

# Analysis of *KRAS/NRAS* Mutations in a Phase 3 Study of Panitumumab With FOLFIRI Compared With FOLFIRI Alone as Second-Line Treatment for Metastatic Colorectal Cancer

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## **STATEMENT OF TRANSLATIONAL RELEVANCE**

In preclinical studies, identification of mutations in *RAS* enzymes that resulted in constitutive activation suggested that presence of these mutations may preclude response to anti-epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) therapy. Although studies have already demonstrated that commonly occurring *KRAS* exon 2 mutations in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC) were associated with lack of response to anti-EGFR therapy, a large, prospective-retrospective analysis of a phase 3 study of panitumumab plus FOLFOX as first-line treatment in mCRC found that evaluation of a broader panel of *RAS* mutations (including mutations in *KRAS* exons 3 and 4, and *NRAS* exons 2, 3, and 4) better predicted patient outcomes. In this study, we found an improved benefit-risk profile (compared with *KRAS* exon 2 wild-type patients) for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone among *RAS* wild-type patients and provide further support for *RAS* testing for patients with mCRC.

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 **Purpose:** We evaluated the influence of *RAS* mutation status on the treatment effect of  
3 panitumumab in a prospective-retrospective analysis of a randomized, multicenter phase 3  
4 study of panitumumab plus fluorouracil, leucovorin, and irinotecan (FOLFIRI) versus FOLFIRI  
5 alone as second-line therapy in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC;  
6 ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT0039183).

7 **Experimental Design:** Outcomes were from the study's primary analysis. *RAS* mutations  
8 beyond *KRAS* exon 2 (*KRAS* exons 3, 4; *NRAS* exons 2, 3, 4; *BRAF* exon 15) were detected by  
9 bidirectional Sanger sequencing in wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 tumor specimens. Progression-free  
10 survival (PFS) and overall survival (OS) were coprimary endpoints.

11 **Results:** The *RAS* ascertainment rate was 85%; 18% of wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 tumors  
12 harbored other *RAS* mutations. For PFS and OS, the hazard ratio for panitumumab plus  
13 FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone more strongly favored panitumumab in the wild-type *RAS*  
14 population than in the wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 population (PFS HR, 0.70  
15 [95%CI=0.54–0.91];  $P=0.007$  versus 0.73 [95%CI=0.59–0.90];  $P=0.004$ ; OS HR, 0.81  
16 [95%CI=0.63–1.03];  $P=0.08$  versus 0.85 [95%CI=0.70–1.04];  $P=0.12$ ). Patients with *RAS*  
17 mutations were unlikely to benefit from panitumumab. Among *RAS* wild-type patients, the  
18 objective response rate was 41% in the panitumumab-FOLFIRI group versus 10% in the  
19 FOLFIRI group.

20 **Conclusions:** Patients with *RAS* mutations were unlikely to benefit from panitumumab-FOLFIRI  
21 and the benefit-risk of panitumumab-FOLFIRI was improved in the wild-type *RAS* population  
22 compared to the wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 population. These findings support *RAS* testing for  
23 patients with mCRC.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

2 The epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) is overexpressed in colorectal cancer (1), and  
3 plays an important role in cellular proliferation and metastasis in metastatic colorectal cancer  
4 (mCRC) (2). The *RAS* family of small GTPases plays a central role in signaling downstream  
5 from the EGFR (3). Activating mutations in *RAS* can result in persistent signaling in the  
6 absence of ligand binding to the EGFR, and resistance to therapy with the anti-EGFR  
7 monoclonal antibodies panitumumab and cetuximab (3,4). *KRAS* and *NRAS* activation result in  
8 different patterns of intracellular signaling, and mutations in *KRAS* and *NRAS* arise in different  
9 cellular contexts and are not functionally redundant (5). *KRAS* exon 2 mutations are an  
10 established predictive biomarker of lack of response to anti-EGFR therapy in mCRC patients (6-  
11 10). These initial studies evaluated the most commonly occurring mutations in codons 12 and  
12 13 of *KRAS*; predictive value of *KRAS* mutations beyond exon 2 and mutations in other *RAS*  
13 enzymes (such as *NRAS*) were not assessed (6-9). Based on large retrospective analyses (11)  
14 and results from hypothesis-generating studies employing next-generation sequencing  
15 techniques (12,13), analyses of studies evaluating anti-EGFR therapies as first-line therapy for  
16 mCRC demonstrated that additional activating mutations in *KRAS* exons 3, and 4 and *NRAS*  
17 exons 2, 3, and 4 predicted lack of response to panitumumab plus FOLFOX as first-line  
18 treatment (14,15). However, there is limited data evaluating panitumumab in combination with  
19 irinotecan-based therapy by *RAS* status.

