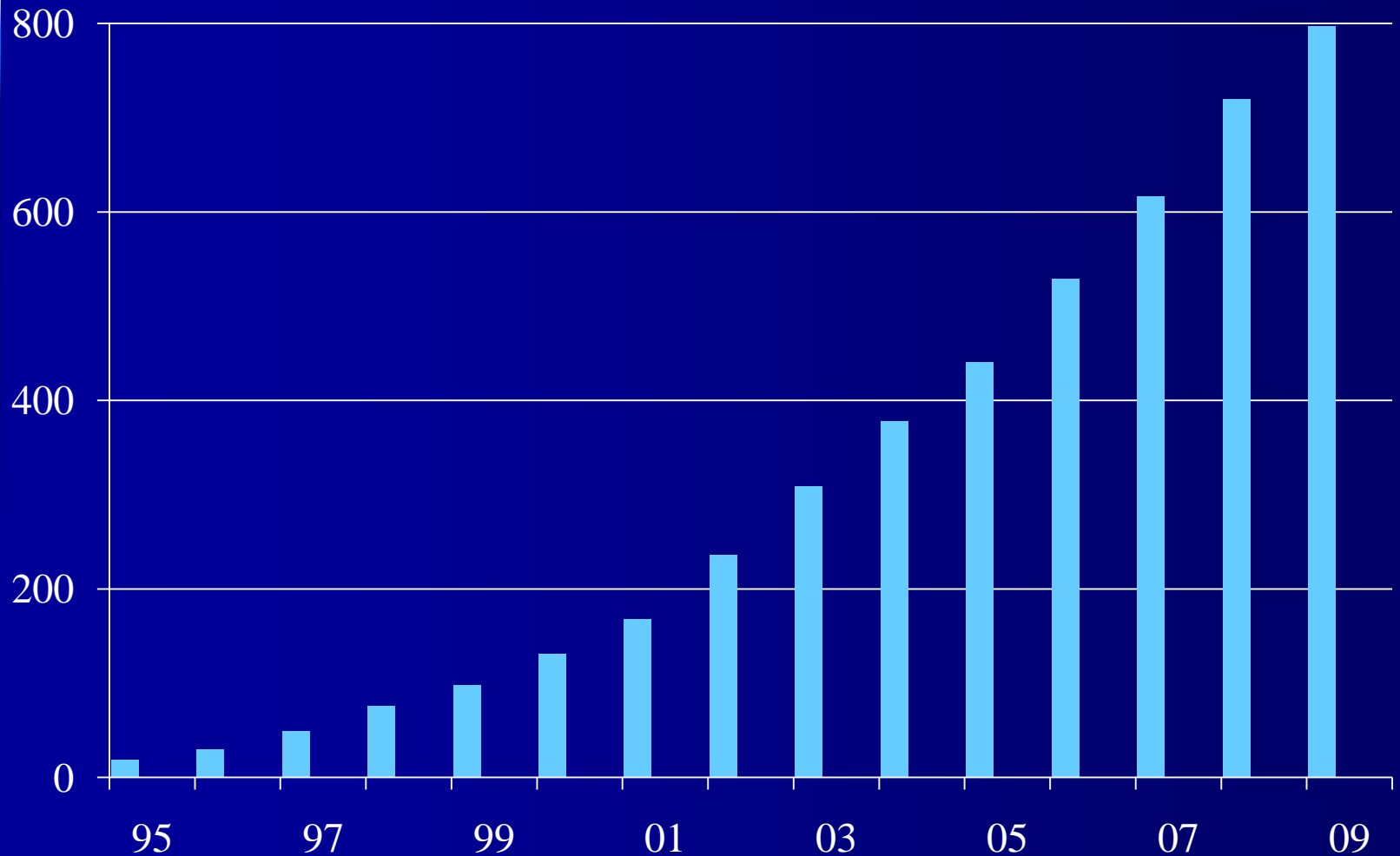
Bottom 25th

8.3 y

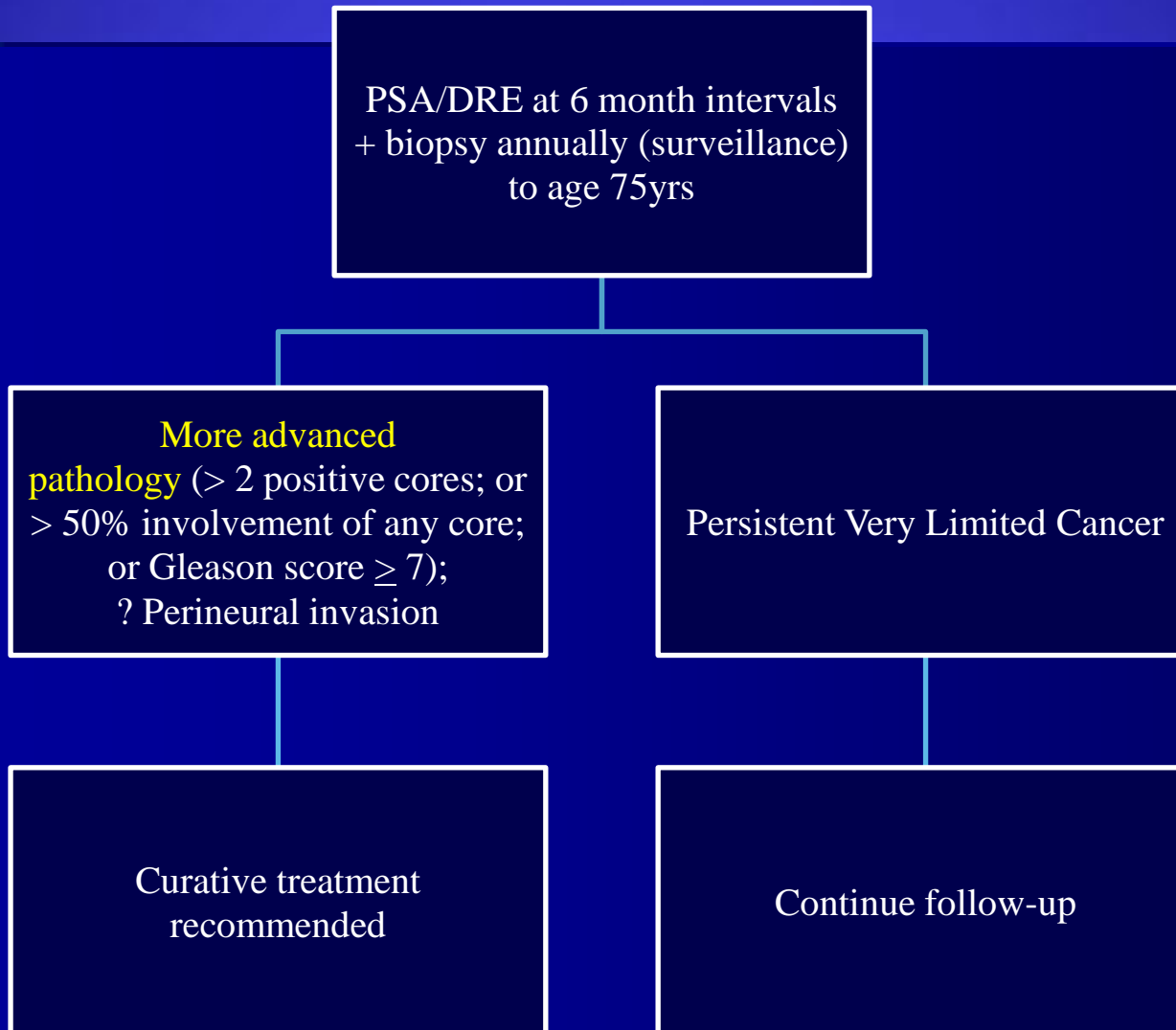
Follow-up Plan for Surveillance of Prostate Cancer

- **6-12 month monitoring with PSA and digital rectal examination at a minimum**
- **Surveillance (1-1.5 years) prostate biopsies**

Cumulative Recruitment into Surveillance Program: Johns Hopkins



Surveillance Protocol: Johns Hopkins Program



**Change in Prostate Cancer Grade
Over Time in Men Followed
Expectantly for Stage T1c Disease**

**Sheridan TB, Carter HB, Wang W,
Landis PB, Epstein JI**

J Urol 2008

Dedifferentiation of Cancer?

