

III JORNADA DE ACTUALIZACIÓN EN  
**URO-ONCOLOGÍA:**  
UPDATE 2026

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# Adyuvancia con Pembrolizumab en cáncer renal localizado: A todos los pacientes incluíbles en KEYNOTE-564

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## DISCLOSURES

**Personal conflicts of interest: Scientific Consultancy Role (speaker and advisory role) and travel grant:** *IPSEN, Pfizer, Roche, Bayer, Sanofi, Janssen, Astellas, Eisai, Adacap, Lilly, Novartis, BMS, MSD, Adium, Asofarma, Recordati Rare Diseases, Exelisis*

**Participation in Clinical trials:** *Roche, BMS, MSD, Pfizer, Novartis, IPSEN, Exelisis, AstraZeneca-Medimmune, Janssen, Lilly, Eisai, Astellas.*

**Research support:** *Roche, Pfizer, IPSEN, Janssen, Exelisis, MSD*

THE PERIOPERATIVE SYSTEMIC TREATMENT AS AN UNMET CLINICAL NEED IN KIDNEY CANCER

5 year OS-rate:

Stage I-II is > 80%

Stage III 50-70%

Stage IV about 18%

Risk of recurrence:

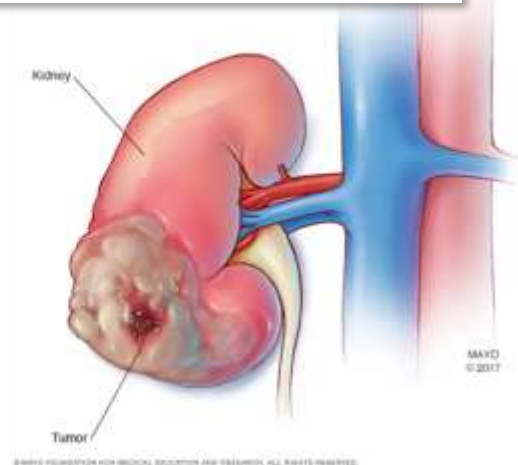
Stage I = 7%

Stage II = 16%

Stage III = 30%

Cancer-specific survival by stage

Rate mortality / incidence in RCC is  
**0.4 about 1**



Grade	HR (95% CI)
T1N0M0	Referent
T2N0M0	2.71 (2.17–3.39)
T3N0M0	5.20 (4.36–6.21)
T4N0M0	16.88 (12.40–22.98)
N+M0	16.33 (12.89–20.73)
M+	33.23 (28.18–39.18)

Key Eligibility Criteria

- Histologically confirmed clear cell renal cell carcinoma
  - **Intermediate-high risk:** pT2, grade 4 or sarcomatoid, N0, M0; pT3, any grade, N0, M0
  - **High risk:** pT4, any grade, N0, M0; any pT, any grade, N+, M0
  - **M1 no evidence of disease (NED) after surgery<sup>a</sup>**
- Surgery ≤12 weeks prior to randomization
- No prior systemic therapy
- ECOG PS 0 or 1
- Tissue sample for PD-L1 assessment

Stratification Factors

- Metastatic status (M0 vs M1 NED)
- M0 group further stratified:
  - ECOG PS 0 vs 1
  - US vs non-US



Pembrolizumab 200 mg  
Q3W  
for ~1 year<sup>b</sup>

Placebo  
Q3W  
for ~1 year<sup>b</sup>

Primary endpoint: DFS per investigator  
Key secondary endpoint: OS  
Other secondary endpoints: Safety

- Median (range) time from randomization to cutoff: 30.1 (20.8–47.5) months

Q3W, every 3 weeks

<sup>a</sup>M1 NED: no evidence of disease after primary tumor + soft tissue metastases completely resected ≤1 year from nephrectomy; <sup>b</sup>≤17 cycles of treatment were equivalent to ~1 year

Data cutoff date: June 14, 2021.

