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Precision oncology: AI-enabled decision support for genomic treatment recommendations by the molecular tumour board

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Disclosures

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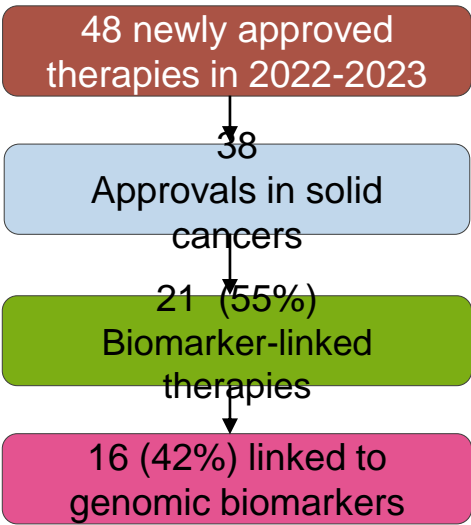
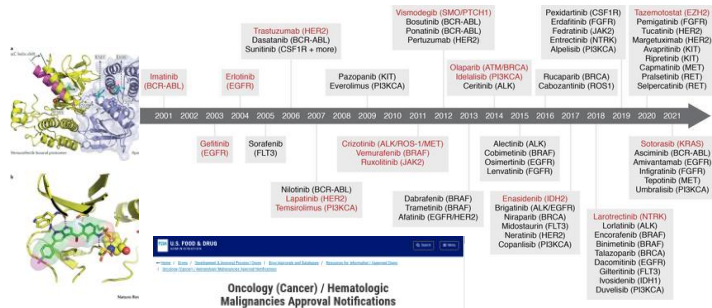


Evolution of Cancer Therapy

Traditional cytotoxic chemotherapy



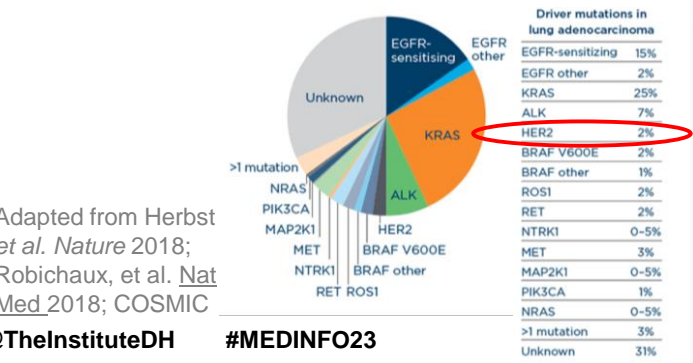
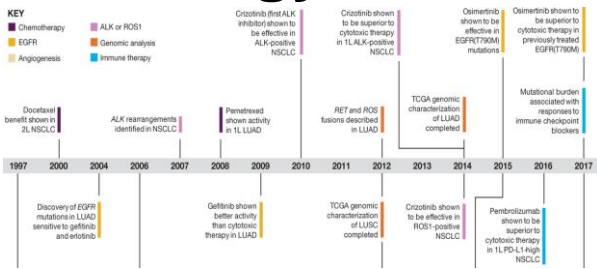
Biology-centric & biomarker-linked therapies have replaced traditional drug development



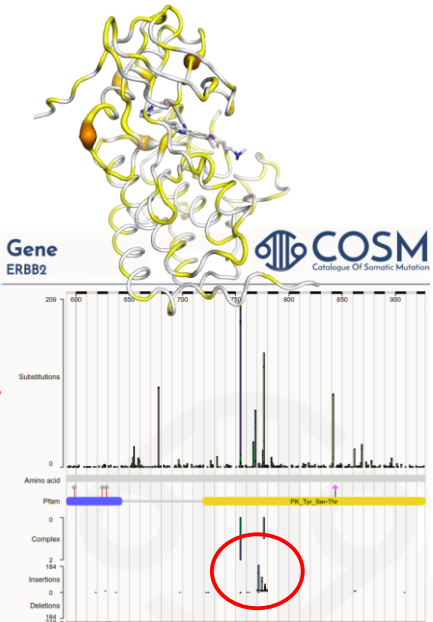
Adapted from *J Clin Invest.* 2022;132(8):e154943; The United States Food and Drug Administration; Wikimedia Commons



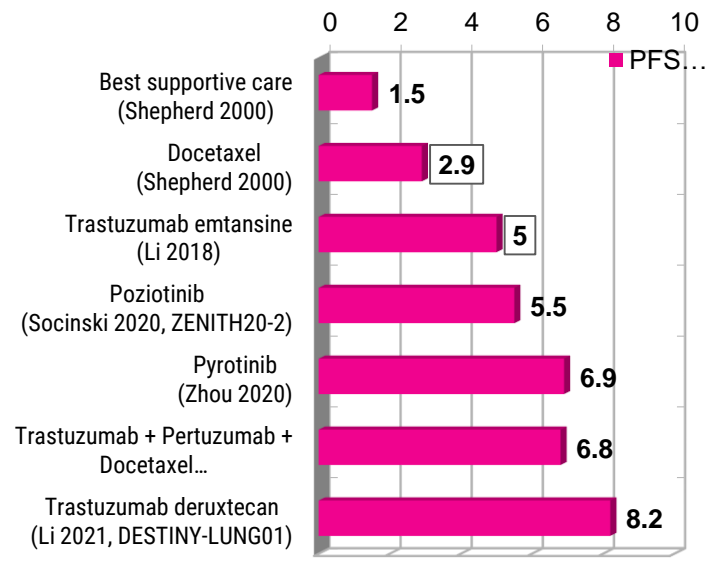
Genomics has redefined the therapeutic landscape in oncology