20 The primary analysis from the phase 3, randomized, controlled 20050181 study demonstrated a  
21 significant improvement in median progression-free survival (PFS) and a trend toward  
22 improvement in overall survival (OS) with panitumumab plus fluorouracil, leucovorin, and  
23 irinotecan (FOLFIRI) compared with FOLFIRI alone in patients with *KRAS* exon 2 wild-type  
24 mCRC (PFS hazard ratio [HR]=0.73, 95% CI=0.59–0.90;  $P=0.004$ ; OS HR=0.85;  
25 95%CI=0.70–1.04;  $P=0.12$ ) but not in patients with mutated *KRAS* exon 2 mCRC (PFS

- 1 HR=0.85; 95%CI=0.68–1.06; OS HR=0.94; 95%CI=0.76–1.15) (8). This prospective-
- 2 retrospective analysis demonstrated an improved benefit-risk profile of panitumumab plus
- 3 FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone among *RAS* wild-type patients enrolled in the 20050181 study.
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## **METHODS**

### **3 Study Design and Eligibility**

4 This prospective-retrospective analysis used data from an open-label, randomized, multicenter,  
5 phase 3 study comparing the efficacy of panitumumab plus FOLFIRI with FOLFIRI alone in  
6 patients with previously treated mCRC (ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT0039183). The primary analysis  
7 has been described previously (8). PFS and OS in the primary analysis population were the  
8 study's coprimary endpoints. Objective response rate (ORR) was a key secondary endpoint.

### **9 Tumor Specimens**

10 For patients identified as wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 by an investigational-use-only assay in the  
11 primary study (Therascreen® *KRAS* Mutation Kit, Qiagen, Germantown, MD; LightCycler®,  
12 Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, IN), DNA for *RAS* analysis was extracted from banked  
13 formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded patient tumor specimens (DNA Extraction Mini Kit, Qiagen,  
14 Germantown, MD). Specimens containing <50% tumor area were macrodissected.

### **15 Extended *RAS* Analysis**

16 Analysis of *KRAS* exon 3 (codons 59/61) and exon 4 (codons 117/146); *NRAS* exon 2 (codons  
17 12/13), exon 3 (codons 59/61), and exon 4 (codons 117/146); and *BRAF* exon 15 (codon 600)  
18 was performed using gold-standard bidirectional Sanger sequencing and WAVE-based  
19 SURVEYOR® Scan Kits (Transgenomic, Omaha, NE) was performed as previously described  
20 (14). Mutations and analysis methods were prespecified based on previous findings (14,16-19).  
21 The central testing laboratory was blinded to treatment assignment and patient outcome.

### **22 Assessments**

23 Radiographic imaging (computed tomography/magnetic resonance imaging) was performed  
24 every 8 weeks throughout the study. Survival was monitored at 3-month intervals during long-



1 term follow-up. Adverse events (AEs) occurring during the treatment phase and up to 30 days  
2 following the final dose of study drug were recorded and graded according to the NCI-CTCAE  
3 v3.0 with modifications for specified skin and nail toxicities (20). An independent data  
4 monitoring committee oversaw the safety analysis.

