

# IMbrave050: Phase 3 study of adjuvant atezolizumab + bevacizumab versus active surveillance in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma at high risk of disease recurrence following resection or ablation

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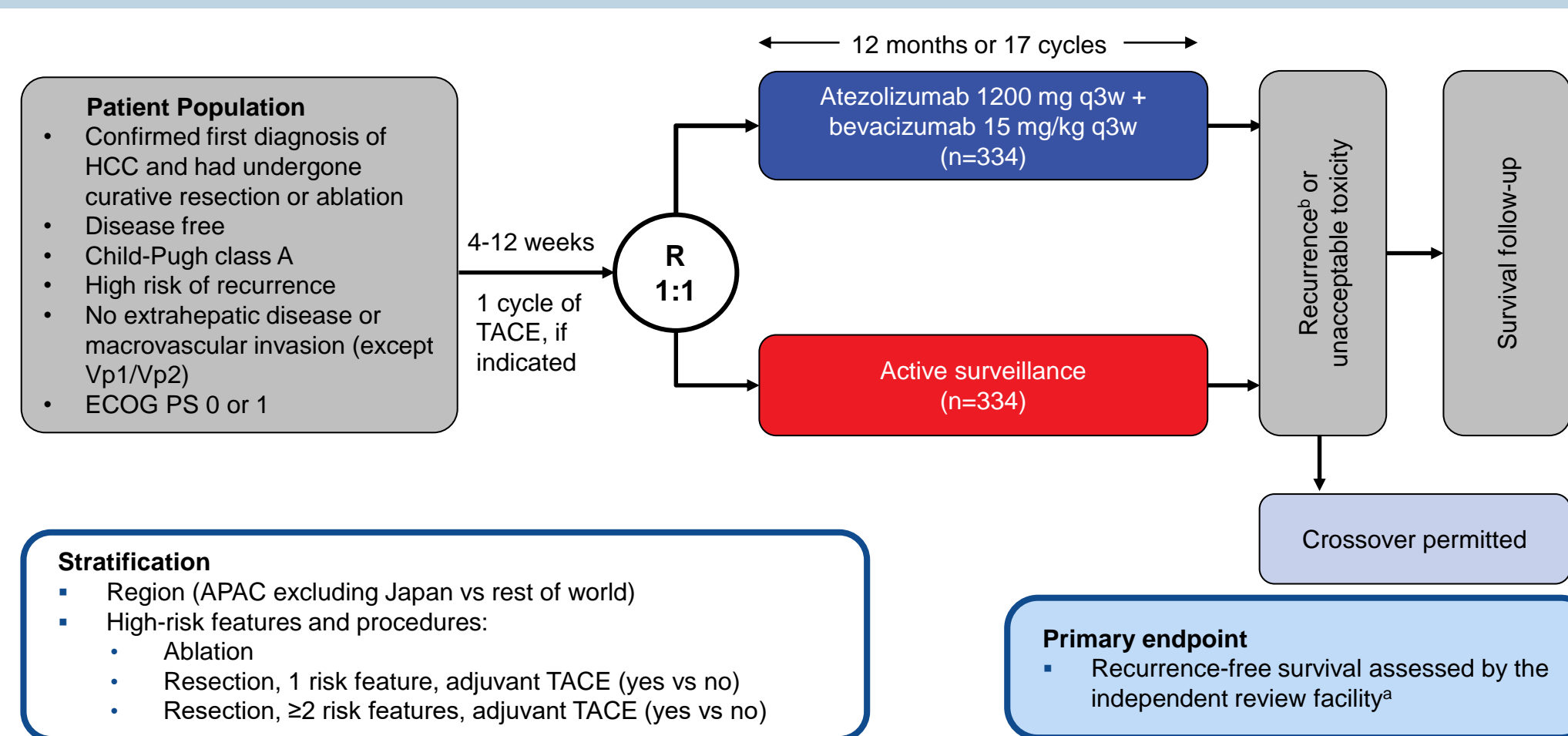
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## BACKGROUND

- Currently, no standard of care exists in the adjuvant setting for hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) following resection or ablation with curative intent
- The risk of postoperative recurrence is high, with a reported 63% recurrence rate at 5 years. This rate is even higher in patients with high-risk features (e.g., large tumor size, multiple tumors, poor tumor differentiation, or vascular invasion)<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Recurrence occurs in a bimodal pattern, with most events appearing within 2 years of resection or ablation followed by a second wave at 4-5 years<sup>1,3</sup>
- VEGF/PD-L1 blockade augments anti-cancer immune mechanisms relevant to postoperative HCC recurrence<sup>4</sup>
- The Phase 3 IMbrave150 study demonstrated statistically significant and clinically meaningful improvement in progression-free survival, overall survival and objective response rate with atezolizumab (atezo) + bevacizumab (bev) compared with sorafenib in the first-line unresectable HCC setting, establishing atezo + bev as a standard of care<sup>5,6</sup>
- Here we report the results of IMbrave050, a global, open-label, Phase 3, randomized study of atezo + bev vs active surveillance in patients at high risk of disease recurrence following resection or ablation with curative intent

## METHODS

Figure 1. IMbrave050 Study Design



ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT04102098. ECOG PS: Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; Q3W, every three weeks; R, randomization; TACE, transarterial chemoembolization.  
<sup>a</sup> Intrahepatic recurrence defined by EASL criteria. Extrahepatic recurrence defined by RECIST 1.1.