HER2-mutant Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)



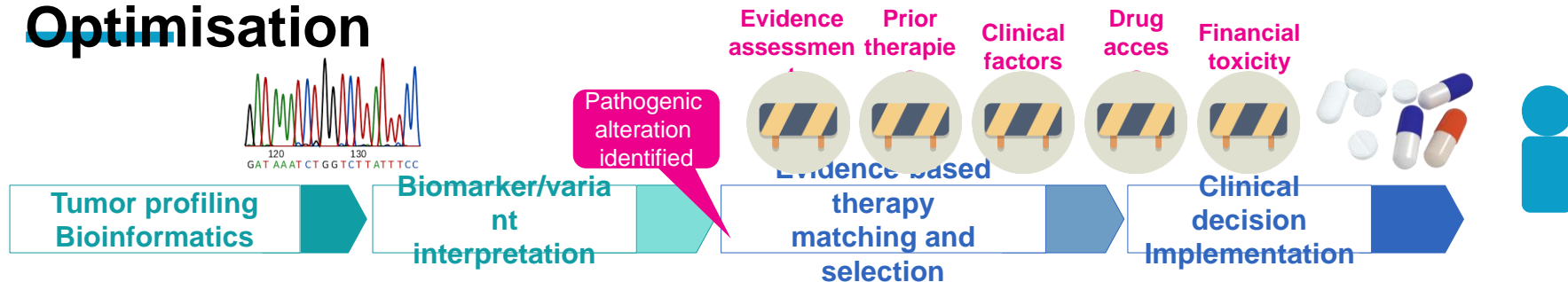
Advances in therapies (Progression-free survival)



Adapted from Herbst *et al. Nature* 2018; Robichaux, *et al. Nat Med* 2018; COSMIC



Precision Medicine: Information-directed Decision Optimisation

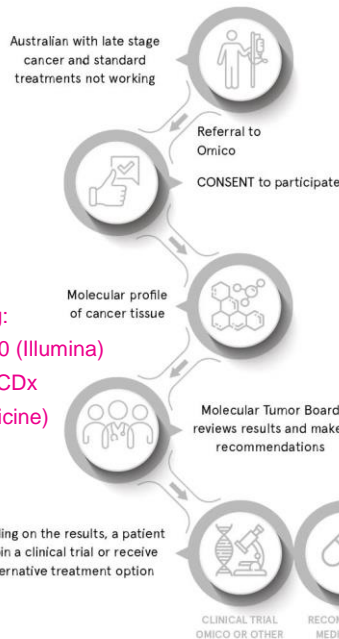


- Genomics - ↑ drug targets for patients with advanced malignancies.
- However, in the case of treatment-refractory cancers, there exists an **information challenge** involving drug selection and finding clinical trials, calling for multidisciplinary input due to the clinical complexity.



Molecular Screening and Therapeutics (MoST) -

National Precision Oncology Research



>18yo; advanced and/or poor prognosis cancer

ECOG 0-2; ; suitable for active treatment

Prioritising rare cancers

Hybrid distribute / central model of consent

Archival tumour tissue

Long-term follow-up
real-world data collection

Weekly MTB, 40-50 cases;

Pan-cancer; Haematology;

Pancreatic cancer;
NSCLC

Genomic profiling:
TST170 / TSO500 (Illumina)
Foundation One CDx
(Foundation Medicine)



Prof. David Thomas



Australia-wide precision oncology program

Matching cancer patient's molecular alteration to therapeutic options and





Institutional Molecular Tumour Boards

(MTB)

MTB membership:

Oncologist (100%)

Pathologist (91%)

Geneticist (89%)

Bioinformatician (38%)

Mol. biologist (25%)