## 5 **Statistical Analysis**

6 The statistical analysis plan for this *RAS* analysis was developed after the *KRAS* exon 2  
7 analysis was unblinded but before the *RAS* and *BRAF* mutational analysis was done. Clinical  
8 outcomes were from the primary analysis.

9 The primary objective was to evaluate by *RAS* and *BRAF* status the treatment effect of  
10 panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone on PFS and OS in the primary analysis  
11 population. For the purposes of this analysis, patients were characterized as having *RAS*  
12 mutations if analysis identified any predefined activating mutation in *KRAS* or *NRAS*. Similarly,  
13 patients were characterized as having *RAS* or *BRAF* mutations if any predefined *RAS* or *BRAF*  
14 mutation was detected.

15 Hypothesis testing was exploratory and similar to that employed in extended *RAS* analysis of  
16 the PRIME study (14). A sequential testing scheme evaluated the treatment effect of  
17 panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone on progression free survival followed by a  
18 test of the treatment effects on OS among patients with wild-type *RAS* and wild-type *RAS* and  
19 *BRAF* (5% significance level). Effects of panitumumab on PFS and OS within each biomarker  
20 group were evaluated using log-rank tests stratified by the randomization factors. The  
21 magnitude of the panitumumab treatment effect on OS and PFS was calculated using Cox  
22 proportional hazards models stratified by the randomization factors. All randomized patients  
23 within each biomarker subgroup were included. Tumor response was evaluated per RECIST by  
24 blinded independent central radiology review for patients with  $\geq 1$  unidimensionally measurable

1 lesion (21). Responses were confirmed  $\geq 28$  days after the criteria for response were first met.  
2 Analyses of early tumor response only included those patients with available baseline and week  
3 8 measurements. Differences in early tumor response between groups were evaluated using a  
4 Fisher exact test. For patients with reductions from baseline in tumor size, median depth of  
5 response was calculated as percentage change from baseline to nadir. For patients with tumor  
6 growth or no change in tumor dimensions (ie, with no recorded tumor shrinkage), depth of  
7 response was defined as percentage change from baseline to progression or as missing if the  
8 patient did not have progression. Differences in depth of response were evaluated using a  
9 Wilcoxon test.

10

1

## 2 RESULTS

### 3 Patients

4 Among the 1186 patients randomized, *RAS* status was ascertained in 1014 (85%) patients  
5 (**Figure S1; Table S1**). Among these patients, 421 (42%) had wild-type *RAS* tumors  
6 (panitumumab + FOLFIRI, n=208; FOLFIRI alone, n=213) and 593 (58%) had mutated *RAS*  
7 tumors (panitumumab + FOLFIRI, n=299; FOLFIRI alone, n=294). Among the 597 patients  
8 evaluated as having wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 tumors in the primary analysis, 107 (18%;  
9 panitumumab + FOLFIRI, n=61; FOLFIRI alone, n=46) were found to have other *RAS* mutations  
10 (*KRAS* exons 3/4 or *NRAS*) in this study . Among patients with wild-type *RAS*, 376/421 (89%)  
11 had wild-type *BRAF* and 45/421 (11%) had mutant *BRAF*. Of the 1186 randomized patients,  
12 638 (54%) had mutant *RAS* or mutant *BRAF*.

13 Baseline clinical/demographic characteristics were similar between treatment arms and between  
14 patients with wild-type and mutated *RAS*, and were similar to the baseline demographics in the  
15 wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 population as previously reported (**Table 1**) (8).