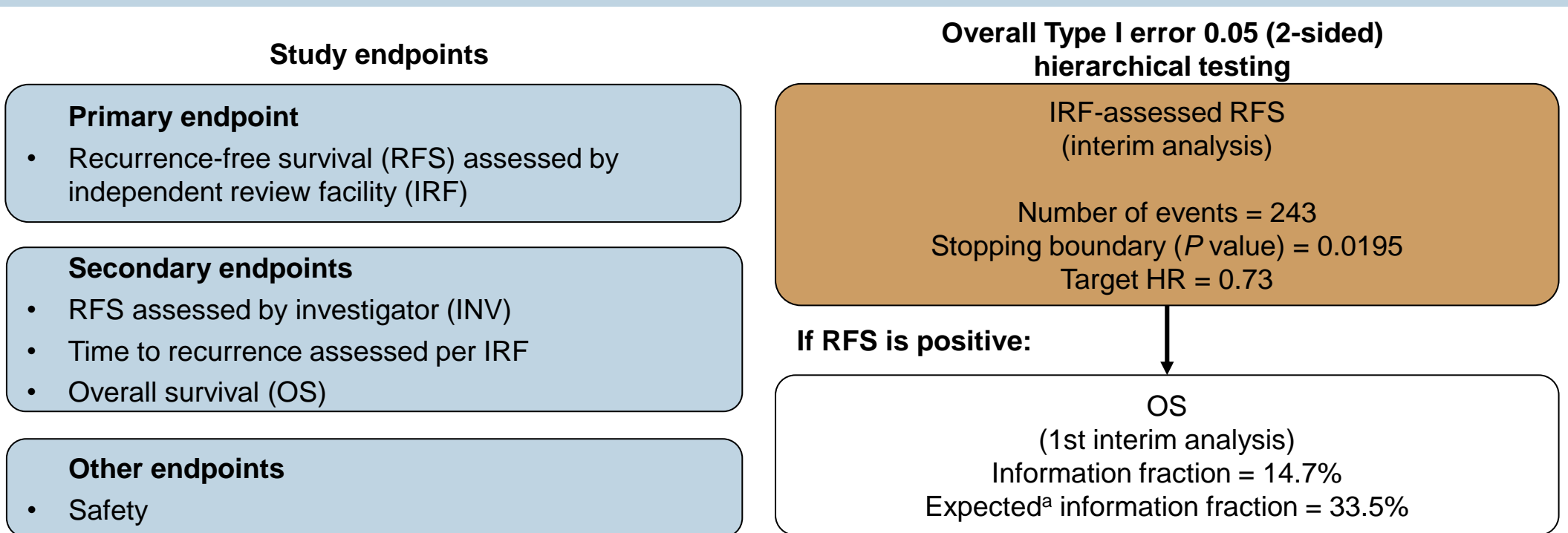
Figure 2. High-risk criteria by curative treatment

Curative treatment	Criteria for high risk of HCC recurrence
Resection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≤3 tumors, with largest tumor &gt;5 cm regardless of vascular invasion,<sup>a</sup> or poor tumor differentiation (Grade 3 or 4)</li> <li>≥4 tumors, with largest tumor ≤5 cm regardless of vascular invasion,<sup>a</sup> or poor tumor differentiation (Grade 3 or 4)</li> <li>≤3 tumors, with largest tumor ≤5 cm with vascular invasion,<sup>a</sup> and/or poor tumor differentiation (Grade 3 or 4)</li> </ul>
Ablation <sup>b</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 tumor &gt;2 cm but ≤5 cm</li> <li>Multiple tumors (≤4 tumors), all ≤5 cm</li> </ul>

<sup>a</sup> Microvascular invasion or minor macrovascular portal vein invasion of the portal vein—Vp1/Vp2.

<sup>b</sup> Ablation must be radiofrequency ablation or microwave ablation.

Figure 3. Study endpoints and testing hierarchy



<sup>a</sup> Per protocol.