Pharmacist

Radiologist

Surgeon

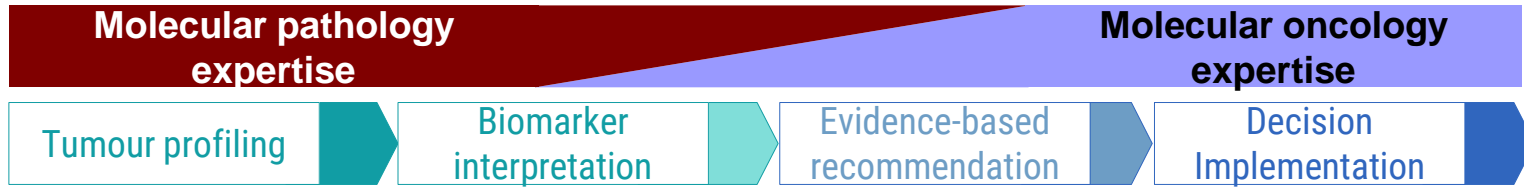
Radiation oncologist

Mol. Scientist

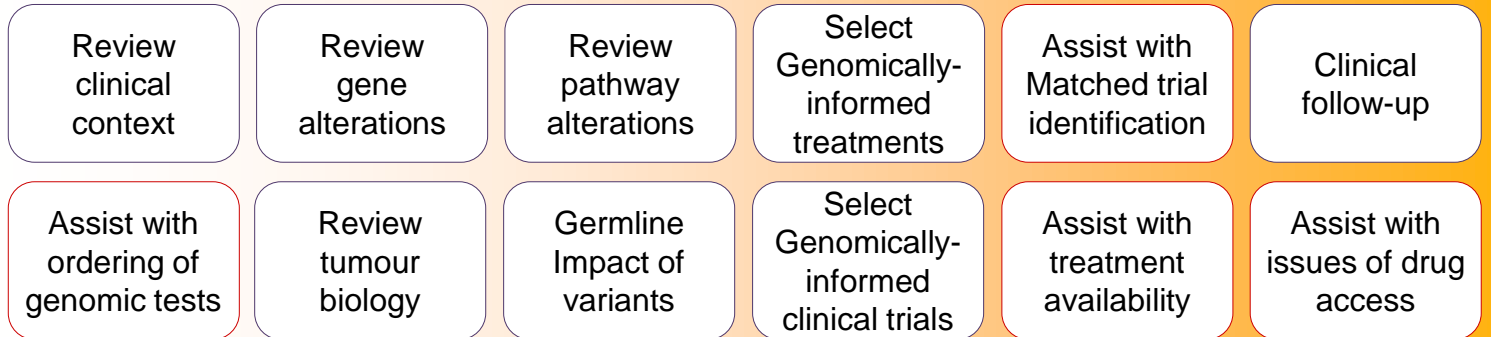
Engineer

Nurse coordinator

Patient advocates



Role of MTBs



Adapted from Patel et al. *Clin Pharmacol Ther.* 2018; Rieke et al, *JCO PO* 2018; van der Velden 2017;

3070

Zeng et al, *JCO Clin Cancer Inform* 2019; Pishvaian et al. *JAMIA Open* 2019.



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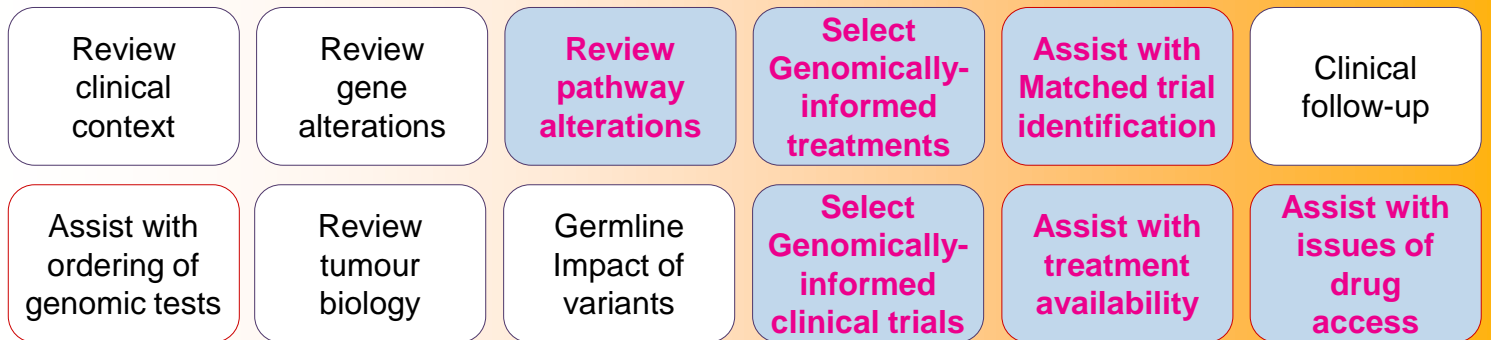
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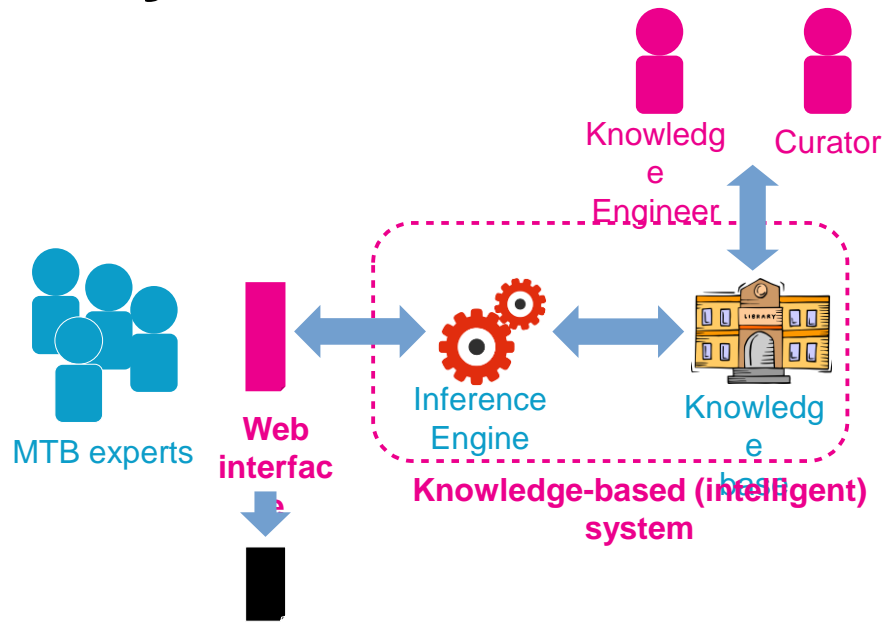
Zeng et al, *JCO Clin Cancer Inform* 2019; Pishvaian et al. *JAMIA Open* 2019.