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	Pembro Arm (N = 496)	Placebo Arm (N = 498)
Age, median (range)	60 (27–81)	60 (25–84)
Male	347 (70.0%)	359 (72.1%)
ECOG PS 1	75 (15.1%)	72 (14.5%)
Geographic location		
North America	133 (26.8%)	125 (25.1%)
European Union	188 (37.9%)	187 (37.6%)
Rest of world	175 (35.3%)	186 (37.3%)
Disease risk category		
M0 intermediate-high	427 (86.1%) <sup>a</sup>	433 (86.9%)
M0 high risk	40 (8.1%)	36 (7.2%)
M1 NED	29 (5.8%)	29 (5.8%)
Sarcomatoid features <sup>b</sup>		
Present	52 (10.5%)	59 (11.8%)
Absent	414 (83.5%)	415 (83.3%)
PD-L1 CPS <sup>c,d</sup>		
<1	124 (25.0%)	113 (22.7%)
≥1	365 (73.6%)	383 (76.9%)

	Pembro Arm (N = 496)	Placebo Arm (N = 498)
Primary tumor stage		
T1	11 (2.2%)	15 (3.0%)
T2	27 (5.4%)	33 (6.6%)
T3	444 (89.5%)	437 (87.8%)
T4	14 (2.8%)	13 (2.6%)
Tumor nuclear grade*		
Grade 1	19 (3.8%)	16 (3.2%)
Grade 2	153 (30.8%)	150 (30.1%)
Grade 3	219 (44.2%)	213 (42.8%)
Grade 4	103 (20.8%)	119 (23.9%)
Lymph node stage		
N0	465 (93.8%)	467 (93.8%)
N1	31 (6.3%)	31 (6.2%)
Metastatic stage		
M0	467 (94.2%)	469 (94.2%)
M1 NED	29 (5.8%)	29 (5.8%)

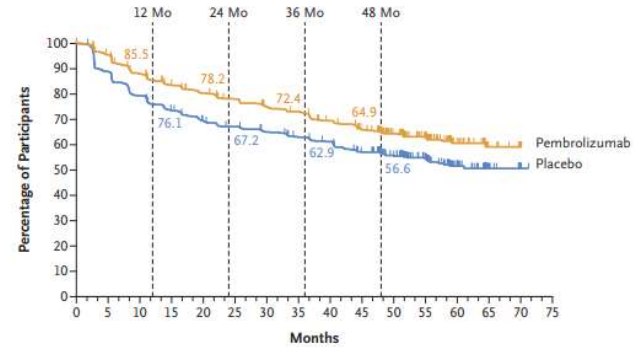
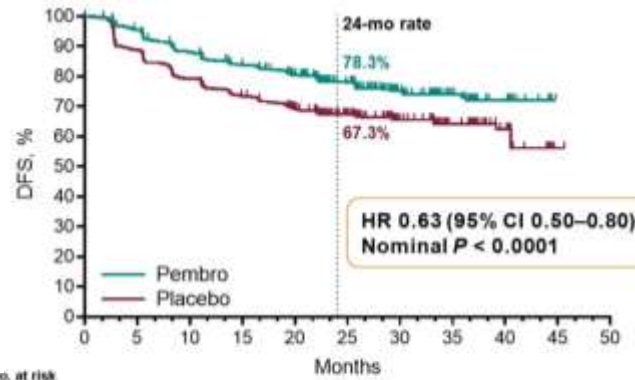
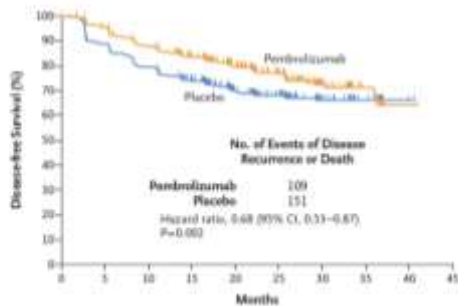
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Primary endpoint: Disease Free Survival in the Intention-to-Treat Population

mFUP 24.1 months

mFUP 30.1 months

mFUP 57.2 months



no. at risk	495	458	418	380	361	255	135	77	37	0	0
Pembro	495	458	418	380	361	255	135	77	37	0	0
Placebo	498	437	389	366	325	230	125	74	33	1	0

No. at Risk	496	458	416	388	370	355	337	327	307	284	221	160	65	19	5	0
Pembrolizumab	498	438	390	357	333	320	307	292	282	254	210	139	62	16	2	0
Placebo																

	Pts w/ Event	Median, mo (95% CI)
Pembro	114	NR (NR-NR)
Placebo	169	NR (40.5-NR)