## RESULTS

Table 1. Baseline characteristics were balanced across treatment arms

Characteristic	Atezo + bev (n=334)	Active surveillance (n=334)
Median age (range), years	60 (19-89)	59 (23-85)
Male sex, n (%)	277 (82.9)	278 (83.2)
Ethnicity, n (%)		
Asian	276 (82.6)	269 (80.5)
White	35 (10.5)	41 (12.3)
Other	23 (6.9)	24 (7.2)
Geographic region, n (%)		
Asia Pacific excluding Japan   rest of world	237 (71.0)   97 (29.0)	238 (71.3)   96 (28.7)
ECOG PS score, n (%)		
0   1	258 (77.2)   76 (22.8)	269 (80.5)   65 (19.5)
PD-L1 status, n (%) <sup>a,b</sup>		
≥1%   <1%	154 (54.0)   131 (46.0)	140 (50.2)   139 (49.8)
Etiology, n (%)		
Hepatitis B	209 (62.6)	207 (62.0)
Hepatitis C	34 (10.2)	38 (11.4)
Non-viral   unknown	45 (13.5)   46 (13.8)	38 (11.4)   51 (15.3)
BCLC stage at diagnosis, n (%)		
0	2 (0.6)	3 (0.9)
A	287 (85.9)	277 (82.9)
B	25 (7.5)	32 (9.6)
C	20 (6.0)	22 (6.6)

BCLC; Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer.

<sup>a</sup> n=285 for atezo + bev and 279 for active surveillance. <sup>b</sup> PD-L1 expression is defined as the total percentage of the tumor area covered by tumor and immune cells stained for PD-L1 using the SP263 immunohistochemistry assay (VENTANA).

Table 2. Baseline characteristics—curative procedures

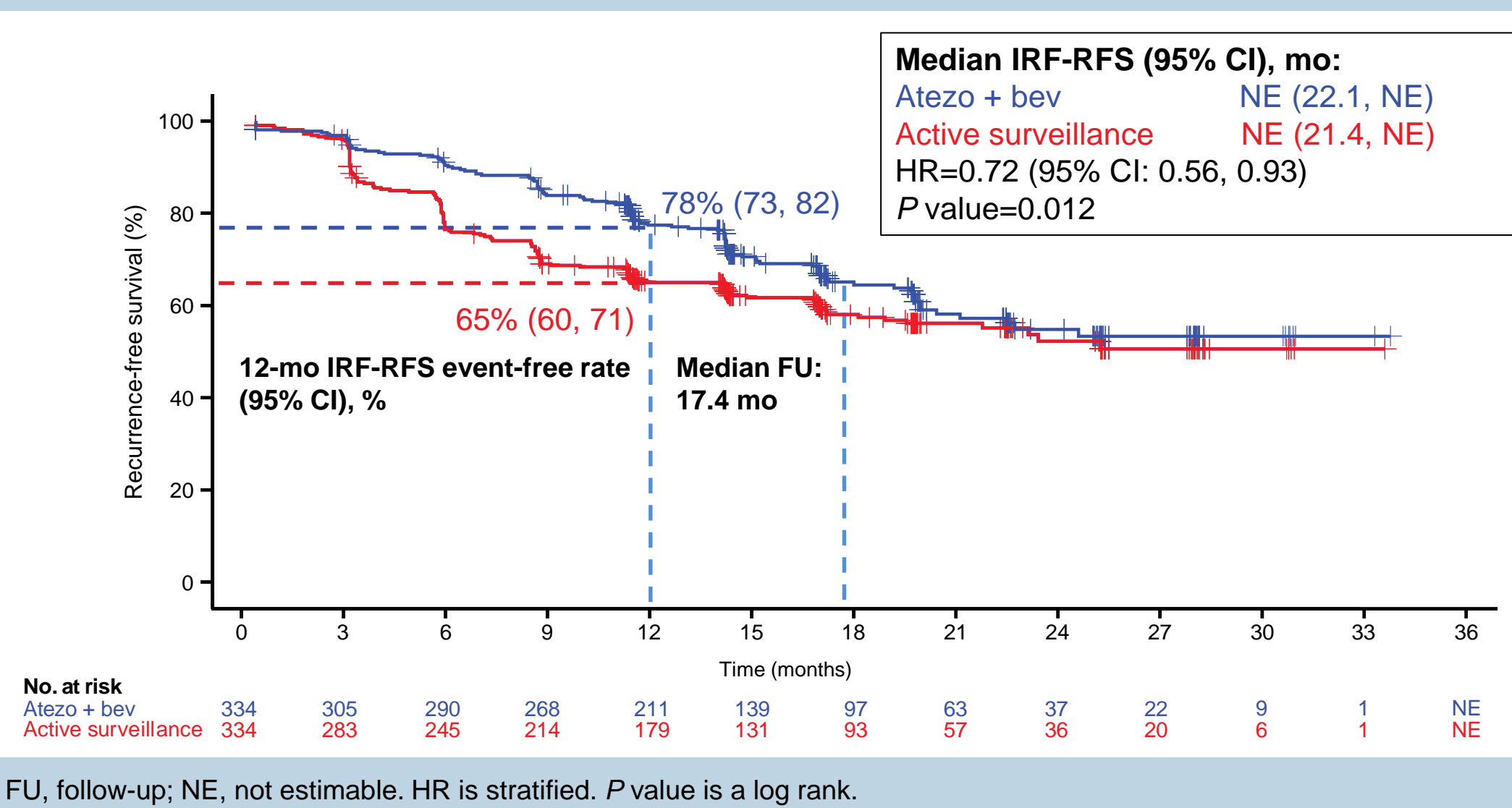
Characteristic	Atezo + bev (n=334)	Active surveillance (n=334)
Resection, n (%)	293 (87.7)	292 (87.4)
Longest diameter of the largest tumor at diagnosis, median (range), cm <sup>a</sup>	5.3 (1.0-18.0)	5.9 (1.1-25.0)
Tumors, n (%)		
1	266 (90.8)	260 (89.0)
2	20 (6.8)	29 (9.9)
3	4 (1.4)	2 (0.7)
4+	3 (1.0)	1 (0.3)
Adjuvant TACE following resection, n (%)	32 (10.9)	34 (11.6)
Any tumors >5 cm, n (%)	152 (51.9)	175 (59.9)
Microvascular invasion present, n (%)	178 (60.8)	176 (60.3)
Minor macrovascular invasion (Vp1/Vp2) present, n (%)	22 (7.5)	17 (5.8)
Poor tumor differentiation (Grade 3 or 4), n (%)	124 (42.3)	121 (41.4)
Ablation, n (%)	41 (12.3)	42 (12.6)
Longest diameter of the largest tumor at diagnosis, median (range), cm	2.5 (1.2-4.6)	2.6 (1.5-4.6)
Tumors, n (%)		
1	29 (70.7)	31 (73.8)
2	11 (26.8)	8 (19.0)
3	1 (2.4)	3 (7.1)