Addressing the Info Need by the MTB: an AI-DSS

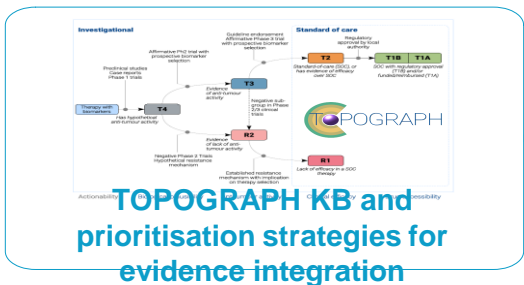
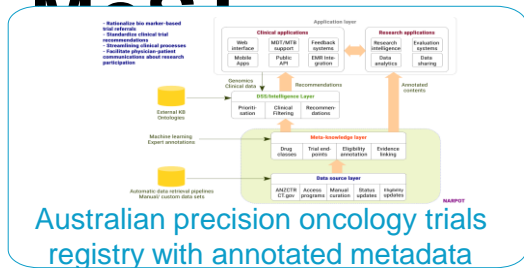
Decision support (DSS) design:

- **Information synthesis** after variant interpretation
- **Linking knowledge to action:** Structuring the complex, up-to-date knowledge by linking with an therapy database and annotated trials registry.
- **Interaction with multidisciplinary experts:** A platform for streamlining the reporting of recommendations, translating clinicogenomic data onto therapies and trials



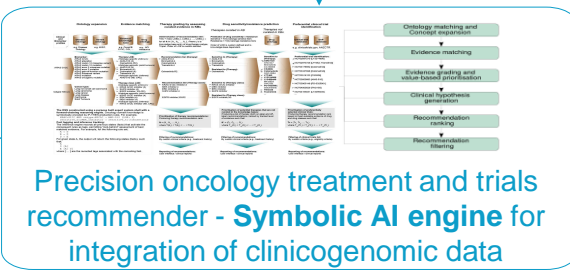


AI-DSS: Architecture of MTB support system for



Clinical and somatic genomic profiling data

“Gentian” - the variant interpretation pipeline



MTBS: Web-based system for virtual multidisciplinary discussion, trial filtering with integrative information display & decision-support interfaces

Precision Oncology Clinical Reporting with Recommendations



AI-DSS (1) : Evidence-based therapy KB

ClinVar



Therapy-focused
knowledgebase for
precision oncology

A curated knowledgebase of
biomarker-driven therapies for
advanced or metastatic cancers
in solid tumours

To address the following questions in clinic:

- Does a therapy work when a biomarker is present/absent?
- Are there new therapies?
- How does resistance mutation influence drug activity?
- How should treatments be prioritised?

Tumor profiling
Bioinformatic
analysis

Biomarker/variant
interpretation

Evidence-based
therapy
recommendation

Clinical decision
Implementation



AI-DSS (1) : Evidence-based therapy KB

TOPOGRAPH FAQ Tiers Data References Changes About

TOPOGRAPH

Therapy-Oriented Precision Oncology Guidelines for Recommending Anti-cancer PHarmaceuticals

Database version: 20230626 (AU)

Enter mutations, alterations, cancer type, and/or therapy. For example, BRAF V600E Colorectal Cancer

298 Biomarkers	1899 Alterations	178 Cancer types	626 Therapies
73 Tier 1	33 Tier 1B	99 Tier 2	177 Tier 3
407 Tier 4	17 Tier B1	191 Tier R2	

Omicron Garvan Institute of Medical Research UNSW SYDNEY THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre