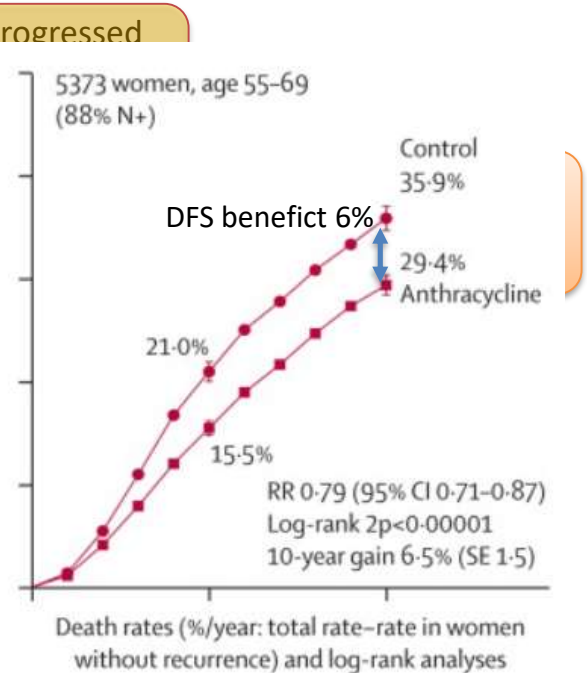
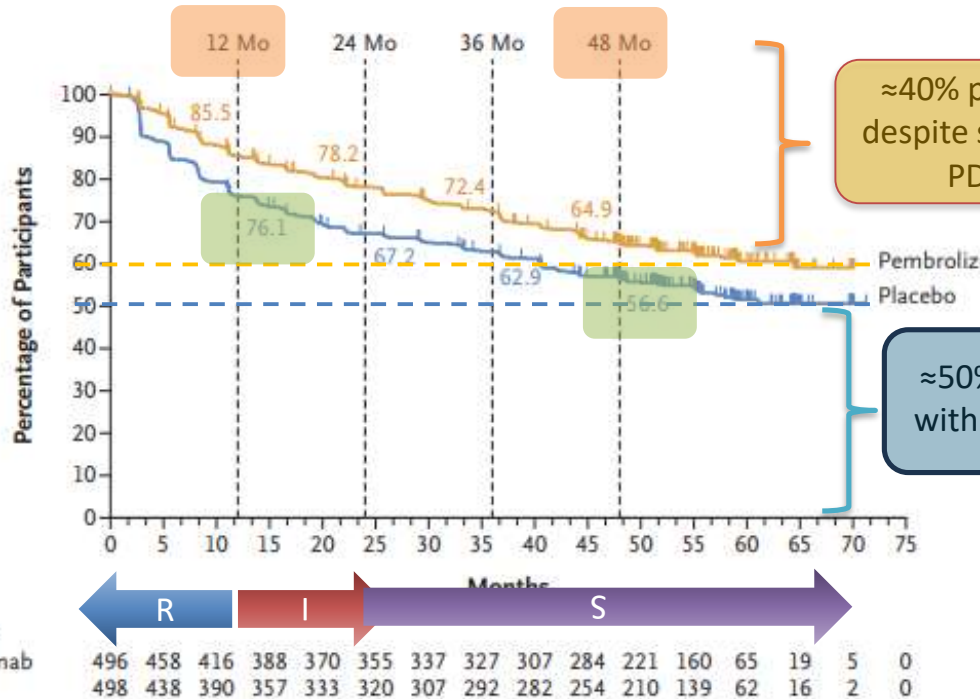
	Pembro (N = 496)	Placebo (N = 498)
Events, n	174	224
Median, mo (95% CI)	NR (NR-NR)	NR (54.0-NR)
Median follow-up was 57.2 months (range, 47.9-74.5)		

HR 0.72 (95% CI 0.59-0.87)

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Primary endpoint: Disease Free Survival in the Intention-to-Treat Population

mFUP 57.2 months



KEYNOTE -

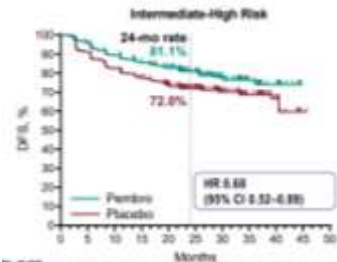
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Intermediate-High Risk		High Risk		M1 NED
pT2	pT3	pT4	Any pT	NED after resection of oligometastatic sites ≤1 year from nephrectomy
Grade 4 or sarcomatoid	Any grade	Any grade	Any grade	
N0	N0	N0	N+	
M0	M0	M0	M0	