<sup>a</sup> 1 patient in the atezo + bev arm was excluded from the calculation due to data entry error.

Clinical cutoff: October 21, 2022; median follow-up duration: 17.4 mo.

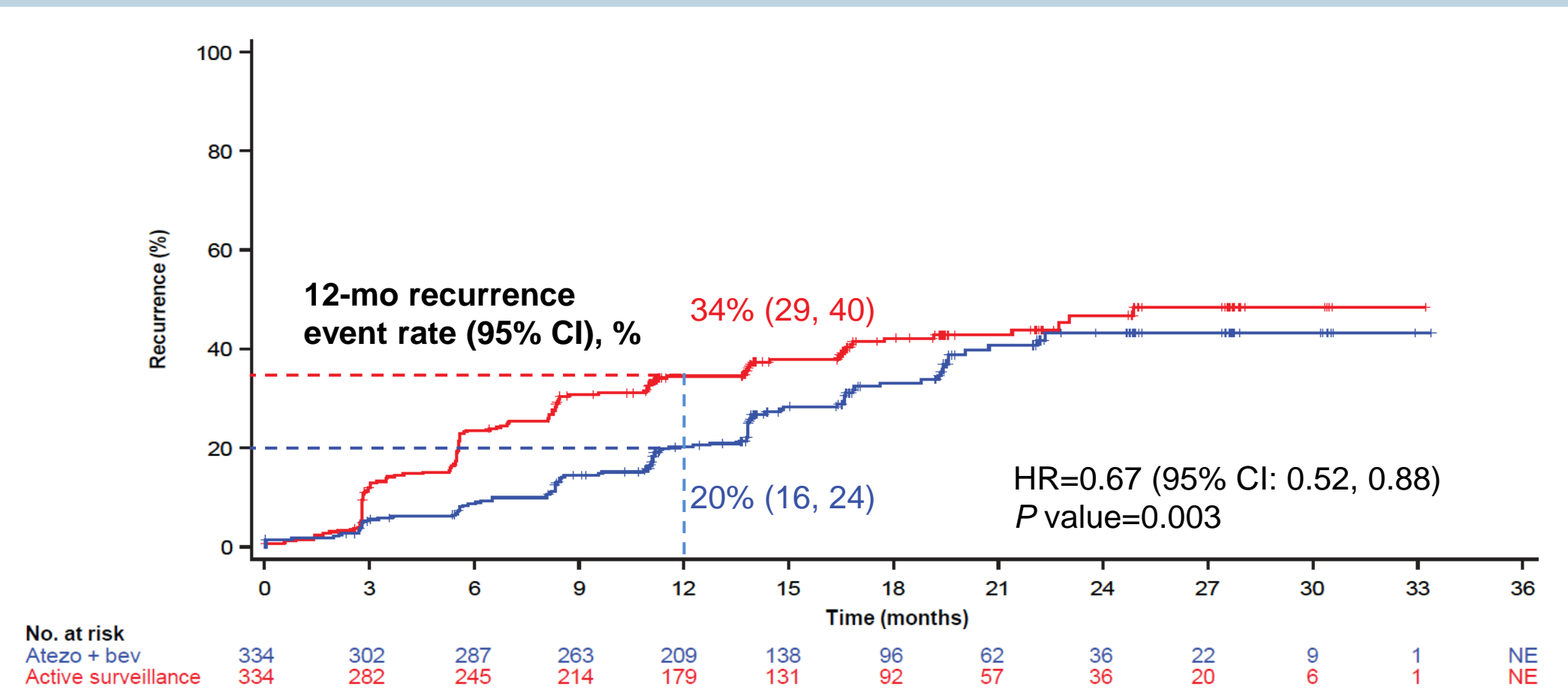
- At clinical cutoff, 110 of 334 (33%) in the atezo + bev arm and 133 of 334 (40%) in the active surveillance arm experienced disease recurrence or death
- A 28% reduction in risk of recurrence was observed with atezo + bev