- **241 men with stage T1c prostate cancer with active surveillance with repeat yearly needle biopsy sampling to assess for more advanced cancer.**
- **Following the initial cancer diagnosis, all men had at least one other biopsy demonstrating cancer.**

- **Average follow-up for those with persistent very limited disease was 32.3 months.**
- **45/241 cases (18.7%) showed a significant change in grade from Gleason score ≤ 6 to Gleason score ≥ 7 .**
- **Gleason score 7 in 41 cases; Gleason score 8 in 4 cases).**
- **53% cases that showed higher grade did so within 24 months of diagnosis.**

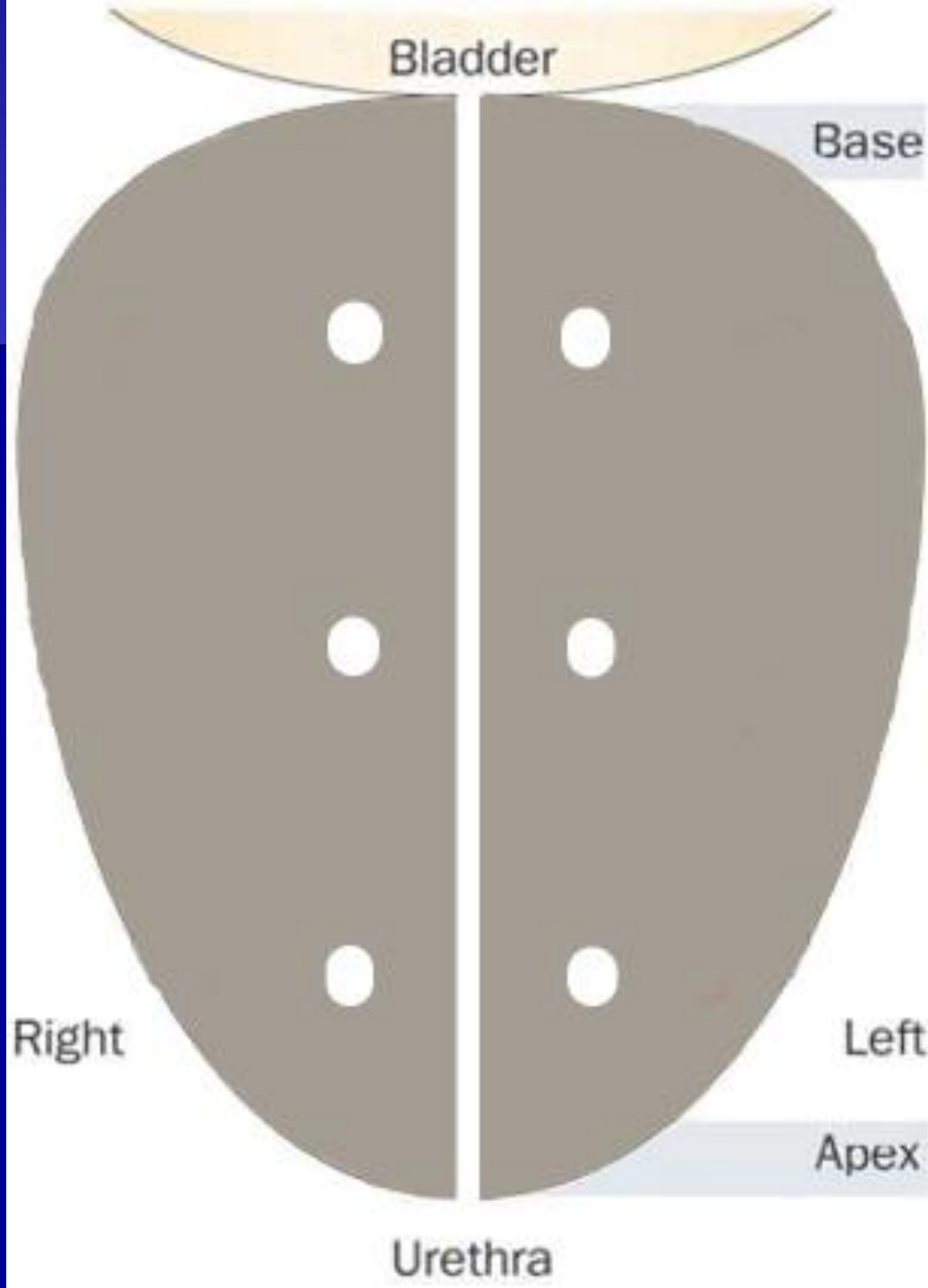
| GS 1st Biopsy | GS 2nd Biopsy | GS 3rd Biopsy | GS 4th Biopsy | GS 5th Biopsy | GS 6th Biopsy | GS 7th Biopsy | GS 8th Biopsy | No. of Cases |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 6 | 6 | | | | | | | 94 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | | | | | | 61 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | | | | | 27 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | | | | 6 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | | | 6 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 2 |
| 6 | 7 | | | | | | | 22 |
| 6 | 6 | 7 | | | | | | 13 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 | | | | | 6 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 | | | | 1 |
| 6 | 8 | | | | | | | 3 |
| 6 | 6 | 8 | | | | | | 1 |

- **Grade progression may occur in some men with long-term follow-up who had multiple biopsies showing Gleason score 6 followed by higher grade cancer.**

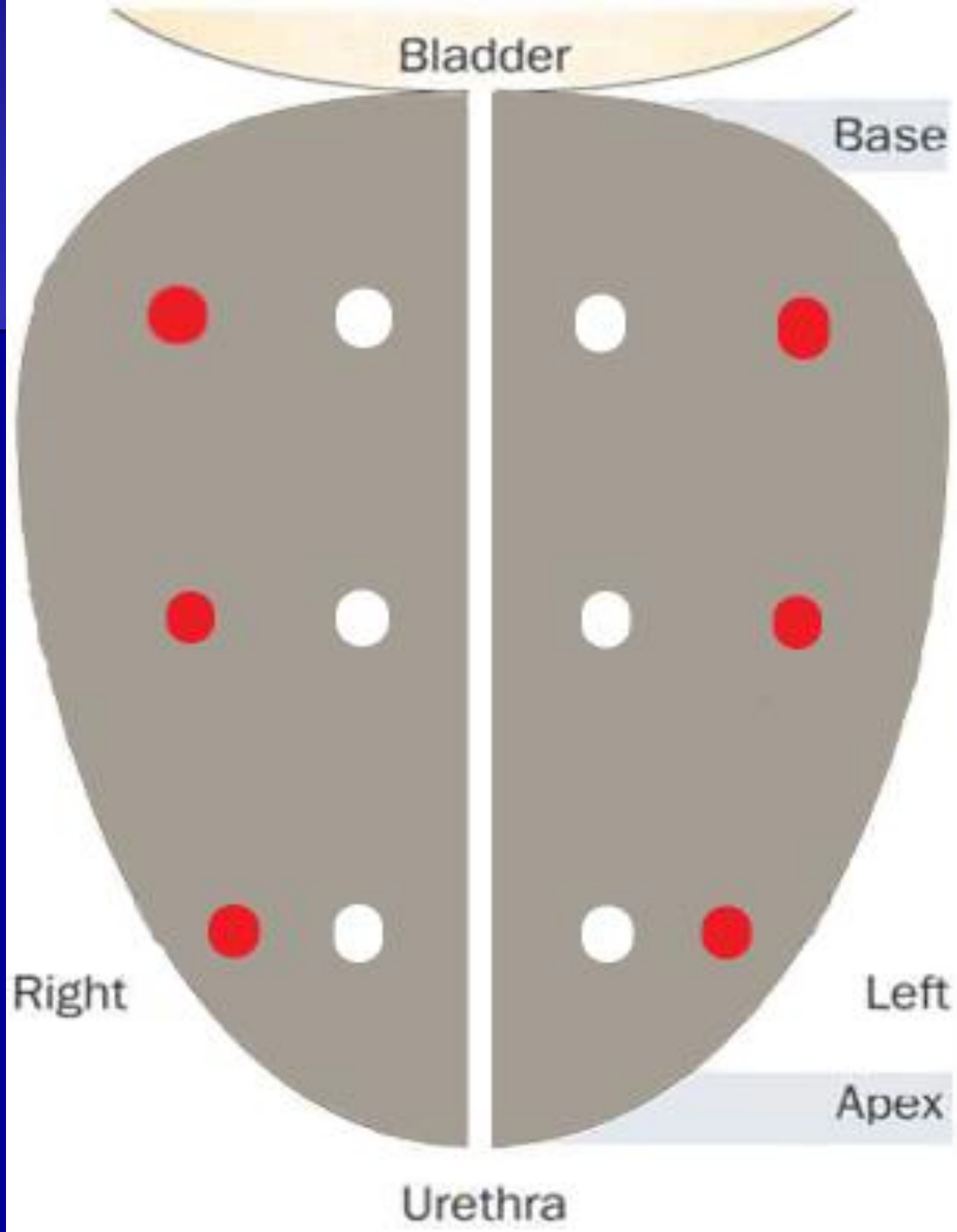
- **Within the first 3 years after diagnosis of Gleason score 6 prostate cancer, there is a relatively low risk of grade progression.**
- **Within the first 3 years, our data suggests that in most cases tumor grade did not evolve but rather that the higher grade component was not initially sampled since most grade changes occurred relatively soon after biopsy.**