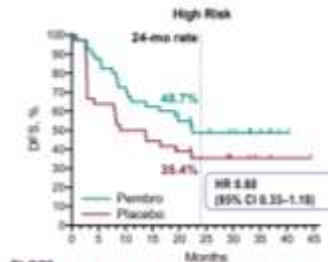
86%

8%

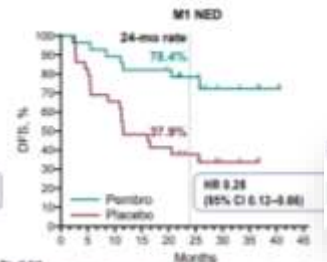
6%



	Pts w/ Event	Median, mo (95% CI)
Pembro	87	NR (NR-NR)
Placebo	127	NR (40.5-NR)



	Pts w/ Event	Median, mo (95% CI)
Pembro	20	22.4 (11.5-NR)
Placebo	23	11.4 (2.9-NR)



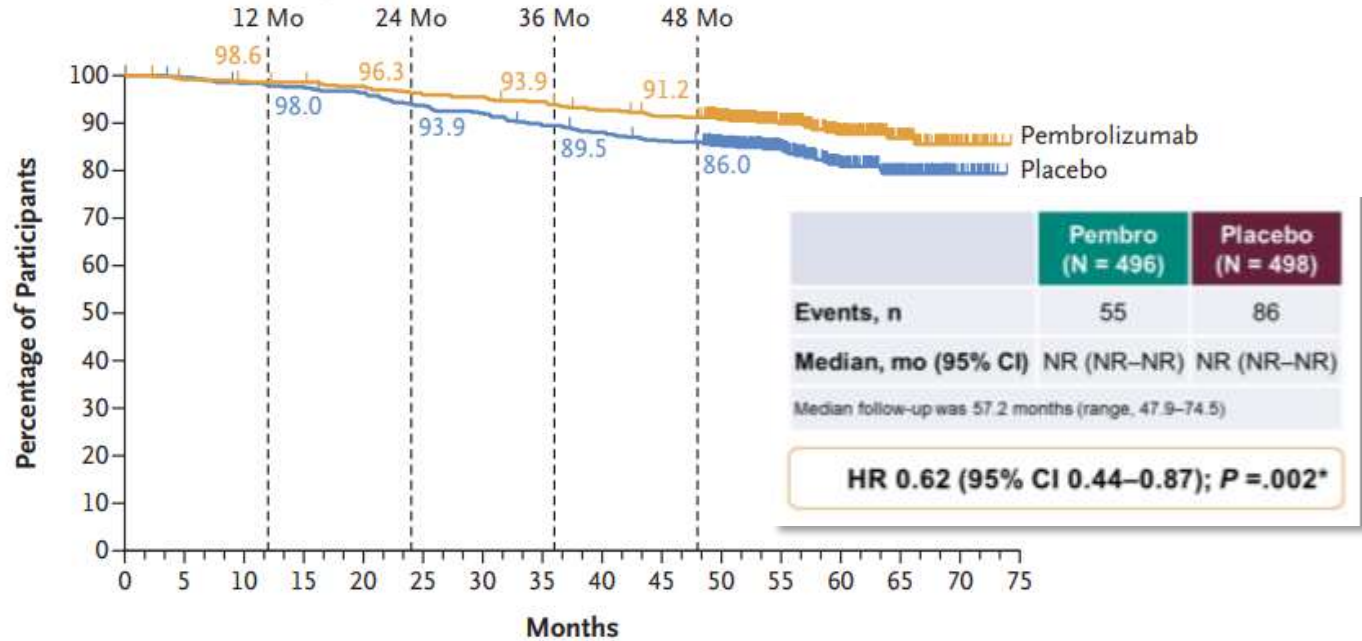
	Pts w/ Event	Median, mo (95% CI)
Pembro	7	NR (2.7-NR)
Placebo	19	11.8 (5.8-NR)