Figure 4. Primary endpoint: IRF-assessed RFS was significantly improved with atezo + bev vs active surveillance



FU, follow-up; NE, not estimable. HR is stratified. P value is a log rank.

Figure 5. IRF-assessed disease recurrence was 33% lower in the atezo + bev group than the active surveillance group



HR is stratified. P value is a log rank.

- Patients in the active surveillance arm were allowed to cross over to receive atezo + bev either directly after IRF-confirmed recurrence or following a second resection or ablation
- Of the 133 patients with an RFS event during active surveillance, 81 (61%) crossed over to atezo + bev

Figure 6. Time on different treatments for patients in the active surveillance arm

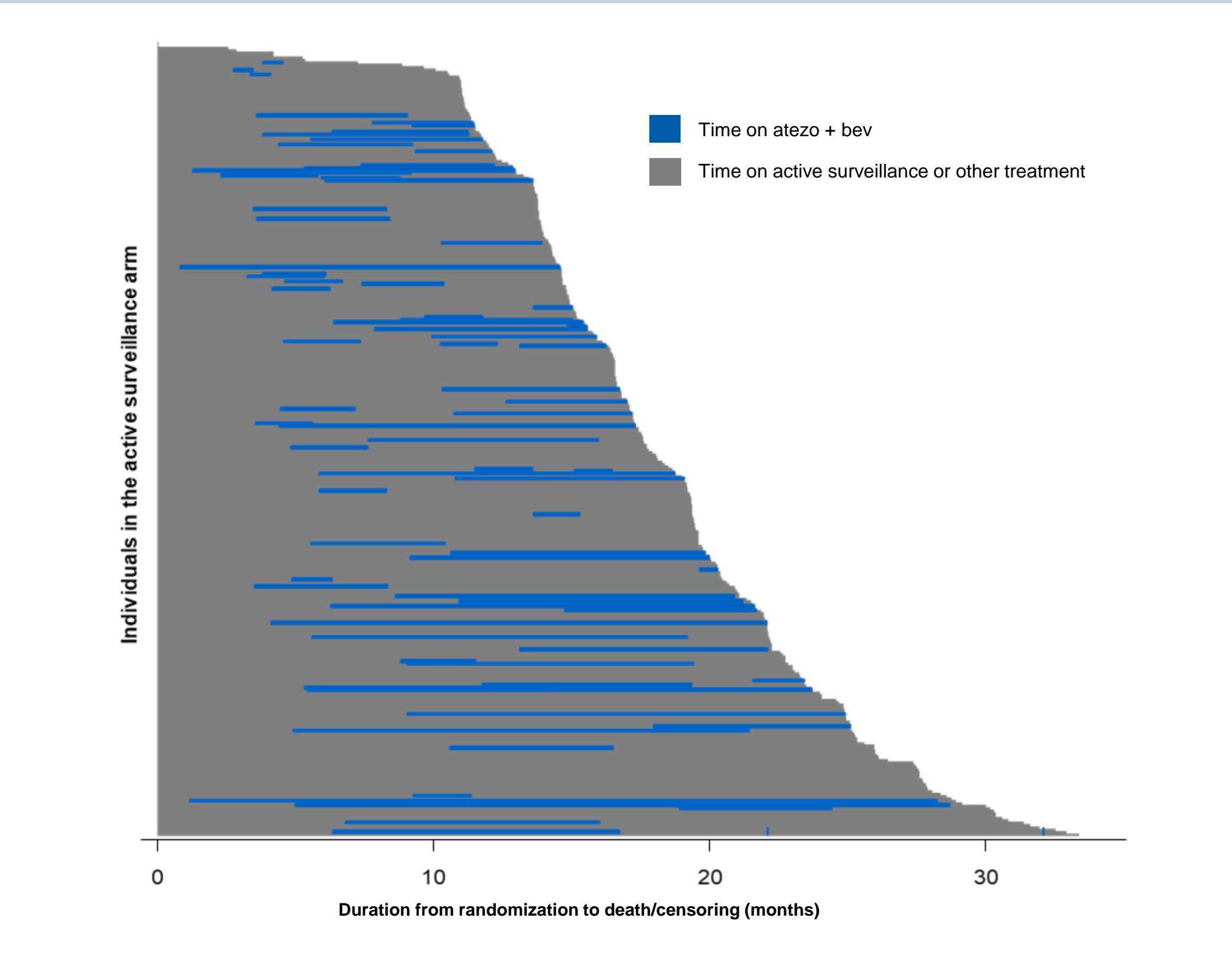
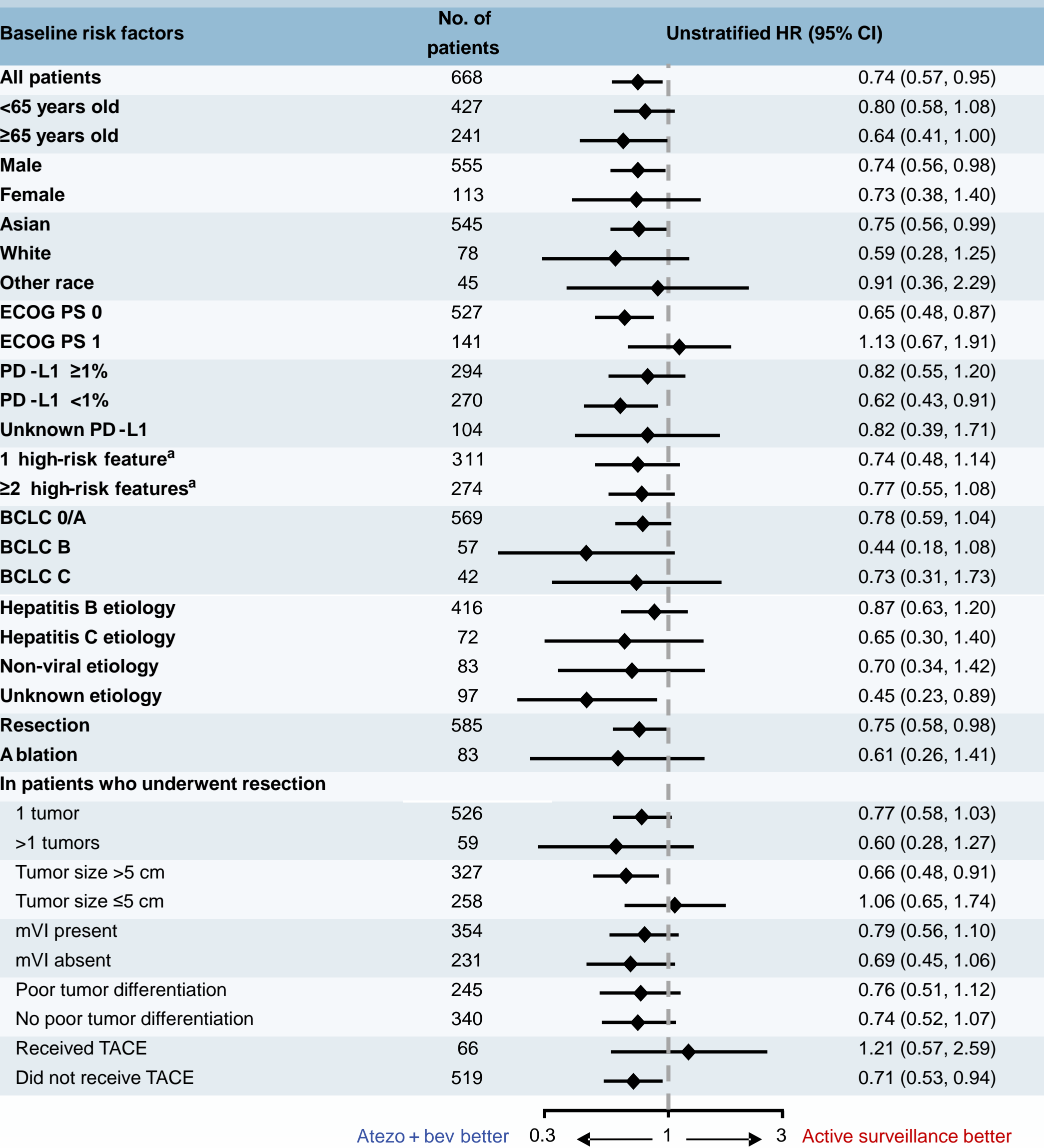