TOPOGRAPH FAQ Tiers Data References Changes About

Biomarker-disease-therapy triplets Therapies Biomarkers Cancer types

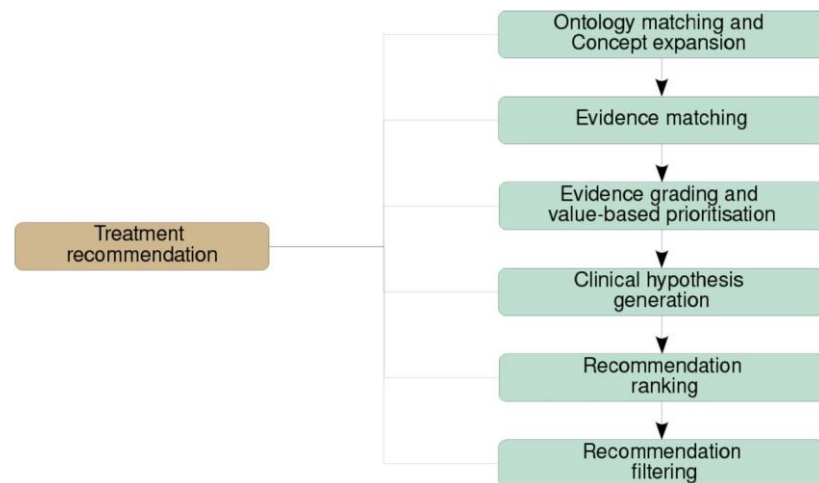
Version: 20230626 AU Triplets Curators

Tier	Biomarker (2)	Alteration (28)	Cancer type (2)	Therapy (20)	Evidence	Comments
1	ERBB2 (HER2)	S310F,S310Y,L75SS,L75SP,A769H,A775,G776insVYMA,A775,G776insTVMA,G776S,G776delinsVC,V777L,G778_P780dup,G778_S779insLPS, Exon 20 insertion, Exon 20 mutation	Non-small cell lung cancer	Fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki	34534430 10.1016/annonc/annonc741	Not TGA approved. FDA approved. DESTINY-LungD1. Phase 1/2. N=91. Objective response rate (ORR) 50/91 (55%). Median duration of response (DOR) 9.3 months. Median progression-free survival (PFS) 8.2 months. Median overall survival (OS) 17.8 months. Disease control rate (DCR) 84/91 (92%).
1	ERBB2 (HER2)	A775,G776insVYMA,G776ins,G776R,G776C,P780_Y781insGSP,V777L	Non-small cell lung cancer	Pyrotinib	32614698	Phase 2. N=60. Previously treated NSCLC. Objective response rate (ORR) 30%. Duration of response (DOR) 6.9 months. Median progression-free survival (PFS) 6.9 months. NCT02834936.
1	ERBB2 (HER2)	A775,G776insVYMA,G778_P780dup	Solid tumours; Non-small cell lung cancer	Pozitotinib	31588020	Phase II. Objective response rate (ORR) 43% (5/12) and disease control rate (DCR) 83%. NCT03066206.
1	ERBB2 (HER2)	A775,G776insVYMA,G778_P780dup,G776delinsVC, Exon 20 insertion, Exon 20 mutation	Non-small cell lung cancer	Pozitotinib	34550757	N=30. NSCLC subsequent to platinum-based chemotherapy. Objective response rate (ORR) 27%. Median duration of response (DOR) 5.0 months. Median progression-free survival (PFS) 5.5 months. Median overall survival (OS) 15 months.
1	ERBB2 (HER2)	A775,G776insVYMA,M774dup	Non-small cell lung cancer	Afatinib	30096481	Global named used program. Heavily pretreated NSCLC with ERBB2 mutation. N=28. Objective response rate (ORR) of 19% (3/16) with disease control rate (DCR) of 69% (11/16).
1	ERBB2 (HER2)	Exon 20 insertion	Non-small cell lung cancer	Pozitotinib	10.1016/j.annonc.2020.08.2293	ZENITH20. Objective response rate (ORR) 35% (combined EGFR and ERBB2 groups). Progression-free survival (PFS) 5.5 months.
1	ERBB2 (HER2)	Exon 20 insertion,A775,G776insVYMA	Non-small cell lung cancer	Tarloxotinib	10.1016/j.annonc.2020.08.2294	Phase 2. RAIN-701 NCT03805841, Cohort B. 4/9 evaluable pts (44%) exhibited tumor reduction by RECIST and 2/9 pts experienced confirmed partial responders (PR) (22%).



