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东方临床肿瘤研究中心  
East Clinical Center of Oncology



Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology  
Beijing Xisike Clinical Oncology Research Foundation

# Early Clinical Development of Oncology Medicines - An Industry Perspective

Shanghai, China

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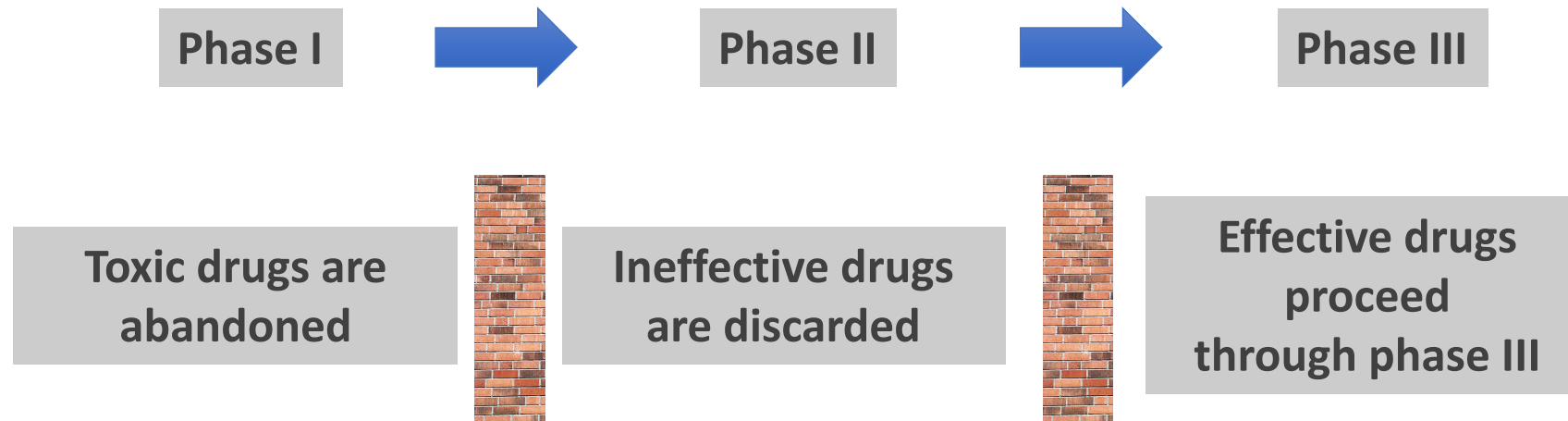
Brii Biosciences, Limited

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# Cancer Drug Development – The Old Paradigm