Importance of Posterolateral Needle Biopsies in the Detection of Prostate Cancer

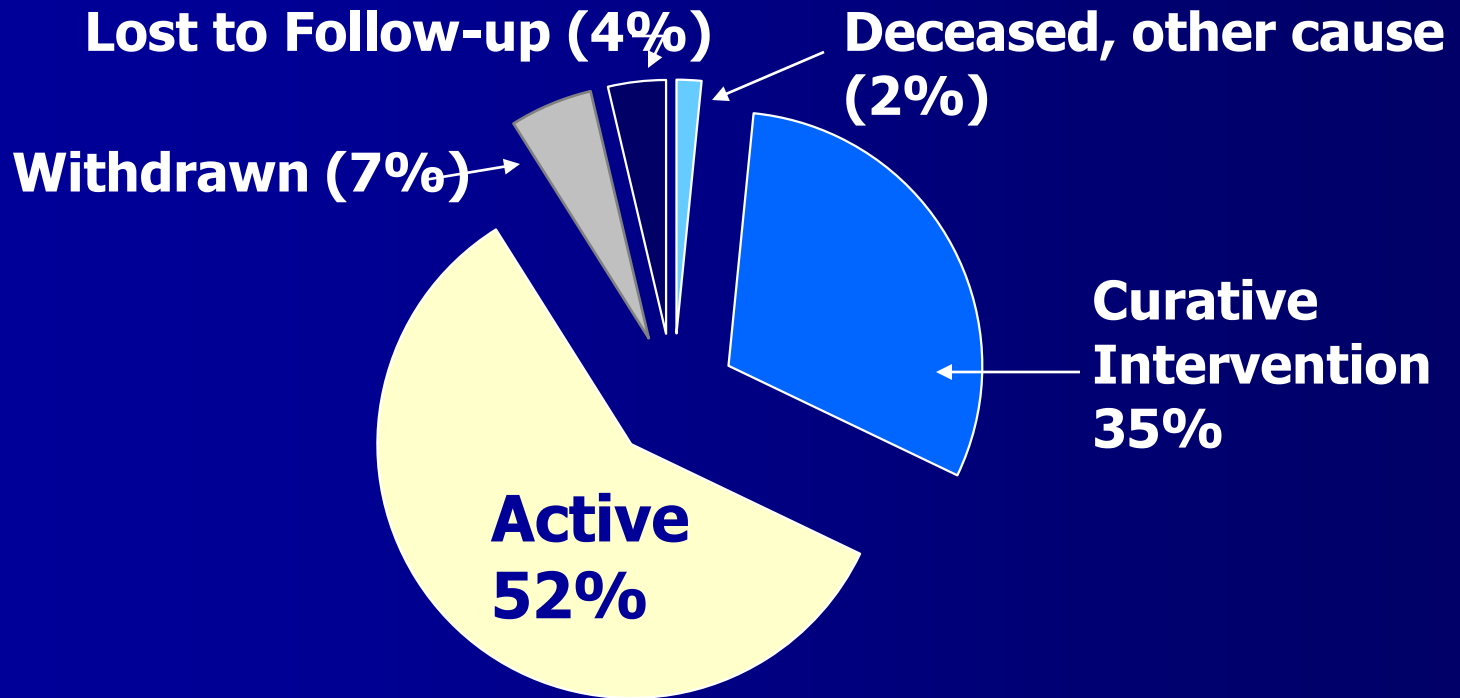
**Carter HB, Walsh PC, Epstein JI
Urol 2001**



- **Within the Pathology Laboratory did needle biopsies on 150 RPs done for T1c disease**
- **Found that routine 6 core (sextant) needle biopsies often missed significant cancer**
- **Adding 6 posterolateral biopsies maximized detection of **significant** cancers**
- **Currently, minimum 12 core biopsy required to enter program**



Active Surveillance: Johns Hopkins Program



Radical Prostatectomy Findings in Patients who Fail Active Surveillance of Prostate Cancer

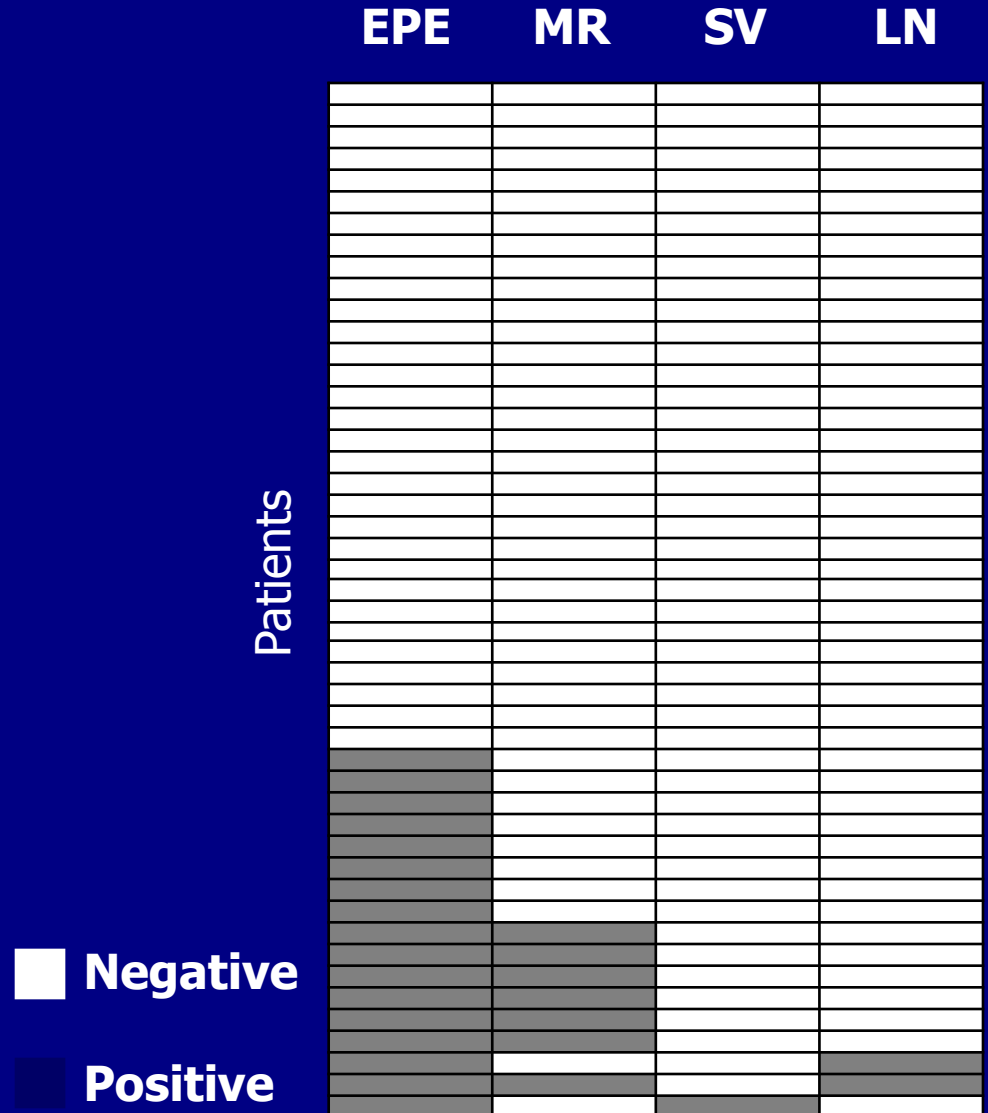
**Analyzed 48 RP done because of more
advanced disease on surveillance biopsies**

**Duffield AS, Lee TK, Miyamoto H, Carter HB, Epstein JI
J Urol (2009)**

| Advanced Findings on Biopsy | Percent | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| >2 core involvement | 29% (14/48) | } 33/48 (69%) |
| Gleason pattern 4/5 | 27% (13/48) | |
| >50% involvement of core | 13% (6/48) | |
| >2 cores & >50% core | 13% (6/48) | } 15/48 (31%) |
| GP 4/5 & >50% core | 8% (4/48) | |
| GP 4/5 & >2 cores | 6% (3/48) | |
| All three adverse criteria | 4% (2/48) | |