AI-DSS (2): Symbolic AI engine

- Using **hierarchical decision analysis** to model of oncologist's decision-making steps
- Precision Oncology Treatment and Trials Recommender (POTTR)
 - Novel symbolic expert system (ES) as intelligent agent, integrating 10+ databases and ontologies.
 - “White box” system to allow full audit and explicit fine-tuning of recommendations





AI-DSS (2): Symbolic AI engine

Rule-based system
Forward chaining

```
ERBB2:Y772_A775dup => ERBB2:A775_G776insYVMA
```

```
catype:NSCLC => catype:DOID:3908
```

```
ERBB2:A775_G776insYVMA; catype:DOID:3908 =>
```

```
ERBB2:treatment:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan (TOPOGRAPH LOE: 2)  
[CERTAIN:treatment; evidence:34534430, 10.1016/annonc/annonc741]
```

```
ERBB2:treatment:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan (TOPOGRAPH LOE: 2)  
=> recommendation_tier:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan:2
```

```
recommendation_tier:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan:2  
=> sensitive_to:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan
```

```
sensitive_to_drug_class:anti-ERBB2_antibody-drug_conjugate; NOT therapy_sens_predicted:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan; NOT  
resistant_to_drug_class:anti-ERBB2_antibody-drug_conjugate; NOT resistant_to:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan; sensitive_to:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan =>  
therapy_sens_predicted:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan; sensitive_to:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan
```

```
sensitive_to:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan  
=> therapy_recommendation:Trastuzumab Deruxtecan:2
```

```
sensitive_to_drug_class:anti-ERBB2_antibody-drug_conjugate; catype:DOID:3908; ERBB2:oncogenic_mutation; NOT EGFR:oncogenic_mutation; NOT  
BRAF:oncogenic_mutation; NOT ALK:fusion; NOT ROS1:fusion; *NOT prior_therapy:ALK_inhibitor; *NOT prior_therapy:BRAF_inhibitor; *NOT  
prior_therapy:platinum-based_antineoplastic_agent  
=> preferential_trial_id:NCT04644237
```

Variant normalisation

Ontology mapping / expansion

Evidence matching

Recommendation tiering/ LOE assignment against TOPOGRAPH

Drug sensitivity prediction (direct)

Drug sensitivity prediction (indirect)

Therapy recommendation

Preferential trial identification and prioritisation

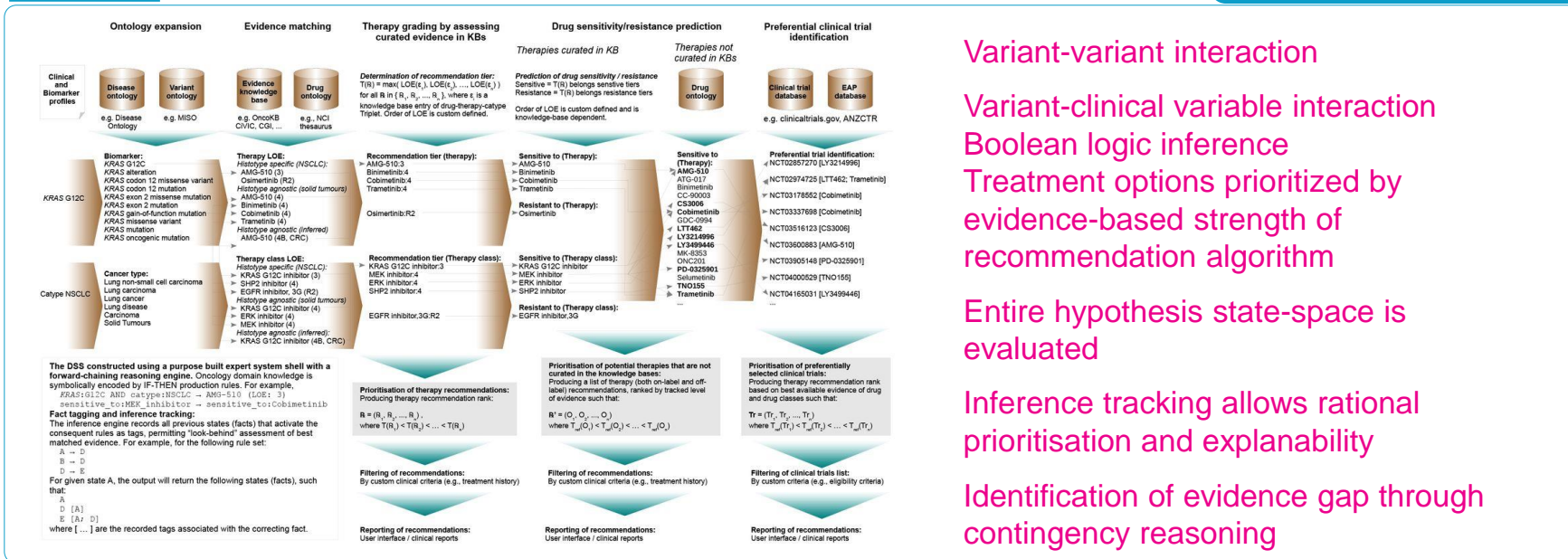
60,000+ production rules

10+ Ontologies



AI-DSS (2): Symbolic AI engine

Value-based
prioritisation



Variant-variant interaction
Variant-clinical variable interaction
Boolean logic inference
Treatment options prioritized by evidence-based strength of recommendation algorithm
Entire hypothesis state-space is evaluated
Inference tracking allows rational prioritisation and explainability
Identification of evidence gap through contingency reasoning