Linear, step-wise drug development

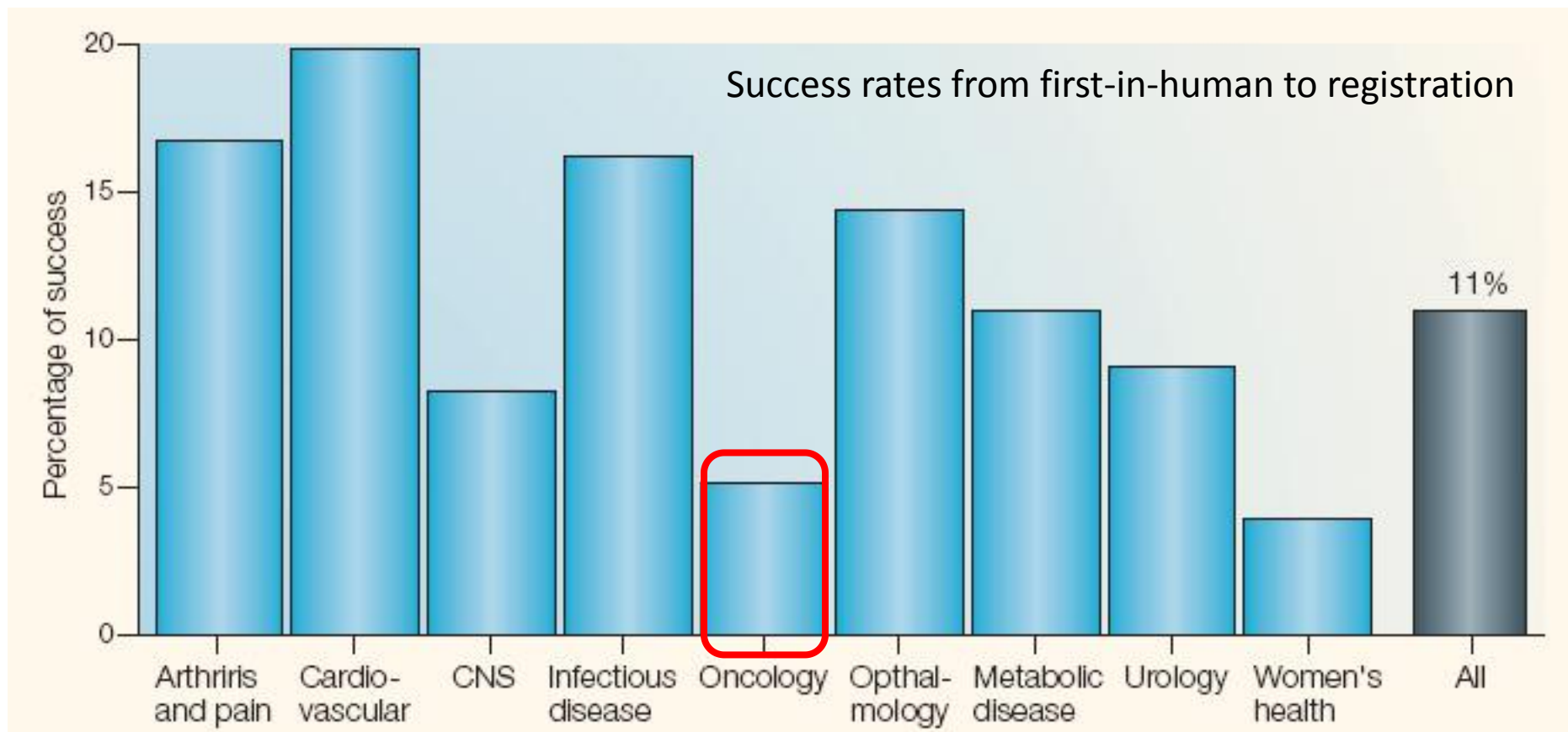


- Large and Costly phase III trials
- Ineffective drugs for patients
- Late phase drug attrition