Figure 7. IRF-assessed RFS subgroups

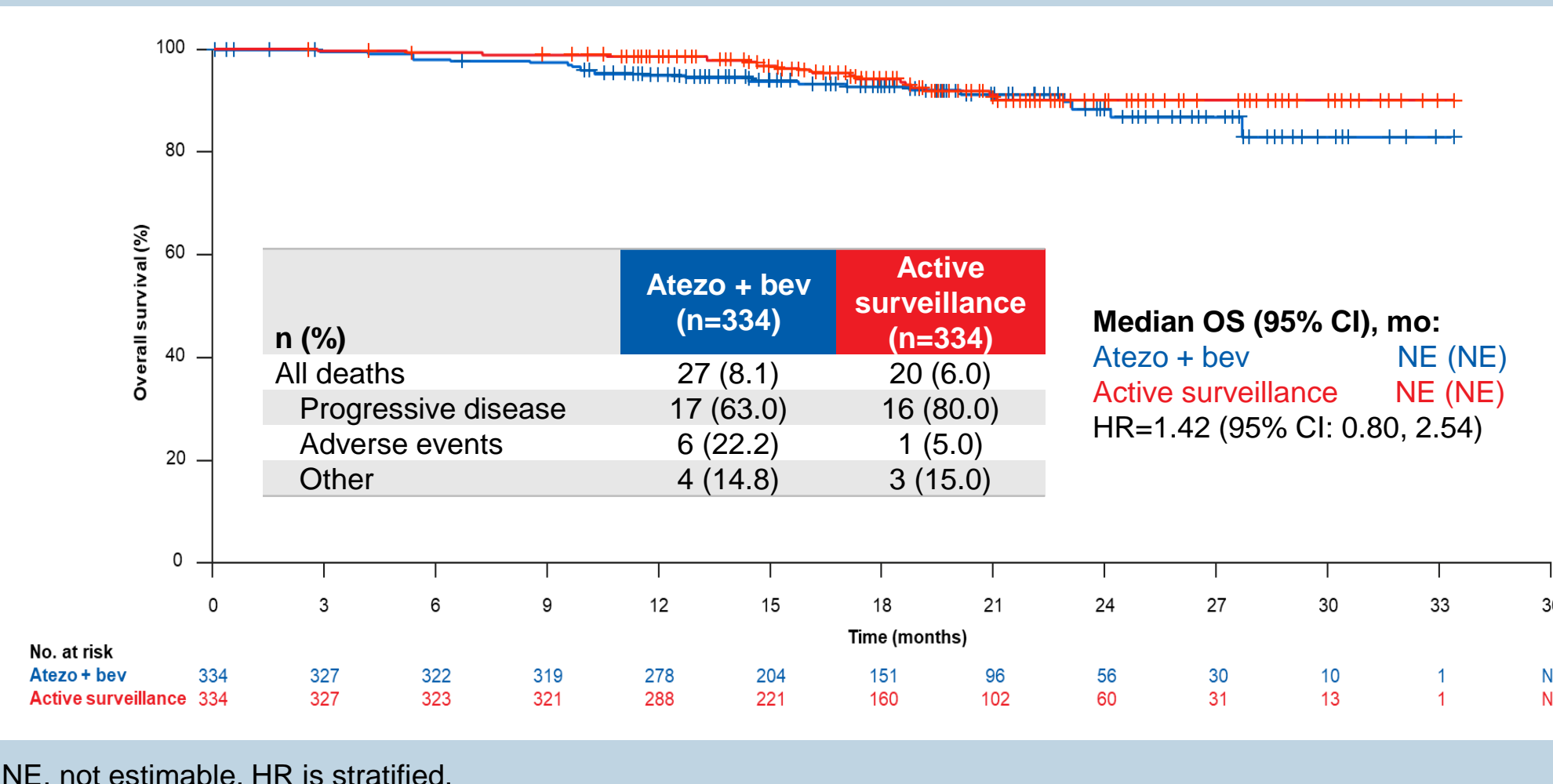


mVI, microvascular invasion.

<sup>a</sup> Patients who underwent ablation were categorized as "not applicable."

- OS is highly immature, with a 7% event-patient ratio (n=47). There were:
  - 7 more deaths in the atezo + bev arm (27 vs 20)
  - Similar number of deaths due to HCC recurrence
  - 3 COVID-19-related deaths within 1 year of randomization, all in the atezo + bev arm

Figure 8. Overall survival was highly immature



NE, not estimable. HR is stratified.