AI-DSS (3): Virtual MTB and Reporting

gene	chr	cnv_size	copy_no	dp	vaf	c	description	exon	sev	clinvar	cosmic	alterati...
BRCA2	13	21.12	1.8	1052	0.53	4284dup	Q1429Sfs*9	11/27	HIGH	P***		lof var
CDKN2A	9	38.61	0.8	254	0.21	247C>T	H83Y	2/3	MED	U*	139	lof var
KRAS	12	18.58	0.9	802	0.17	34G>C	G12R	2/5	MED	P*	1603	gof var
RNF43	17	23.07	1.0	1071	0.14	450+1G>A			HIGH			prob lo...
SMAD4	18	57.21	1.9	966	0.27	1082G>A	R361H	9/12	MED	P**	183	lof var
TP53	17	22.26	1.3	1025	0.14	724T>C	C242R	7/11	MED	QP*	16	prob lo...

Prior to DSS implementation

Drug class recommendations

No clinical trial recommendations

Tiering through MTB consensus

After DSS implementation (New clinical report)

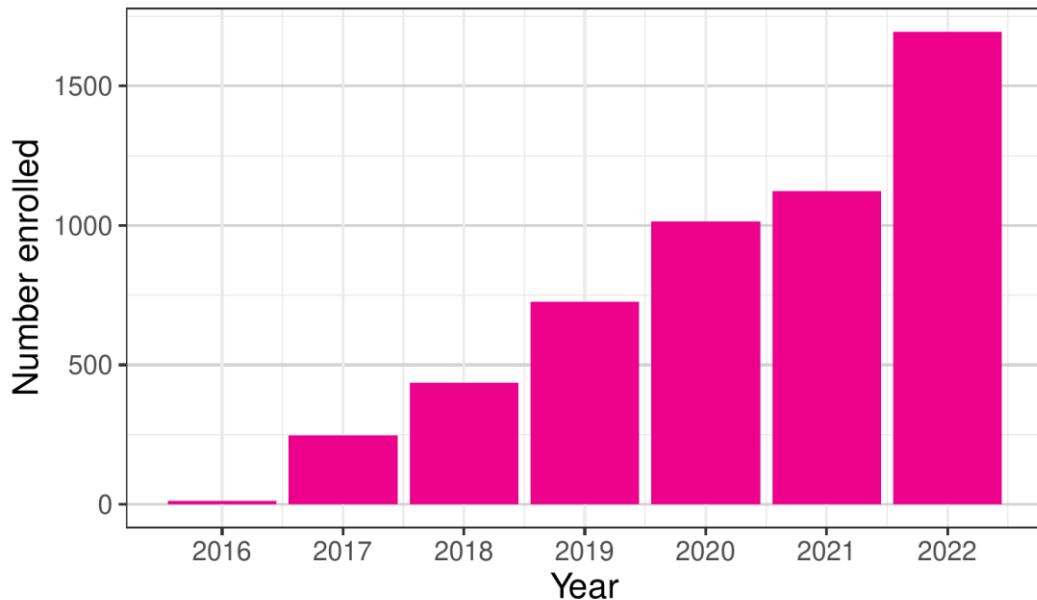
Specific drug and class recommendations

Specific trial recommendations with evidence-based prioritisation

Tiering through evidence-based knowledge base (KB) and symbolic AI



Results – Impact on Scalability of Research and Services



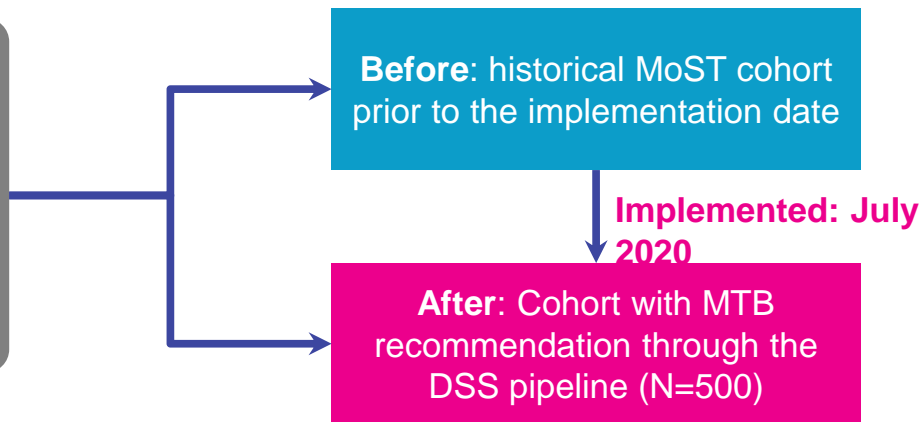
- Ensuring accurate and contemporaneous recommendations based on clinicogenomic profile
- Successful implementation at a national level, now enrolled over 7,000 Australian patients with refractory advanced cancer
- Increased weekly case numbers reviewed by the board ten-fold over 5 years



Results – Schema of Before-After Implementation Study

Inclusion criteria:

- Adult patients (age ≥ 18 years) with treatment refractory solid tumours.
- Referred to MoST for molecular screening and received a report.
- Patients without a matched or ineligible to participate in a MoST molecular matched substudy.