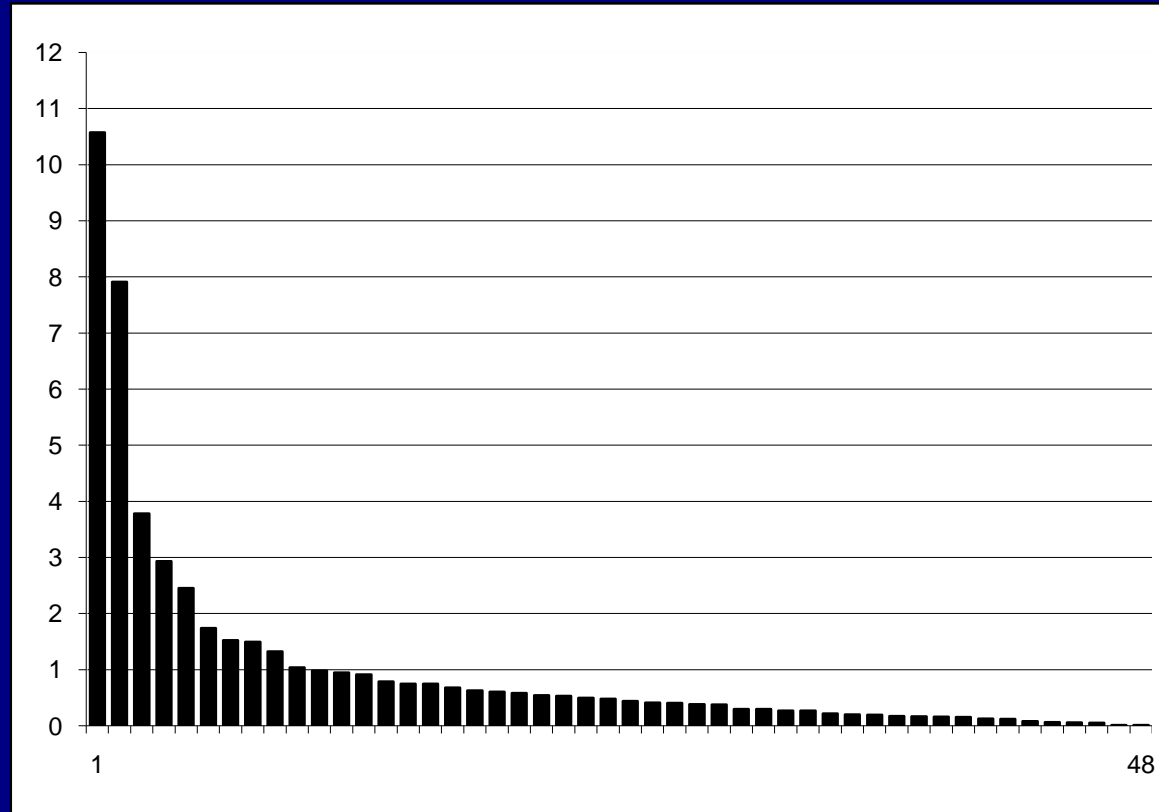
Radical Prostatectomy Findings: Tumor Stage

- **Extra prostatic extension (EPE): 35% (17/48)**
 - Focal: 14.6% (7/48)
 - Non-focal: 20.8% (10/48)
- **Positive surgical margins (MR): 14.6% (7/48)**
- **Seminal Vesicle (SV) involvement: 2.1% (1/48)**
- **Positive lymph node (LN): 4.2% (2/48)**



Radical Prostatectomy Findings: Tumor Volume

Dominant Nodule
Tumor Volume (cm³)

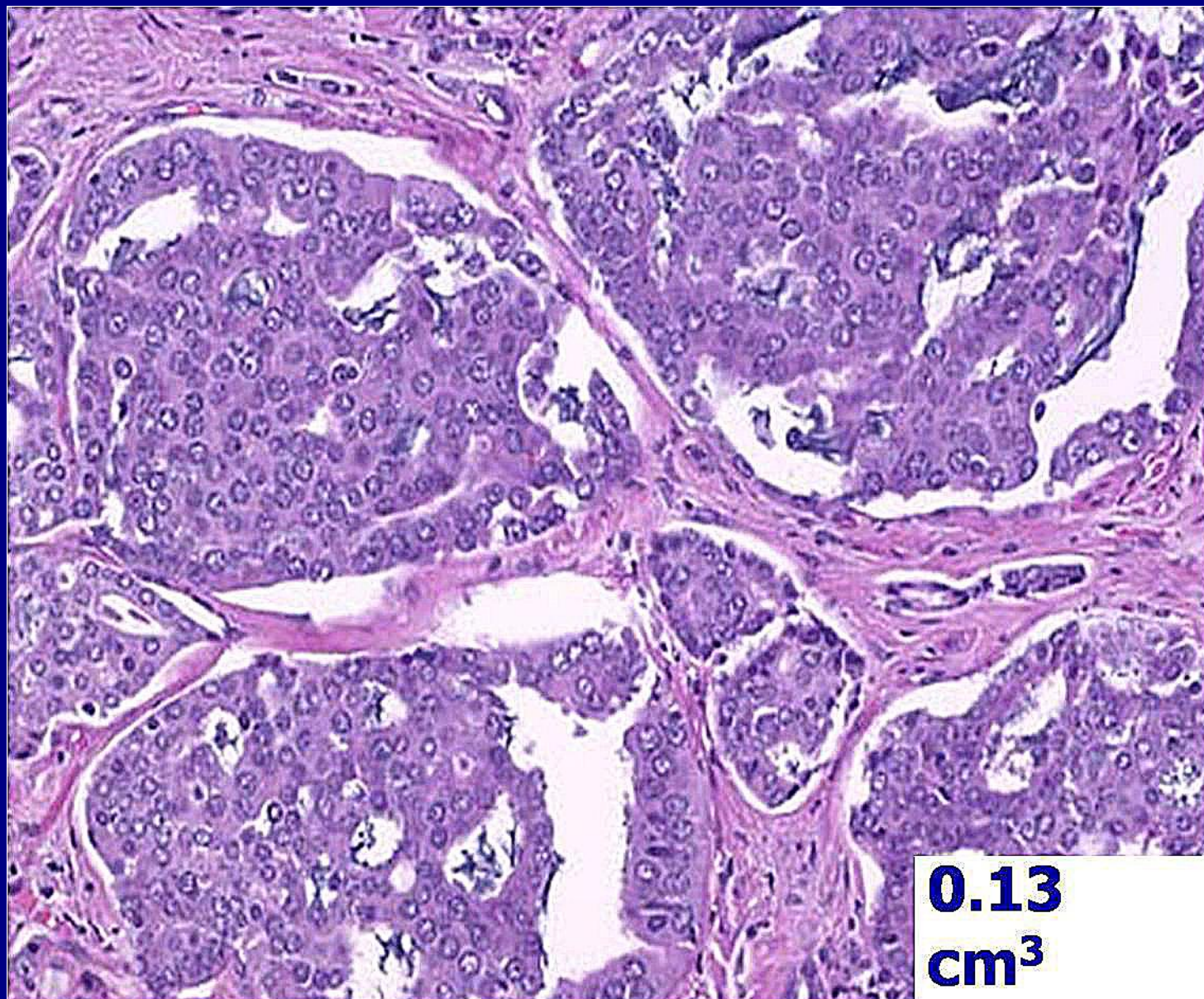


– Dominant nodule volume > 1 cm³: 10/48 (20.8%)

Radical Prostatectomy Findings

- **27% (13/48) of tumors were potentially clinically insignificant**
 - Organ confined
 - Dominant tumor nodule $<0.5 \text{ cm}^3$
 - No Gleason pattern 4 or 5
- **19% (5/26) of RPs with dominant tumor nodule $<0.5 \text{ cm}^3$ had EPE**
 - Four of these cases had Gleason pattern 4