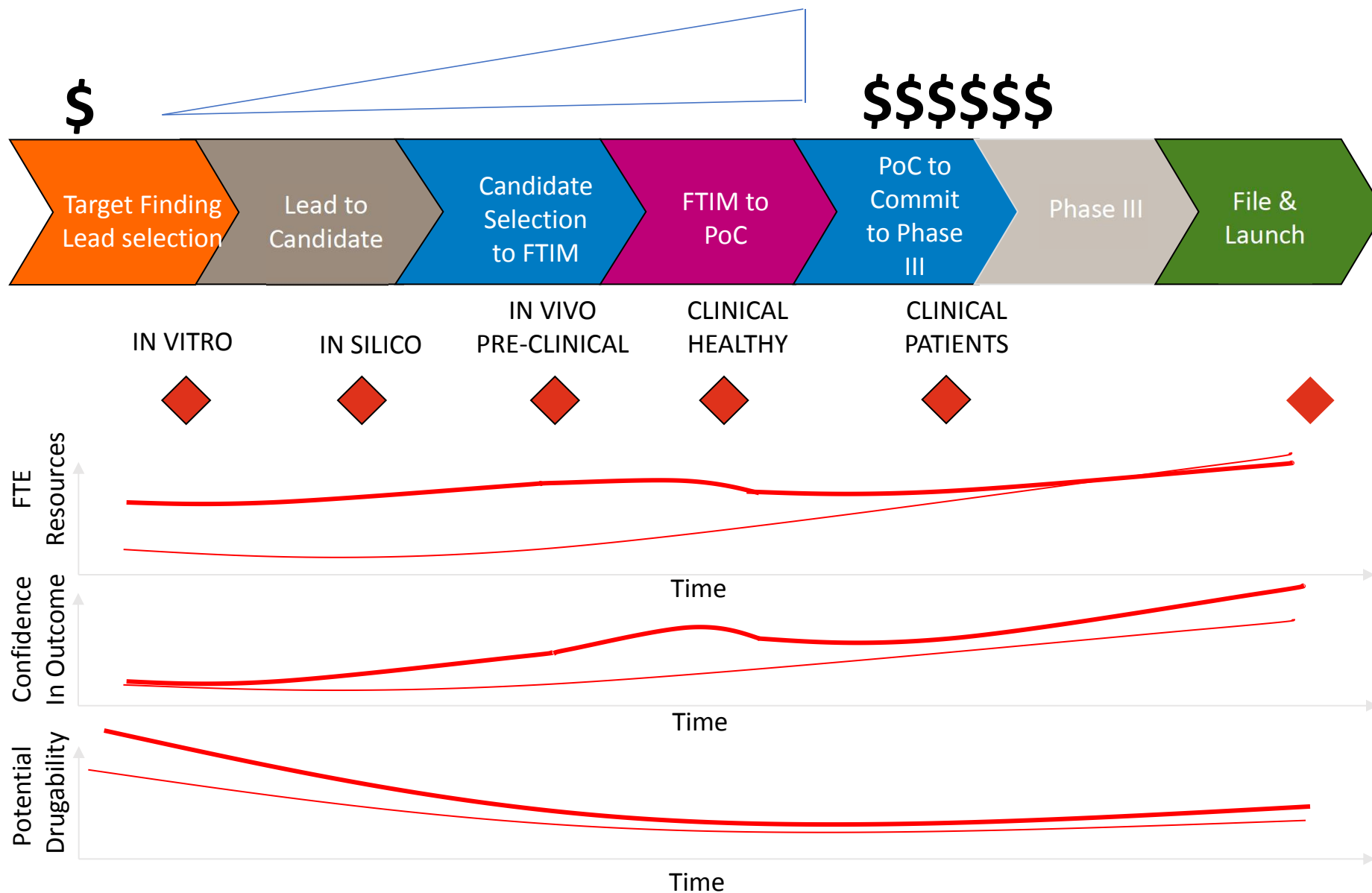


## Cancer Drug Development – The Old Paradigm

Oncology Drug Attrition Rate: ~95% of drugs entered clinical trials **FAIL**

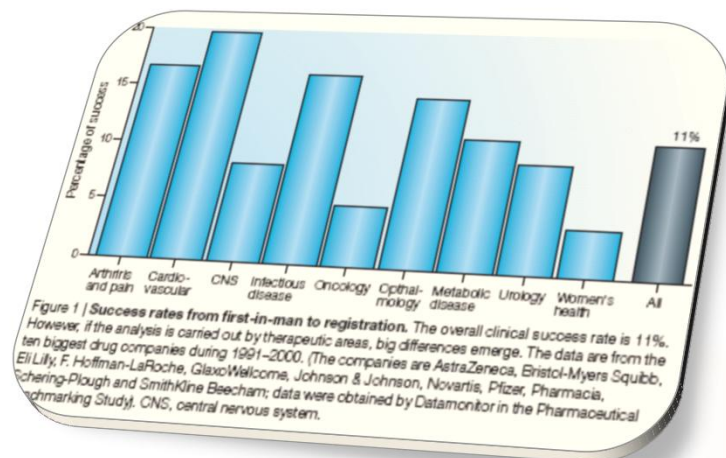


Kola and Landis, Nat Reviews Drug Discovery 2004



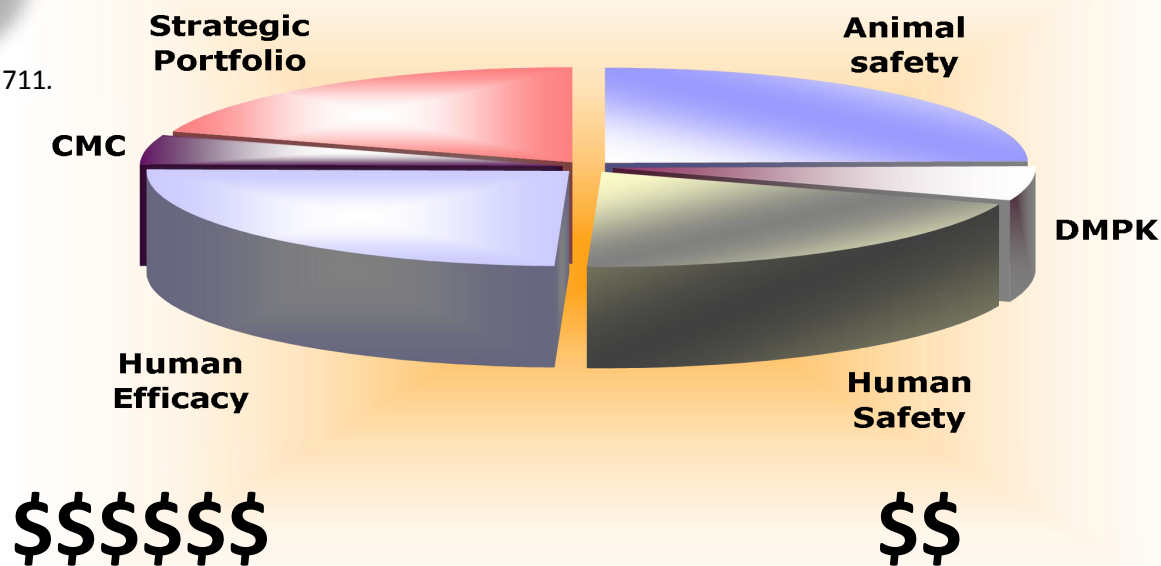


# Attrition: a multifactor reason for failure



Nature Reviews Drug Discovery, Volume 3, August 2004, 711.

The R&D cost of developing a new medicine is **\$2, 600,000,000**





# Cancer Drug Development – New Paradigm

Focused accelerated drug development

Phase I / II



Phase III

- Toxic AND ineffective drugs are abandoned in phase I/IIa
- Develop most efficient ways to identify the good drugs

Effective drugs proceed through phase III aided by BMx

- **Focused phase III trials**
- **Effective drugs in enriched patient population**
- **Avoid late phase drug attrition**



# Timelines for Drug Development

## ■ Traditional Approach

- Phase I to determine recommended phase 2 dose (1.8 years), followed by Phase II to assess efficacy within an indication (2.5 years), followed by Phase III to demonstrate efficacy (2.4 years)
- Average time from first in human to approval is 9.3 years

## ■ 2 Ways to Accelerate Timelines

### – Utilize Accelerated Approval Registration Path

- Keynote 001 (First in human) initiated April 2011
- Keytruda first PD-1 approved in U.S. on Sept 2014 for patients with advanced or unresectable melanoma

### – Leapfrog Phase III Clinical Study Development

- Checkmate 141: 2L Phase III in R/M HNSCC
- Javelin 100: Phase III in Locally Advanced HNSCC