### 16 Efficacy Outcomes by Tumor *RAS* Mutation Status

17 For PFS, the HR for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone was 0.73  
18 (95%CI=0.59–0.90; *P*=0.004; **Figure 1A**) in patients with wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 compared with  
19 0.70 (95%CI=0.54–0.91; *P*=0.007; **Figure 1B**) in patients with wild-type *RAS*. Estimated median  
20 PFS was longest in the *RAS* wild-type panitumumab plus FOLFIRI group. For OS, the HR for  
21 panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone more strongly favored panitumumab in the  
22 extended wild-type *RAS* population than in the wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 population (HR=0.81  
23 [95%CI=0.63–1.03]; *P*=0.08 versus HR=0.85 [95%CI=0.70–1.04]; *P*=0.12; **Figures 1C,1D**).  
24 Again, estimated median OS was longest in the *RAS* wild-type panitumumab plus FOLFIRI

1 group. Sensitivity analyses using Branson & Whitehead models (22) and Law methods (23), did  
2 not provide evidence of an influence of post-progression anti-EGFR therapy on OS time.

3 Patients with *RAS* mutations did not derive clinical benefit from panitumumab plus FOLFIRI and  
4 there was no evidence that outcomes were worse or of a negative interaction between the  
5 administered agents. Among patients with wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 but with other *RAS*  
6 mutations, the HR for PFS for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone was 0.89  
7 (95%CI=0.56–1.42;  $P=0.63$ ; **Figure 2A**). Among patients with any *RAS* mutation, the HR for  
8 PFS for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone was 0.86  
9 (95%CI=0.71–1.05;  $P=0.14$ ; **Figure 2B**). Findings were similar for OS (**Figures 2C,D**) in patients  
10 with any *RAS* mutation. Among patients with mutated *KRAS* exon 2, the HR for PFS for  
11 panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI was 0.85 (95%CI=0.68–1.06); for OS the HR was  
12 0.94 (95%CI=0.76–1.15; **Figure 3A**).

13 Quantitative interaction tests for the negative predictive value of *RAS* mutations beyond those in  
14 *KRAS* exon 2 on panitumumab treatment effect were not statistically significant (PFS,  $P=0.37$ ;  
15 OS,  $P=0.93$ ).

### 16 **Efficacy Outcomes by Tumor *BRAF* Mutation Status**

17 *BRAF* mutation status was not predictive of benefit with panitumumab. Among patients with  
18 wild-type *RAS* and wild-type *BRAF* ( $n=376$ ), the HR for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus  
19 FOLFIRI alone was 0.68 (95%CI=0.51–0.90; 6.9 versus 5.5 months;  $P=0.006$ ); similarly, in  
20 patients with wild-type *RAS* and mutated *BRAF* ( $n=45$ ), the HR for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI  
21 versus FOLFIRI alone was 0.69 (95%CI=0.32–1.49; 2.5 versus 1.8 months;  $P=0.34$ ; **Figure 3A**).

22 Similar results were observed for OS: the HR among patients with wild-type *RAS* and wild-type  
23 *BRAF* was 0.83 (95%CI=0.64–1.07; 18.7 versus 15.4 months;  $P=0.15$ ) and the HR among  
24 patients with wild-type *RAS* and mutated *BRAF* was 0.64 (95%CI=0.32–1.28; 4.7 versus 5.7

1 months;  $P=0.20$ ). Irrespective of assigned treatment, the HR for PFS favored patients with wild-  
2 type *BRAF* versus those with mutated *BRAF* (HR=0.28; 95%CI=0.20–0.40; n=421). For OS,  
3 the HR was 0.25 (95%CI=0.18–0.36). The presence of a *BRAF* mutation was associated with  
4 poorer prognosis (**Figure 3B**).

## 5 **Tumor Response**

6 In *KRAS* exon 2 wild-type patients, the ORR was 35% in the panitumumab plus FOLFIRI group  
7 versus 10% in the FOLFIRI alone group, whereas in patients with wild-type *RAS*, the ORR was  
8 41% in the panitumumab plus FOLFIRI group and 10% in the FOLFIRI alone group (**Figure 4**;  
9 **Table S2**). ORR was similar for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI and FOLFIRI alone among  
10 patients with any *RAS* mutation (15% versus 13%; **Table S1**) and for patients with mutated  
11 *KRAS* exon 2 (13% versus 14%, respectively). Median duration of response was 9.3 months for  
12 panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus 7.7 months for FOLFIRI alone (**Figure 4**).