GS 4+3=7 (5)
EPE
PSA at RP: 5.4



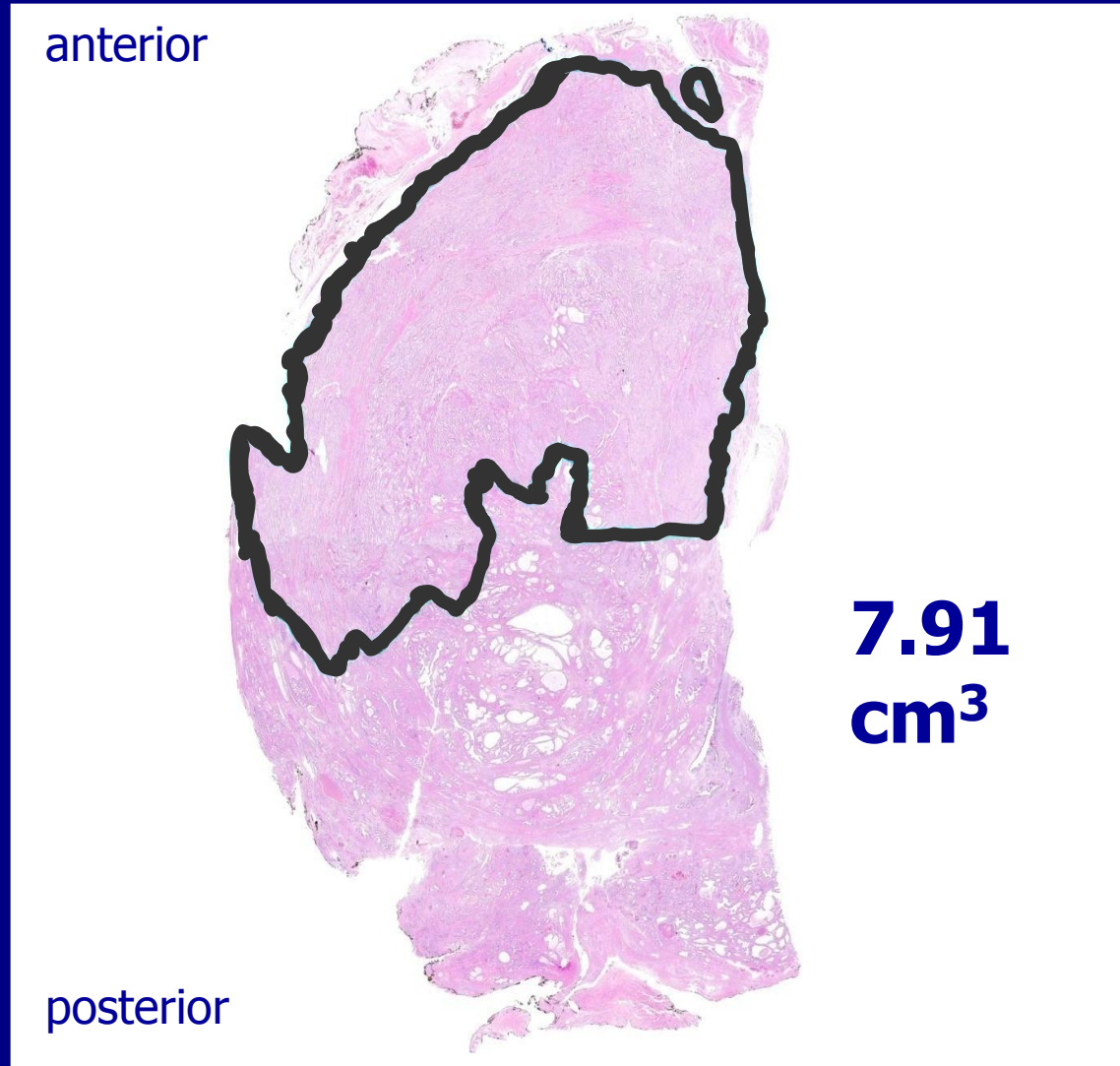
0.13
cm³

- **Even with more advanced tumor on biopsy, most RP tumors had favorable pathology**
- **A small percentage of men have advanced stage (pT3b or N1) disease**
- **Some smaller tumors in this study were fairly aggressive, but did not have alarming PSA values**
- **Repeat biopsy is the best means to find patients with small foci of high grade disease**

Radical Prostatectomy Findings: Dominant Nodule Tumor Location

- **All 10 tumors with a dominant nodule >1 cm³ were located predominantly in the anterior aspect of the prostate**
- **9/10 of these tumors involved the transition zone**

Radical Prostatectomy Findings: Dominant Nodule Tumor Location



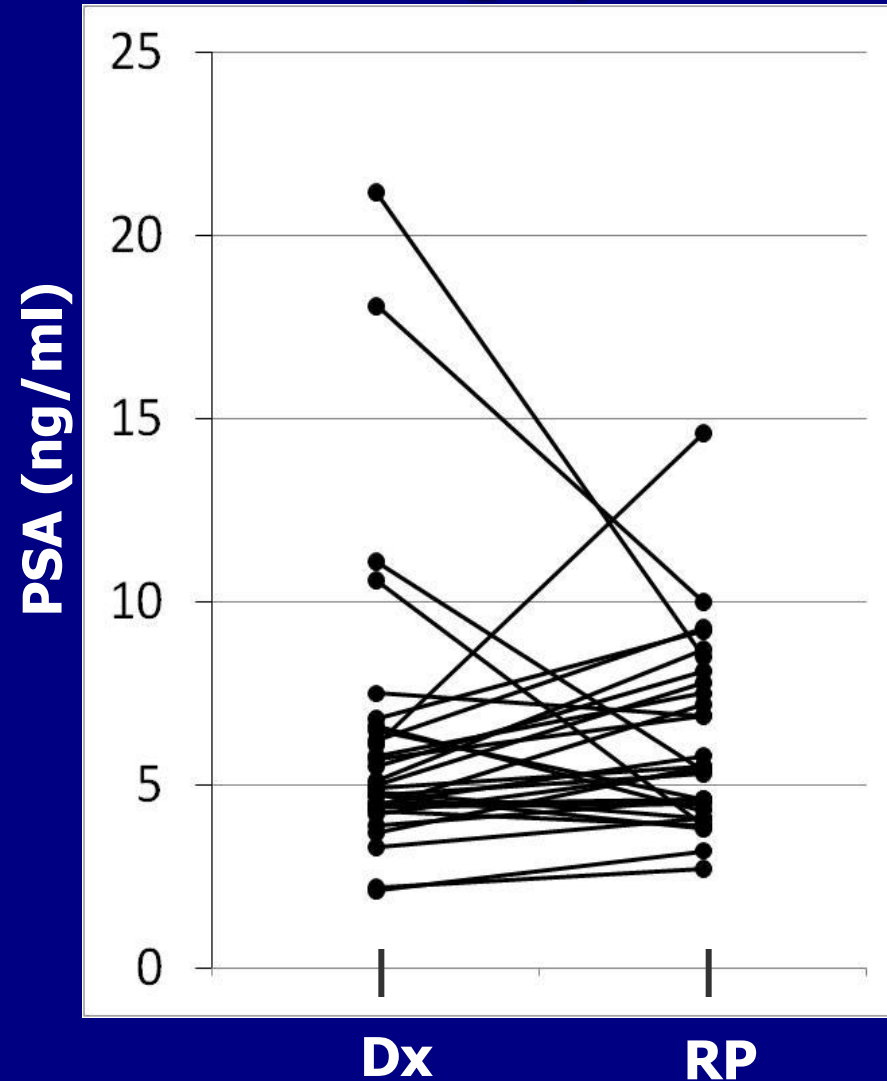
4+3=7
EPE & + LN

- **Many of the larger tumors that evaded detection on biopsy were in the anterior prostate, particularly the transition zone**
- **Some of these tumors demonstrated aggressive behavior**
- **Previously, men who were enrolled in the active surveillance program did not have directed sampling of the anterior prostate**
- **Based on the data of the current study, we have modified our repeat biopsy protocol to include anterior/transition zone sampling on men undergoing surveillance for minimal prostate cancer.**

**Is It Possible to Predict
Development of More
Advanced Disease?**

PSA Velocity in Men with More Advanced Disease on Biopsy

- Average PSA at diagnosis: 6.2 ng/ml (2.1 – 21.2 ng/ml)
- Average PSA at RP: 6.1 ng/ml (2.7 – 14.6 ng/ml)
 - 22 pts with increased PSA (average 1.82 ng/ml)
 - 9 pts with decreased PSA (average 4.19 ng/ml)



Can PSA Derivatives Predict Significant Change in Expectant Management Criteria for Prostate Cancer?

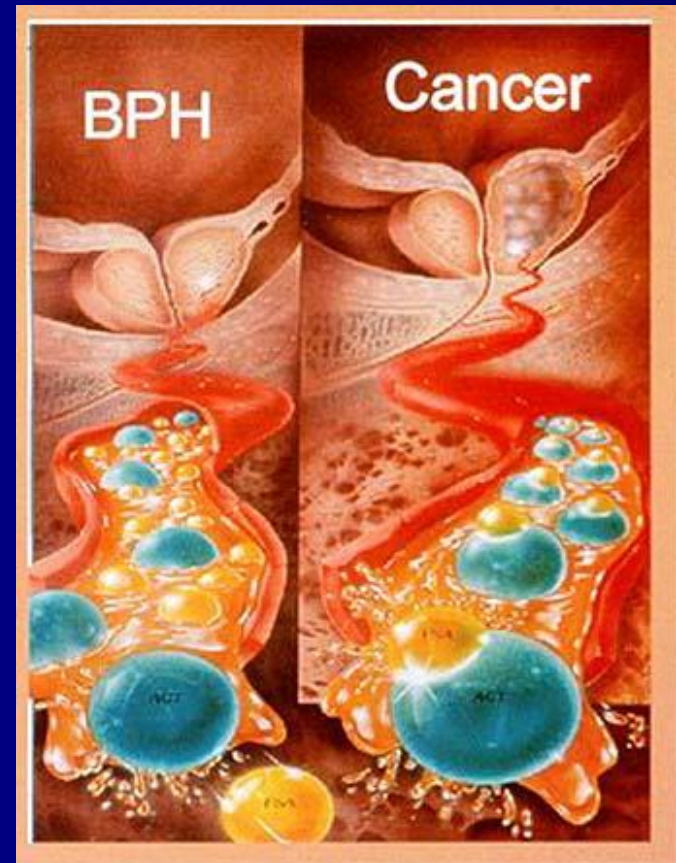
**Khan MA, Carter HB, Epstein JI, Miller MC,
Landis P, Walsh PC, Partin AW, Veltri Rw**