Subgroup	Pembrolizumab no. of events/no. of participants	Placebo no. of events/no. of participants	Hazard Ratio for Recurrence or Death (95% CI)
Overall	174/496	224/498	0.72 (0.59-0.87)
Age			
<65 yr	117/338	135/326	0.77 (0.60-0.98)
≥65 yr	57/158	89/172	0.67 (0.48-0.93)
Sex			
Female	50/149	63/139	0.68 (0.47-0.99)
Male	124/347	161/359	0.74 (0.59-0.94)
Race			
White	130/372	170/376	0.73 (0.58-0.91)
Other	33/88	41/87	0.72 (0.45-1.13)
ECOG performance-status score			
0	147/421	188/426	0.73 (0.59-0.90)
1	27/75	36/72	0.71 (0.43-1.16)
PD-L1 combined positive score			
<1	37/124	36/113	0.91 (0.58-1.44)
≥1	133/365	187/383	0.68 (0.55-0.85)
Geographic region			
United States	38/114	55/117	0.69 (0.46-1.05)
Other	136/382	169/381	0.74 (0.59-0.92)
Metastatic staging			
Disease risk category			
M0 intermediate-to-high risk	138/422	177/433	0.76 (0.61-0.95)
M0 high risk	22/40	26/37	0.61 (0.35-1.08)
M1 NED	13/29	21/28	0.40 (0.20-0.81)
M1 high risk	22/40	26/37	0.61 (0.35-1.08)
M1 NED	13/29	21/28	0.40 (0.20-0.81)
Sarcomatoid features			
Present	22/52	33/59	0.63 (0.37-1.08)
Absent	139/414	179/415	0.73 (0.59-0.91)

0.1 0.5 1.0 1.5  
Pembrolizumab Better Placebo Better

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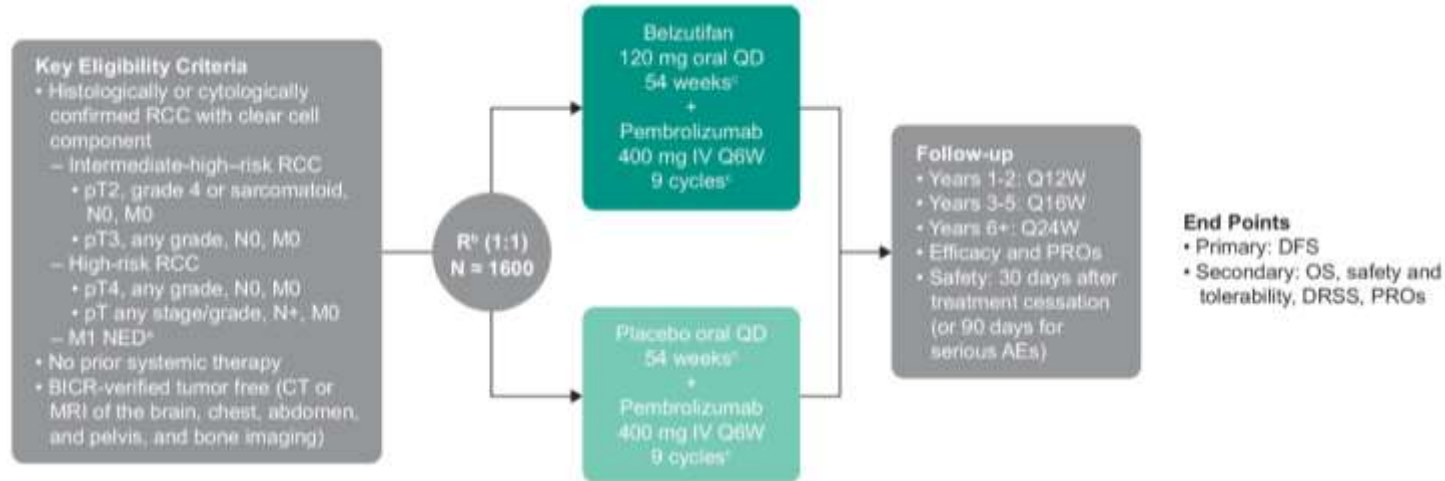
Key secondary endpoint: Overall Survival



No. at Risk

Pembrolizumab	496	489	486	484	479	470	468	462	451	443	397	270	168	81	22	0
Placebo	498	494	487	483	476	463	455	441	433	423	382	248	155	79	22	0

## FUTURE



**Merck Announces KEYTRUDA<sup>®</sup> (pembrolizumab) Plus WELIREG<sup>®</sup> (belzutifan) Met Primary Endpoint of Disease-Free Survival (DFS) in Certain Patients With Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC) Following Nephrectomy**

## CONCLUSIONES

- The optimal management of perioperative treatment in kidney cancer is still an unmet clinical need.
- At this point, only pembrolizumab based on the results of the KN564 has demonstrated a benefit in DFS and OS.
- The benefit of adjuvant pembrolizumab is independent of risk group, especially considering that most patients included were pT3 intermediate-high risk.
- Adequate treatment selection and treatment duration are still key questions to obtain the greatest benefit to improve cure-rates in this disease -> Patient profile (clinical, histological, biological, molecular biomarkers – plasma KIM1 - ). We need biomarkers!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