Table 4. Safety summary

	Atezo + bev (n=332)	Active <sup>a</sup> surveillance (n=330)	IMbrave150 <sup>5,7</sup> (n=329)
Treatment duration, median, mo	Atezo: 11.1 Bev: 11.0	NA	Atezo: 7.4 Bev: 6.9
Patients with ≥1 AE, n (%)	326 (98.2)	205 (62.1)	323 (98.2)
Treatment-related AE	293 (88.3)	NA	276 (83.9)
Grade 3/4 AE, n (%)	136 (41.0)	44 (13.3)	186 (56.5)
Treatment-related Grade 3/4 AE	116 (34.9)	NA	117 (35.6)
Serious AE, n (%)	80 (24.1)	34 (10.3)	125 (38.0)
Treatment-related serious AE	44 (13.3)	NA	56 (17.0)
Grade 5 AE, n (%)	6 (1.8)	1 (0.3) <sup>c</sup>	15 (4.6)
Treatment-related Grade 5 AE	2 (0.6) <sup>b</sup>	NA	6 (1.8)
AE leading to dose interruption of any study treatment, n (%)	155 (46.7)	NA	163 (49.5)
AE leading to withdrawal from any study treatment, n (%)	63 (19.0)	NA	51 (15.5)

In safety-evaluable patients. AE, adverse event. NA, not available.

<sup>a</sup> All safety data for the surveillance arm are from evaluations prior to crossover. <sup>b</sup> Esophageal varices hemorrhage and ischemic stroke; 1 was related to atezo and bev and the other was related to bev only. <sup>c</sup> Esophageal varices hemorrhage.

Table 5. AE of any grade with an incidence rate of ≥10% in either treatment group by preferred term

Event, n (%)	Atezo + bev (n=332)	Active surveillance <sup>a</sup> (n=330)		
	Any grade	Grade 3 or 4	Any grade	Grade 3 or 4
Proteinuria	154 (46.4)	29 (8.7)	12 (3.6)	0
Hypertension	127 (38.3)	61 (18.4)	10 (3.0)	3 (0.9)
Platelet count decreased	66 (19.9)	15 (4.5)	22 (6.7)	4 (1.2)
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	52 (15.7)	3 (0.9)	18 (5.5)	2 (0.6)
Alanine aminotransferase increased	47 (14.2)	2 (0.6)	18 (5.5)	3 (0.9)
Hypothyroidism	47 (14.2)	0	1 (0.3)	0
Arthralgia	40 (12.0)	1 (0.3)	8 (2.4)	1 (0.3)
Pruritus	40 (12.0)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.9)	0
Rash	40 (12.0)	0	1 (0.3)	0
Blood bilirubin increased	34 (10.2)	1 (0.3)	23 (7.0)	1 (0.3)
Pyrexia	34 (10.2)	0	7 (2.1)	0

In safety-evaluable patients. <sup>a</sup> All safety data for the surveillance arm are from evaluations prior to crossover.

## CONCLUSIONS

- IMbrave050 is the first Phase 3 study of adjuvant treatment for HCC to demonstrate RFS improvement following curative intent resection or ablation
- At the prespecified interim analysis, adjuvant atezolizumab + bevacizumab met its primary endpoint and showed a statistically significant and clinically meaningful improvement in IRF-assessed RFS vs active surveillance in patients with a high risk of HCC recurrence (HR, 0.72; 95% CI: 0.56, 0.93; P=0.012)
  - Similar improvement in INV-assessed RFS was also observed
- RFS benefit with atezolizumab + bevacizumab was generally consistent across key clinical subgroups
- At the time of this prespecified interim analysis, OS was highly immature compared with assumptions made in the protocol; longer follow-up for OS is needed
- The safety profile of adjuvant atezolizumab + bevacizumab was generally consistent with that of each agent and with the underlying disease
- Atezolizumab + bevacizumab may be a practice-changing adjuvant treatment option for patients with high-risk HCC that may change the clinical indications for surgical resection

## References

- Chan et al. *J Hepatol* 2018; 2. Lim et al. *Br J Surg* 2012; 3. Imamura et al. *J Hepatol* 2003.
- Hack et al. *Future Oncol* 2020; 5. Finn et al. *NEJM* 2020; 6. Cheng et al. *J Hepatol* 2022.
- Roche, data on file.

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## Disclosures

- PC is an employee of SingHealth, Duke-NUS Medical School; is a consultant for AUM Biosciences, BeiGene, Omega Therapeutics, Roche, and Sirtex; serves on speaker's bureau for AstraZeneca, Bayer, Omega Therapeutics, Roche, and Worrell; receives grant/research support from Roche and Sirtex; holds stock in AVATAMED; receives honoraria from AstraZeneca, Bayer, Perspectum, Roche, Sirtex, and Worrell.