J Urol 2003

Free PSA

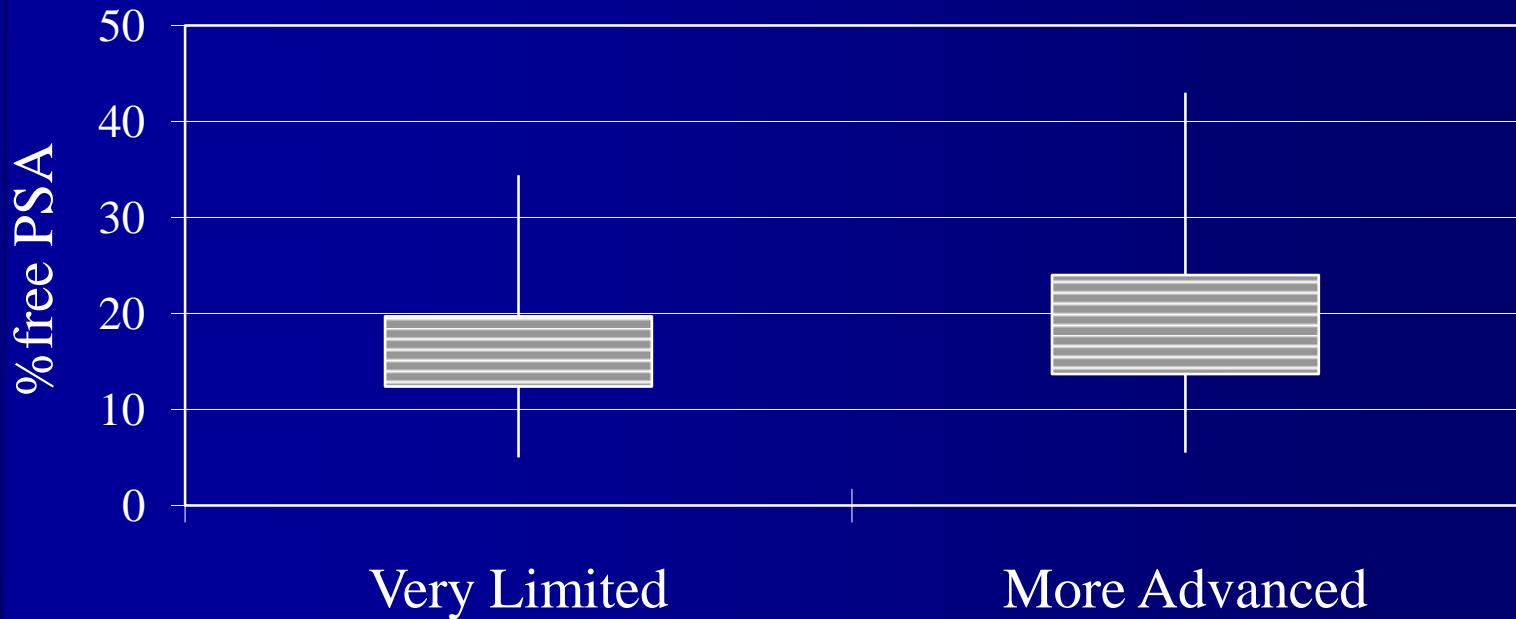
PSA in the serum exists in free and bound forms.

Higher %free PSA in men with benign prostates compared to those with cancer.



Overlap of Free PSA Levels in Men With and Without Development of More Advanced Disease on Biopsy

Distribution of Free PSA

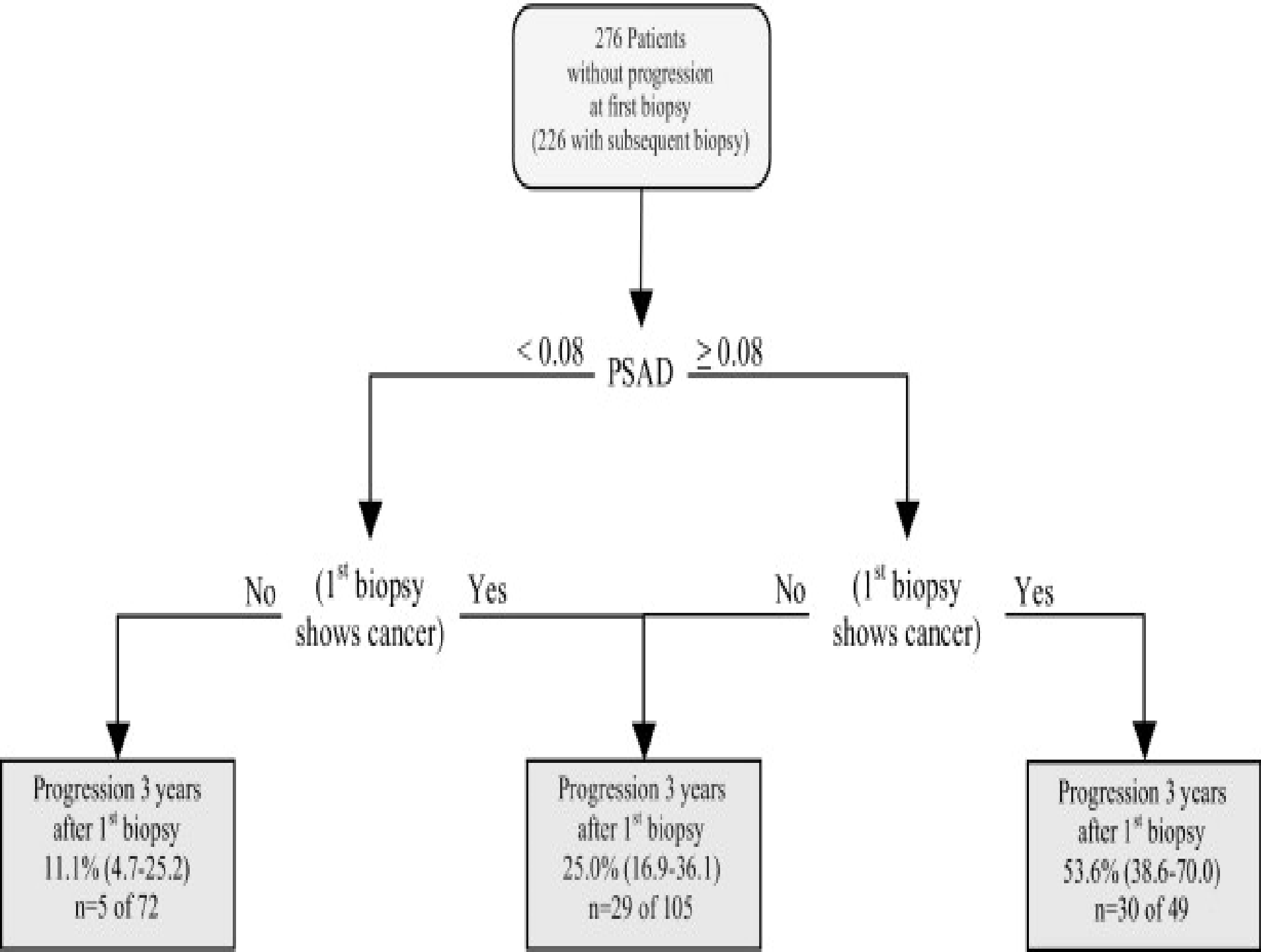


Risk Stratification of Men Choosing Active Surveillance for Low Risk Prostate Cancer