13 Exploratory response assessments were performed to describe the timing and magnitude of  
14 response. For patients with wild-type *RAS*, mean percentage change from baseline in the sum  
15 of longest diameter of target lesions was markedly greater among patients who received  
16 panitumumab (**Figure 4**). Depth of response (assessed by median percentage tumor  
17 shrinkage) was greater with panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone (37% versus  
18 10%;  $P<0.0001$ ; **Figure 4**). Similarly, a greater proportion of wild-type *RAS* patients receiving  
19 panitumumab plus FOLFIRI had a  $\geq 30\%$  change in sum of longest diameter of target lesions  
20 within the first 8 weeks of treatment compared with those receiving FOLFIRI alone (37% versus  
21 7%;  $P<0.0001$ ). Early tumor response and depth of response outcomes were more favorable in  
22 panitumumab-treated wild-type *RAS* patients than panitumumab-treated wild-type *KRAS* exon 2  
23 patients (**Table S3**).

1 **Adverse Events**

2 The types, incidence rates, and severity of AEs were similar in patients with wild-type *RAS* and  
3 mutated *RAS* in the panitumumab plus FOLFIRI arm (**Table 2**). Additionally, the nature and  
4 frequency of incidence of AEs was similar to that previously reported for the wild-type *KRAS*  
5 exon 2 population.(8) The most frequently occurring AEs reported among all patients were  
6 diarrhea, fatigue, and neutropenia. The incidence of hypomagnesemia and skin toxicities were  
7 higher with panitumumab plus FOLFIRI compared with FOLFIRI alone (**Table 2**). In patients  
8 with wild-type *RAS*, 25% in the panitumumab plus FOLFIRI group and 12% in the FOLFIRI  
9 alone group had AEs leading to discontinuation.

10

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2 **DISCUSSION**

3 Routine *KRAS* exon 2 mutation testing has allowed for identification of mCRC patients more  
4 likely to derive benefit from panitumumab. However, a substantial proportion of patients with  
5 wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 mCRC do not respond to panitumumab therapy, and there is potential  
6 for further refinement of patient selection. Results from this prospective-retrospective analysis  
7 provide support for use of this regimen in patients with *RAS* wild-type mCRC. We found  
8 improvements in the treatment effect for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone for  
9 both PFS and OS in the wild-type *RAS* mCRC group compared with the wild-type *KRAS* exon 2  
10 mCRC group. Conversely, patients with *RAS* mutations beyond *KRAS* exon 2 or with any *RAS*  
11 mutation were unlikely to benefit from addition of panitumumab to FOLFIRI. Although there was  
12 a trend toward longer OS among wild-type *KRAS* exon 2/mutated other *RAS* patients (11.3  
13 versus 9.2 months), PFS was similar (3.7 months in both groups), and exclusion of wild-type  
14 *RAS* patients did not alter ORR. Importantly, there was no evidence of worsening of OS or PFS  
15 with panitumumab treatment in the mutated *RAS* group. High *RAS* ascertainment (85%) was a  
16 strength of the study, ensuring the *RAS*-evaluable population was likely representative of the  
17 overall population and allowing for a robust estimate of the proportion (18%) of patients with  
18 wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 tumors harboring other *RAS* mutations.