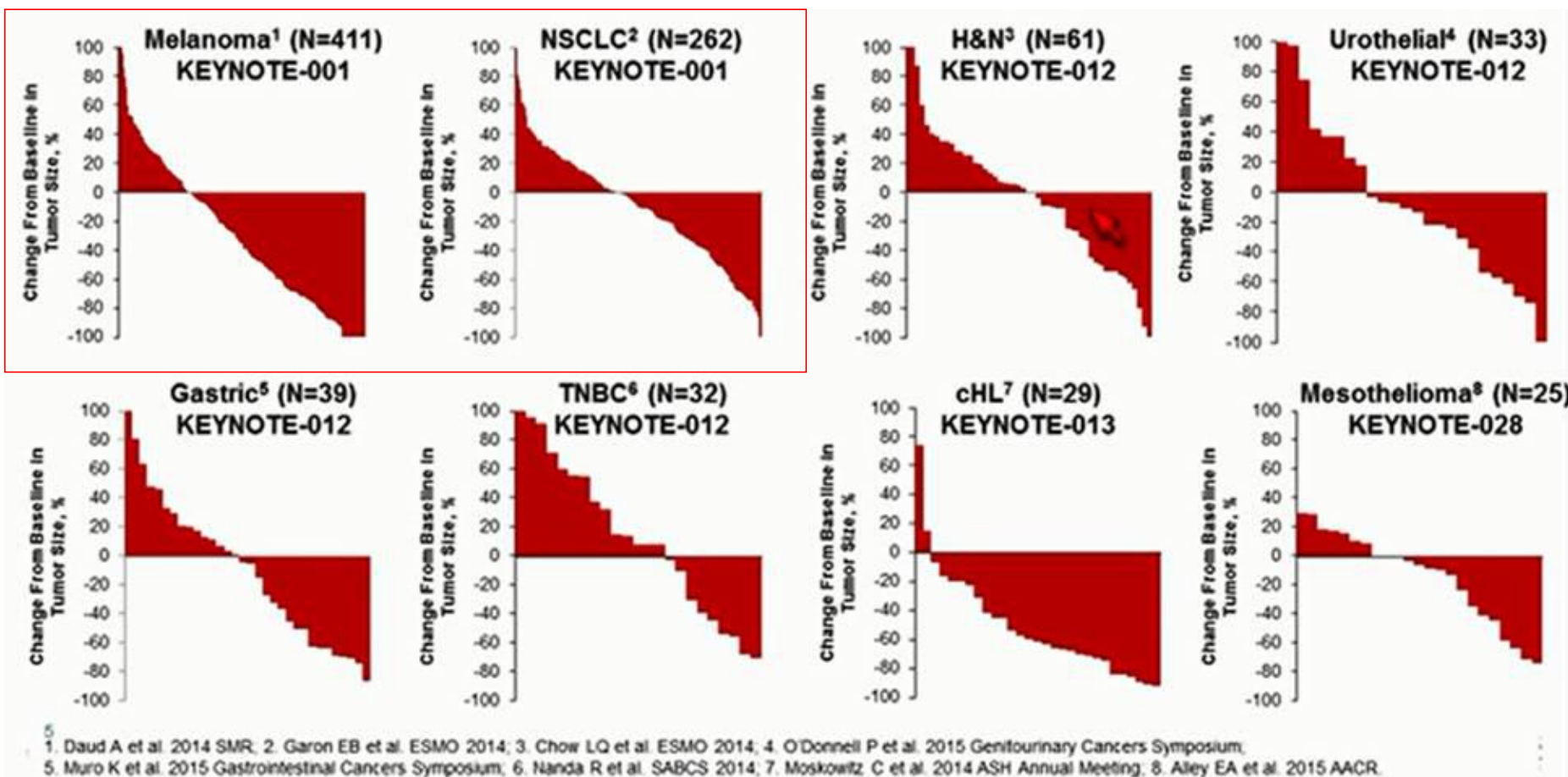
## Progressive Regulatory Agencies – FDA & NMPA

- Breakthrough designation guidance
  - To qualify for the designation, a drug must
    - Treat a serious or life-threatening disease or condition and
    - Provide preliminary clinical evidence indicating a potential for substantial improvement over existing therapies on one or more clinically significant endpoints
- Breakthrough designation advantage
  - Provides timely advice and interactive communication regarding the development of the drug to ensure that the development program to gather the data necessary for approval is as efficient as practicable
  - Paves the way for accelerated approval application





# Early Phase Cancer Drug Development – Immunotherapy (Case Study of Pembrolizumab Keytruda®)



~1300 patients treated in a Phase 1 study with activity seen across an array of tumor types;  
Foundation for 2 indication approvals – melanoma and NSCLC