**Tseng KS, Landis P, Epstein JI, Trock BJ,
Carter HB**

J Urol 2010



**Relationship between the PCA3
Molecular Urine Test and
Prostate Biopsy Results in an
Active Surveillance Program**

**Tosian JJ, Loeb S, Ketterman A, Landis P, Elliot
DJ, Epstein JI, Partin AW, Carter HB, Sokoll LJ**

J Urol 2010

PCA3

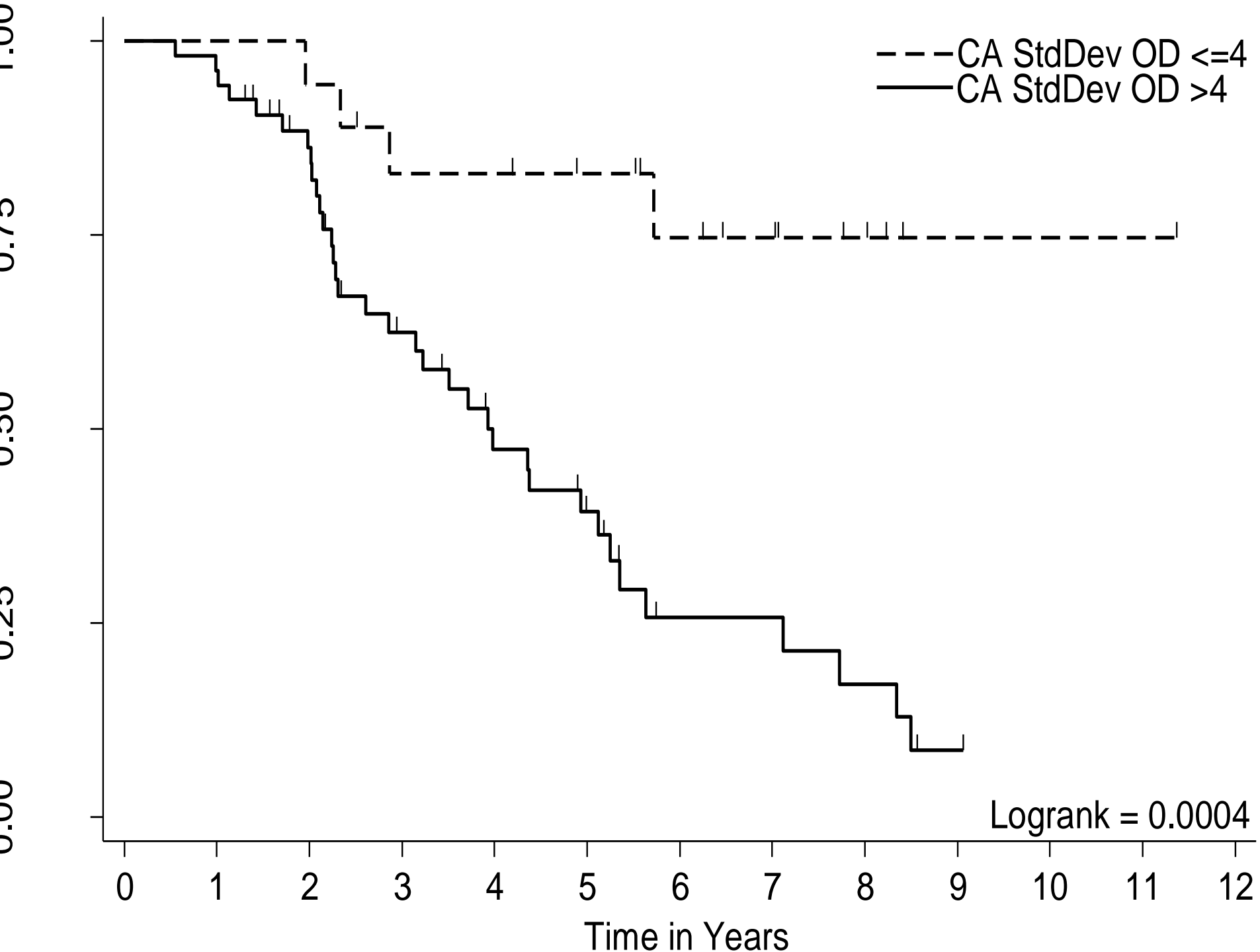
- **PCA3 is a prostate specific non-coding mRNA overexpressed in prostate cancer compared to benign prostate**
- **Used in cases with negative biopsy despite suspicious findings to determine repeat biopsy**
- **Conflicting studies on predicting aggressiveness of prostate cancer**
- **PCA3 score not associated with predicting development of more advanced disease on biopsy.**

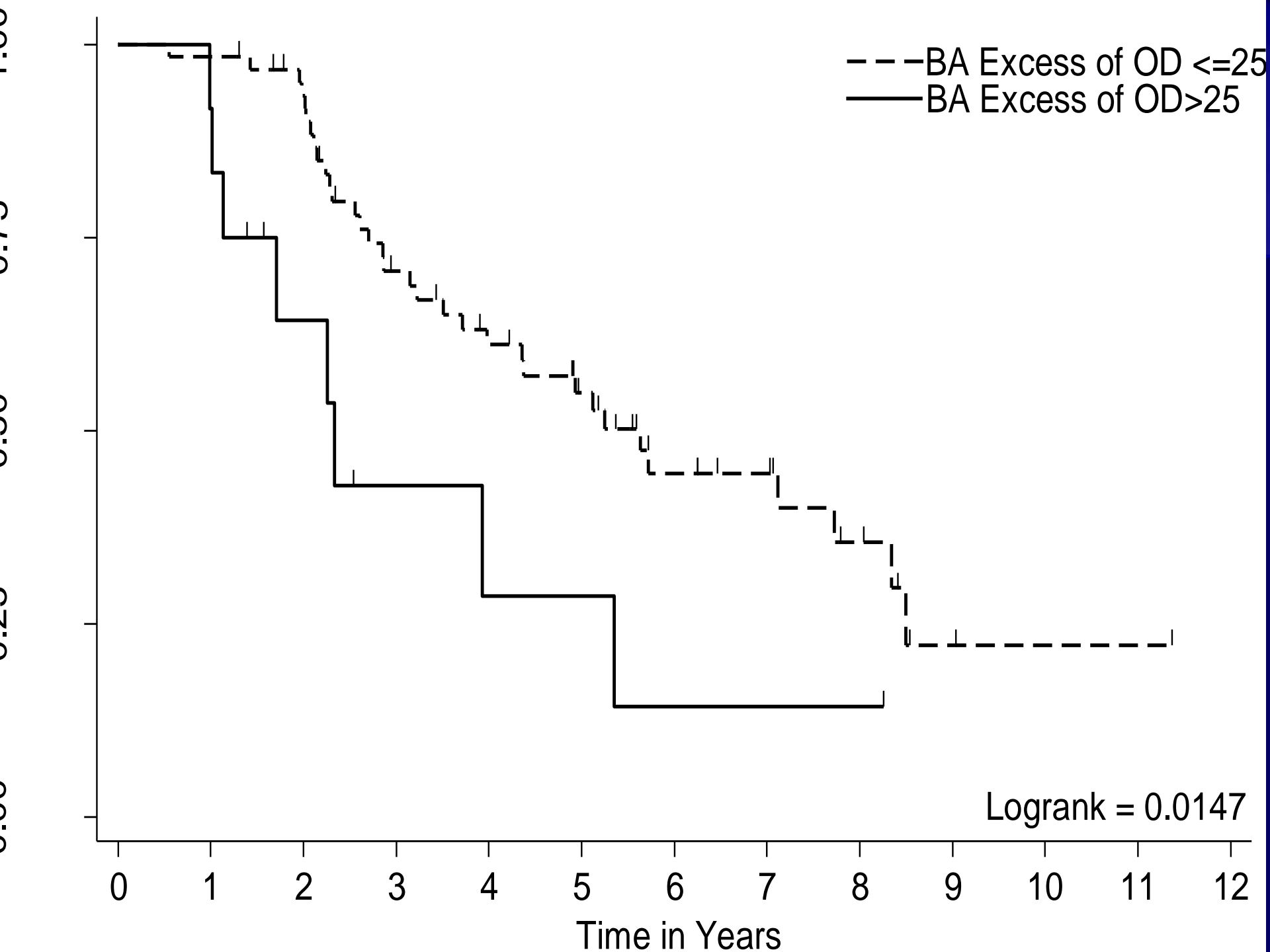
**DNA Content in Biopsy Benign-
Adjacent and Cancer Tissue Areas
Predicts the Need for Treatment in Men
with T1c Prostate Cancer in Active
Surveillance Program**

**Isharwal S, Makarov D, Carter HB, Epstein JI,
Partin AW, Landis P, Malrow C, Veltri R**

BJU Int 2010

- **39 men developed more advanced biopsy findings**
- **32 maintained very limited disease on biopsy**
- **Median follow-up: 3.7 years**





**Is It Possible to Predict Less
Advanced Disease in Men
who Appear to Fail Biopsy
Criteria of AS?**

Men with Worse Findings on Follow-up Bx who Undergo RP

- **Some men on follow-up who fail biopsy criteria have insignificant prostate cancer on RP defined as:**

1) Organ confined;

2) Dominant nodule $<0.5 \text{ cm}^3$; and

3) No Gleason pattern 4 or 5.

Findings on Radical Prostatectomy

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Number of patients | 67 |
| Age at RP | 66.4 years (range: 43.4-75.0) |
| Mean active surveillance time (initial biopsy to RP) | 30.3 ± 3.23 months (mean ± SEM) |
| Number of biopsies performed during AS | 3 times (range: 2-9) |
| Gleason score | |
| 3+3=6 | 25 (37.3%) |
| 3+3 with tertiary pattern 4 | 5 (7.5%) |
| 3+4=7 | 22 (32.8%) |
| 4+3=7 | 13 (19.4%) |
| 4+5/5+4=9 | 2 (3%) |
| Extra prostatic extension | 15 (22.4%) |
| Positive margins | 2 (3.0%) |
| Lymph node involvement | 0 |
| Seminal vesicle involvement | 1 (1.5%) |
| Dominant tumor nodule volume (cm ³) | 0.56 ± 0.086 |
| Dominant nodule volume less than 0.5cm ³ | 41/67 (61.2%) |
| Clinically insignificant cancer | 19/67 (28.4%) |