19 The totality of available evidence supports routine use of *RAS* analysis. For panitumumab, our  
20 results in the second-line setting are consistent with those from a previous prospective-  
21 retrospective *RAS* analysis of the PRIME study (which evaluated panitumumab plus FOLFOX4  
22 versus FOLFOX4 as first-line therapy) (14), a prospective *RAS* analysis of the PEAK study  
23 (which evaluated panitumumab or bevacizumab plus FOLFOX as first-line therapy) (15), and  
24 the original hypothesis-generating analysis of the 408 study (which evaluated panitumumab  
25 monotherapy in patients with chemotherapy-refractory disease) (12,13). The results are also

1 consistent with analysis of two smaller studies that showed improvements in response rate with  
2 *RAS* analysis among patients with chemotherapy-refractory disease receiving panitumumab  
3 plus irinotecan (24) or liver-limited disease receiving neoadjuvant panitumumab plus  
4 FOLFOX/FOLFIRI (25), respectively. Similar results have also been reported in cetuximab  
5 studies. Recent retrospective analyses of studies evaluating first-line FOLFIRI ± cetuximab  
6 [CRYSTAL(26), FIRE-3 (27), and CAPRI-GOIM (28)] or FOLFOX ± cetuximab [OPUS (29)]  
7 demonstrated potential predictive value for *RAS* analysis. In the CALGB/SWOG-80405 study of  
8 first-line FOLFOX/FOLFIRI plus cetuximab or bevacizumab, there appeared to be little if any  
9 improvement in the OS or PFS HR in patients with wild-type *RAS* versus patients with wild-type  
10 *KRAS* exon 2 (30). Notably, *RAS* ascertainment was somewhat lower in the cetuximab studies  
11 particularly CALGB/SWOG-80405 (CRYSTAL, 69%; OPUS, 75%; FIRE-3, 77%;  
12 CALGB/SWOG-80405, 55%; and CAPRI-GOIM, 54%). The distribution of additional *RAS*  
13 mutations by chemotherapy backbone in CALGB/SWOG-80405 and interaction testing have yet  
14 to be reported. This and the low *RAS* ascertainment limit interpretation of the results. Overall,  
15 results from panitumumab and cetuximab studies indicate that patients with *RAS* mutant mCRC  
16 are unlikely to benefit from anti-EGFR therapy irrespective of chemotherapy or line of therapy.

17 These results strongly support routine *RAS* analysis in mCRC. Testing for *RAS* mutations  
18 beyond *KRAS* exon 2 better predicts response to treatment and improves patient selection,  
19 thereby sparing patients who are unlikely to respond potential toxicities associated with anti-  
20 EGFR therapy. Rates of *RAS* mutation beyond *KRAS* exon 2 from 10–26% (14,15,29,31-33)  
21 have been reported in recent studies using technologies including pyrosequencing and  
22 BEAMing. NCCN (34,35), ESMO (36), and the European Society of Pathology (35) recommend  
23 *KRAS/NRAS* genotyping for patients with mCRC, and the Association of Clinical Pathologists  
24 Molecular Pathology and Diagnostics Group has issued a guidance document describing *RAS*



1 testing requirements in the UK (37). Consistency and validation of testing techniques and  
2 appropriate timing of their use will be important for clinical application of *RAS* analysis.

3 Patients with *BRAF* mutations had shorter estimated median PFS and OS than *BRAF* wild-type  
4 patients, consistent with previous findings (11,14,33). This difference in prognosis was  
5 independent of patients' *RAS* mutation status or panitumumab treatment. In this study, *BRAF*  
6 mutations did not have clear predictive value and the results do not provide support for *BRAF*  
7 mutation testing to guide anti-EGFR therapy. However, the prognostic information might guide  
8 other clinical decisions. To improve outcomes for these patients, recent studies have evaluated  
9 feasibility of treatment with anti-EGFR antibodies and other targeted agents (38,39).

10 The 41% ORR in the wild-type *RAS* panitumumab group represents one of the highest rates  
11 reported in the second-line setting, and should be considered when selecting second-line  
12 therapy. Evaluation of other measures of tumor response may inform clinical decision-making  
13 (although such measures require further prospective confirmation) (40). Depth of tumor  
14 response was significantly greater and likelihood of achieving a  $\geq 30\%$  reduction in tumor  
15 dimensions within 8 weeks of treatment was significantly higher in panitumumab patients. Both  
16 outcomes were improved in *RAS* wild-type patients versus *KRAS* exon 2 wild-type patients.  
17 Studies with cetuximab have reported associations between early tumor shrinkage (41) and  
18 depth of tumor response (42) and survival. Whether similar associations between these  
19 measures and survival occur with panitumumab remains to be evaluated.