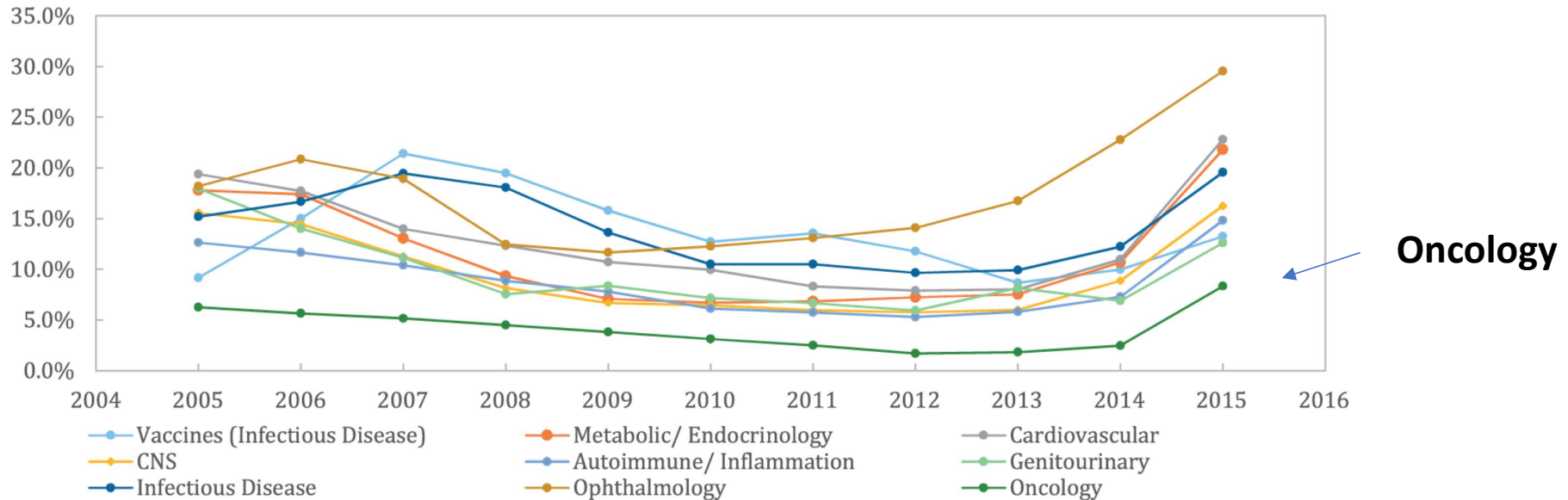
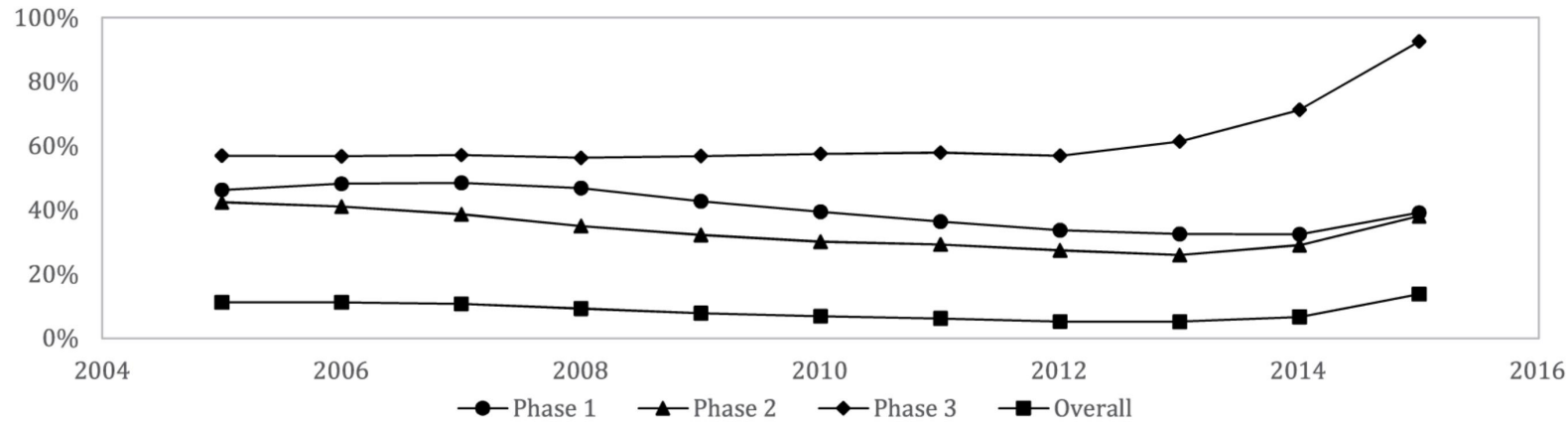


# Accelerated Approval

- Accelerated Approval
  - Allows earlier approval of drugs and biologics based on a surrogate clinical endpoint for serious or life-threatening diseases that provide a meaningful therapeutic benefit over existing treatments
  - Clinical endpoint is often times superior ORR compared to historical control in an area of high unmet need
- Keytruda First to US Market
  - Keytruda received accelerated approved based on 173 patients in Keynote 001 in Sept 2014 (safety profile established in 411 patients)
  - Keytruda subsequently received accelerated approval in NSCLC, HNSCC, MSI High cancers, Gastric cancer...
  - Accelerated approval requires a confirmatory randomized study for full approval



# There is still much to improve



Estimation of clinical trial success rates and related parameters Chi Heem Wong Kien Wei Siah Andrew W Lo.  
*Biostatistics*, kxx069, <https://doi.org/10.1093/biostatistics/kxx069> 31 January 2018