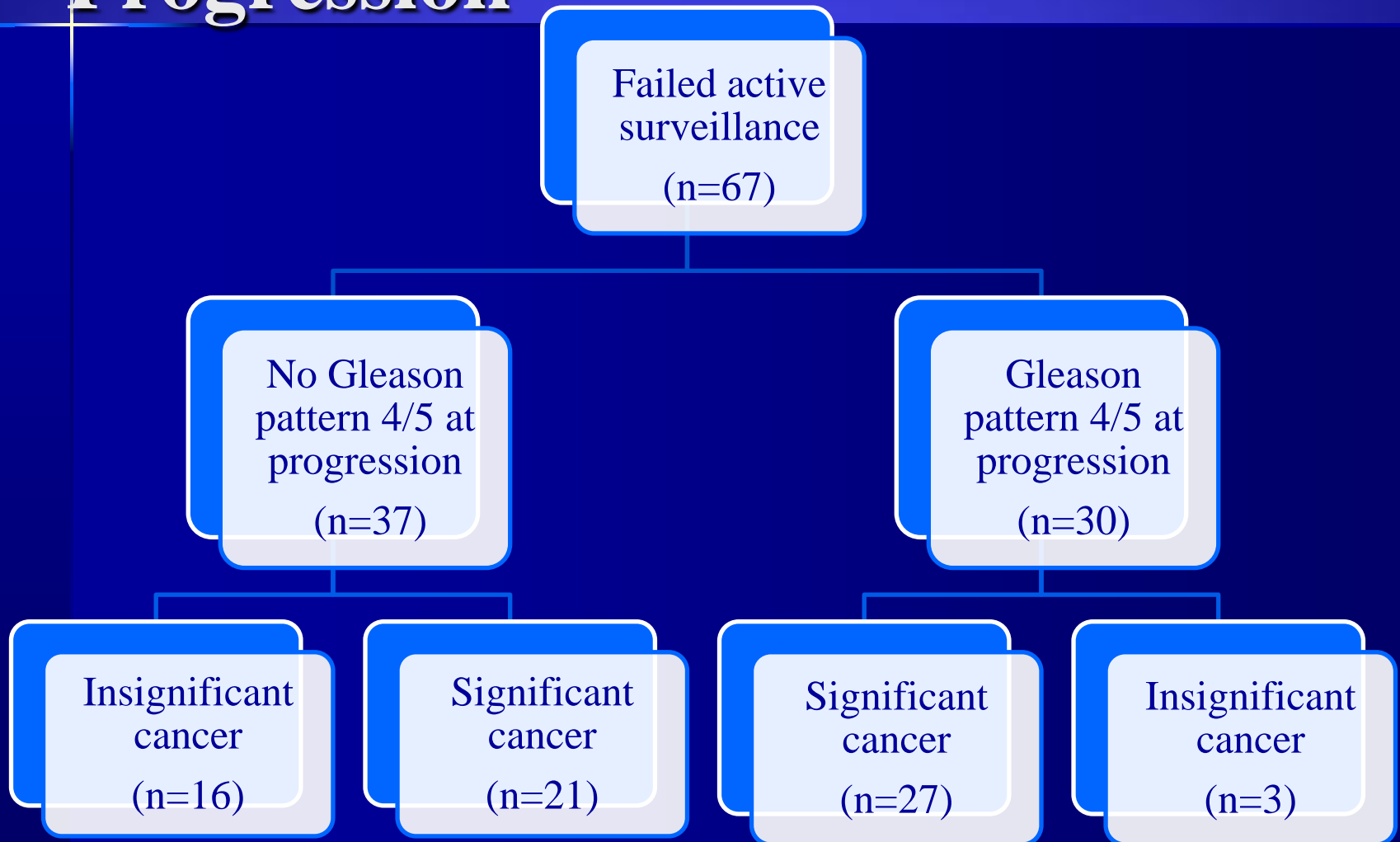
Findings at Initial Biopsy: Insignificant vs Significant cancer

| | Insignificant (n=19) | Significant (n=48) | P value |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| 1 core involved by cancer | 16/19 (84.2%) | 37/48 (77.1%) | ns |
| 2 cores involved by cancer | 3/19 (15.8%) | 11/48 (22.9%) | ns |
| Number of cores involved by cancer | 1.15 ± 0.085 | 1.23 ± 0.061 | ns |
| PSA at diagnosis | 4.61 ± 0.95 | 4.93 ± 0.23 | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer <5% | 11/19 (57.9%) | 21/48 (43.8%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer | 7.3 ± 1.77 | 10.6 ± 2.17 | ns |
| Presence of negative interval biopsy | 4/19 (21.1%) | 14/48 (29.2%) | ns |

Findings at Progression: Insignificant vs Significant Cancer

| | Insignificant (n=19) | Significant (n=48) | P value |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Time between progression and RP | 2.8 (1.02-17.16) | 2.96 (1.55-10.72) | ns |
| Number of cores involved by cancer | 2.84 ± 0.279 | 2.60 ± 0.197 | ns |
| 2 or less cores involved by cancer | 5/19 (26.3%) | 24/48 (50%) | ns |
| 3 or more cores involved by cancer | 14/19 (73.7%) | 24/48 (50%) | ns |
| 3 or less cores involved by cancer | 17/19 (89.5%) | 37/48 (77.1%) | ns |
| 4 or more cores involved by cancer | 2/19 (10.5) | 11/48 (22.9%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer < 5% | 3/19 (15.7%) | 5/48 (10.4%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer > 50% | 7/19 (36.8%) | 18/48 (37.5%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer | 39.10 ± 4.15 | 41.26 ± 7.39 | ns |
| PSA at progression | 4.78 ± 0.568 | 5.70 ± 0.301 | ns |
| PSA velocity | 0.136 ± 0.892 | 0.565 ± 0.309 | ns |

Subgroup Analysis in Patients with No Gleason Pattern 4/5 at Progression



Findings at initial biopsy: Insignificant vs Significant cancer

| | Insignificant (n=16) | Significant (n=21) | P value |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1 core involved by cancer | 13/16 (81.3%) | 17/21 (81%) | ns |
| 2 cores involved by cancer | 3/16 (18.7%) | 4/21 (19%) | ns |
| Number of cores involved by cancer | 1.19 ± 0.101 | 1.19 ± 0.088 | ns |
| PSA at diagnosis | 3.68 ± 0.280 | 5.36 ± 0.322 | 0.0005*** |
| Maximum % of cancer <5% | 11/16 (68.8%) | 12/21 (57.1%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer | 5.81 ± 1.72 | 6.00 ± 1.04 | ns |
| Presence of negative interval biopsy | 4/16 (25%) | 4/21 (19.5%) | ns |

Findings at Progression: Insignificant vs Significant Cancer

| | Insignificant (n=16) | Significant (n=21) | P value |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Number of cores involved by cancer | 2.88 ± 0.272 | 2.95 ± 0.297 | ns |
| 2 or less cores involved by cancer | 3/16 (18.8%) | 7/21 (33.3%) | ns |
| 3 or more cores involved by cancer | 13/16 (81.2%) | 14/21 (66.7%) | ns |
| 3 or less cores involved by cancer | 15/16 (93.8%) | 15/21 (71.4%) | ns |
| 4 or more cores involved by cancer | 1/16 (6.2%) | 6/21 (28.6%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer < 5% | 3/16 (18.8%) | 3/21 (14.3%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer > 50% | 6/19 (31.6%) | 8/21 (38.1%) | ns |
| Maximum % of cancer | 41.50 ± 7.88 | 39.71 ± 5.76 | ns |
| PSA at progression | 4.68 ± 0.648 | 6.09 ± 0.355 | 0.0504 |
| PSA velocity | 0.918 ± 0.584 | 0.248 ± 0.223 | ns |

Failed active surveillance
(n=67)

No Gleason pattern 4/5 at progression
(n=37)

Gleason pattern 4/5 at progression
(n=30)

PSA <4 at diagnosis or at progression
(n=13)

PSA ≥4 at diagnosis and at progression
(n=24)

Significant cancer
(n=27)

Insignificant cancer
(n=3)

Insignificant cancer
(n=12)

Significant cancer
(n=1)

Insignificant cancer
(n=4)

Significant cancer
(n=20)

Conclusion

- **Most men who fail biopsy criteria while on AS have significant disease at radical prostatectomy**
- **However, about 1/4 of these men are over-treated with insignificant cancer in their RP.**

- **PSA data at the time of initial biopsy or “biopsy-progression” can help stratify men who are more likely to have insignificant cancer despite failing biopsy criteria.**
- **These men may be candidates to stay on active surveillance without definitive treatment.**

Summary - Problem

- **PSA screening has reduced the rates of advanced prostate cancer and likely has contributed to mortality reductions**
- **PSA screening has led to overtreatment of some men with non lethal disease**
- **There is a need for improved methods to distinguish men with life threatening prostate cancer from those with indolent disease who will not benefit from treatment**

Pathologists in Their Research Can Have a Critical Role in Addressing this Problem & Changing Clinical Practice

- 1. Identifying & quantifying the magnitude of the problem**
- 2. Retrospectively developing criteria for AS**
- 3. Prospectively testing the criteria**

- 4. Identifying where detection can be improved**
 - **Improving how needle biopsies are performed (ie. posterolateral, anterior)**

- 5. Reassuring patients**
 - **Helping to identify residual cancer**
 - **Low risk of grade change on AS**

- 6. Studying newer techniques to improve prediction**

- 7. Identify new criteria to allow men with low risk of significant cancer to stay on AS despite worrisome findings on biopsy.**

Conclusion

A multidisciplinary approach with Pathology playing a key role is critical to providing the best care for men with early prostate cancer.



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