20 Selecting patients using extended *RAS* analysis did not alter the safety profile of panitumumab.  
21 Consistent with previous studies, toxicities occurring more frequently among panitumumab-  
22 treated patients included skin/nail toxicities and hypomagnesemia. There was no evidence of  
23 negative interactions between panitumumab and irinotecan in patients with *RAS* mutations,  
24 consistent with the CRYSTAL (26) and COIN (43) studies. Poorer OS among *NRAS*-mutant

1 patients receiving panitumumab plus irinotecan versus irinotecan alone was reported in the  
2 PICCOLO study, but these outcomes may have been influenced by the Q3W treatment  
3 schedule employed (44). These data were also in contrast to the results seen in the PRIME  
4 (14) and OPUS (29) studies, in which outcomes were worse with panitumumab or cetuximab in  
5 combination with oxaliplatin-containing therapy (FOLFOX) in patients with *RAS*-mutant tumors,  
6 compared with FOLFOX alone.

7 Key limitations of this study was that *RAS* analysis was exploratory (not defined in the original  
8 study protocol) and that results from the *KRAS* exon 2 analysis were known before this analysis  
9 was initiated. Consequently, the potential for bias exists. However, the biomarker hypothesis  
10 was developed before the mutational analysis was available and was limited to *RAS/BRAF*.  
11 Moreover, tumor specimens and clinical outcome data were derived from a large randomized  
12 phase 3 study, and the high rate of *RAS* ascertainment limited the potential for ascertainment  
13 bias. *RAS* was evaluated using robust, widely available assay procedures. The small number  
14 of patients in some groups limits our ability to draw conclusions regarding outcomes. A variety  
15 of confounding factors (eg, post-progression therapy) might have limited our ability to detect  
16 improvement in OS.

17 Results from this study provide compelling evidence for panitumumab plus irinotecan-based  
18 therapy as an important second-line therapy for *RAS* wild-type patients supported by phase 3  
19 evidence. Exclusion of patients with *RAS* mutations improved the benefit-risk profile of  
20 panitumumab plus FOLFIRI in this setting. The totality of evidence supporting *RAS* analysis  
21 supports use of these analytical techniques in upfront testing. A recent meta-analysis of 9  
22 panitumumab and cetuximab studies found improvements in outcomes with extended *RAS*  
23 analysis (45). Patient-level meta-analyses across randomized studies (including this study,  
24 PRIME (14), PEAK (15), the 408 study (12,13), and ongoing 0007 study [ClinicalTrials.gov,

- 1 NCT01412957], and studies in which patients received bevacizumab) may provide increased
- 2 statistical power for evaluation of *RAS* analysis.

3

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Extended RAS mutations and anti-EGFR monoclonal antibody survival benefit in metastatic colorectal cancer: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *Ann Oncol* 2014;26:13-21.

## TABLES

Table 1. Baseline Demographic and Clinical Characteristics by RAS Status

Characteristic	Wild-Type RAS		Mutated RAS	
	Panitumumab + FOLFIRI (N=208)	FOLFIRI Alone (N=213)	Panitumumab + FOLFIRI (N=299)	FOLFIRI Alone (N=294)
Men	136 (65)	140 (66)	165 (55)	177 (60)
Median (range) age, y	60 (28–81)	60 (33–85)	61 (29–84)	64 (29–86)
Race, white	203 (98)	202 (95)	284 (95)	283 (96)
ECOG performance status 0–1	196 (94)	198 (93)	284 (95)	275 (94)
Region				
Western EU, Canada, Australia	135 (65)	139 (65)	184 (62)	182 (62)
Rest of world	72 (35)	74 (35)	115 (38)	112 (38)
Primary tumor type				
Colon	119 (57)	148 (69)	201 (67)	186 (63)
Rectal	89 (43)	65 (31)	98 (33)	108 (37)
Sites of metastatic disease				
Liver only	37 (18)	49 (23)	46 (15)	40 (14)
Liver plus other	140 (67)	134 (63)	213 (71)	204 (69)
Subsequent therapies				
Bevacizumab	21 (10)	25 (12)	39 (13)	30 (10)
EGFR mAb	21 (10)	68 (32)	24 (8)	91 (31)
Oxaliplatin, irinotecan, or FU	93 (45)	107 (50)	138 (46)	151 (51)