Objective:

- To examine the utility and impact of systematic treatment and trial recommendation system by a MTB in patients with treatment-refractory cancers.

Study design:

- Retrospective Cohort Study in the MoST program populations

Primary endpoint:

- Rate of patients participated in biomarker-linked clinical trials after genomic profiling

Secondary endpoints:

- Rate of patients participated in any clinical trials after profiling
- Overall survival (OS) from the first subsequent therapy following sequencing

Preliminary and unpublished results. Please do not



Preliminary Results: Impact on Trial Participation

Biomarker-matched clinical trials:

Cohort	Total	Received
Before DSS implementation	843	43 (5.1%)
After DSS implementation	298	24 (8.1%)

Chi-square test, df=1, p=0.085

Any clinical trials:

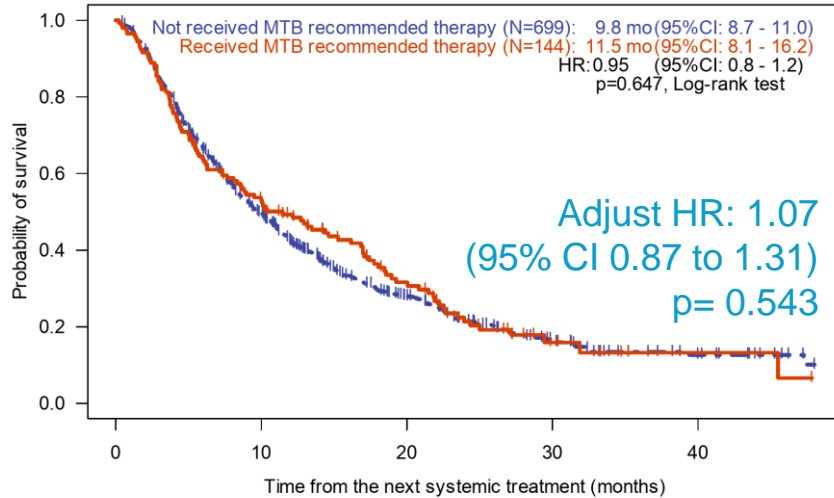
Cohort	Total	Received
Before DSS implementation	843	126 (14.9%)
After DSS implementation	298	61 (20.5%)

Chi-square test, df=1, p=0.034



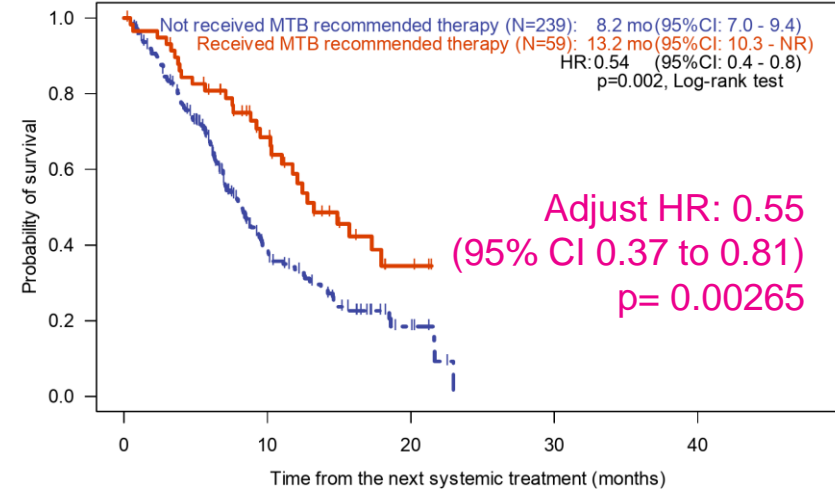
Preliminary Results: Survival Outcomes

Prior to DSS implementation



No. at risk	0	10	20	30	40
Not rec'd rec'd	699	319	132	45	18
Recv'd rec'd	144	74	34	9	6

After DSS implementation



No. at risk	0	10	20	30	40
Not rec'd rec'd	239	57	10	1	1
Recv'd rec'd	59	32	9	9	9



Summary

- AI-enhanced DSS plays a crucial role by facilitating multidisciplinary decision-making through structured treatment and trial recommendations.
 - Provides timely recommendations to referring oncologists, potentially improving trial participation and survival outcomes in patients with refractory cancer.
- Through enhanced recommendation accuracy and efficiency, AI-DSS utilisation has facilitated the expansion of research programs to a national scale, enabling seamless handling of substantial volumes.
- The benefits of integrating DSS into precision cancer medicine will be determined through further analysis and prospective studies.



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Mandy Ballinger
Subotheni Thavanesawran
Christine Napier
Keith Thornton
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Australian Rare Cancer Portal

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Pfizer, Roche

MoST patients/participants

Referring Clinicians

Co-investigators

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Research, NSW Government

Consumer Groups

Rare Cancers Australia
CanTeen, CanToo
Cancer Voices
Brain Tumour Alliance Australia
Pancare Foundation



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