Data presented as n (%) unless otherwise noted.

Panitumumab-FOLFIRI and *RAS* mutations

ECOG=Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; EGFR=epidermal growth factor receptor; EU=European Union; FOLFIRI=fluorouracil, leucovorin, and irinotecan; FU=fluorouracil; mAb=monoclonal antibody.

**Table 2. Summary of Adverse Events by RAS Status**

Adverse Event, n (%)	Wild-Type RAS		Mutated RAS	
	Panitumumab + FOLFIRI (N=207)	FOLFIRI Alone (N=213)	Panitumumab + FOLFIRI (N=298)	FOLFIRI Alone (N=292)
Any AE	207 (100)	211 (99)	296 (99)	281 (96)
Worst grade of 3	114 (55)	78 (37)	137 (46)	100 (34)
Worst grade of 4	41 (20)	35 (16)	50 (17)	44 (15)
Worst grade of 5	8 (4)	13 (6)	21 (7)	17 (6)
Serious AE	94 (45)	67 (31)	110 (37)	90 (31)
AEs occurring in ≥20% of patients in either treatment arm				
Diarrhea	142 (69)	122 (57)	181 (61)	167 (57)
Fatigue	81 (39)	69 (32)	102 (34)	104 (36)
Neutropenia	79 (38)	87 (41)	95 (32)	97 (33)
Hypomagnesemia	61 (29)	5 (2)	47 (16)	6 (2)
Vomiting	59 (29)	62 (29)	82 (28)	84 (29)
Dermatitis acneiform	57 (28)	2 (1)	71 (24)	1 (0)
Anorexia	56 (27)	34 (16)	71 (24)	49 (17)
Abdominal pain	54 (26)	41 (19)	50 (17)	61 (21)
Stomatitis	54 (26)	28 (13)	62 (21)	38 (13)
Alopecia	51 (25)	48 (23)	54 (18)	78 (27)
Constipation	49 (24)	46 (22)	75 (25)	65 (22)
Dry skin	46 (22)	11 (5)	65 (22)	10 (3)
Paronychia	46 (22)	0	40 (13)	2 (1)
Pruritus	42 (20)	9 (4)	47 (16)	8 (3)
Pyrexia	41 (20)	42 (20)	61 (20)	49 (17)
Skin fissures	41 (20)	1 (0)	41 (14)	2 (1)
Mucosal inflammation	39 (19)	30 (14)	67 (22)	36 (12)
Anemia	37 (18)	49 (23)	36 (12)	45 (15)

AE=adverse event; FOLFIRI=fluorouracil, leucovorin, and irinotecan.

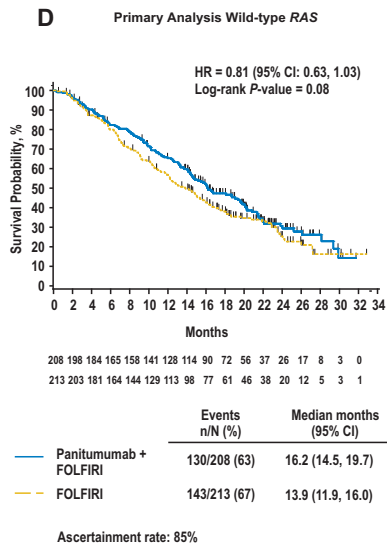
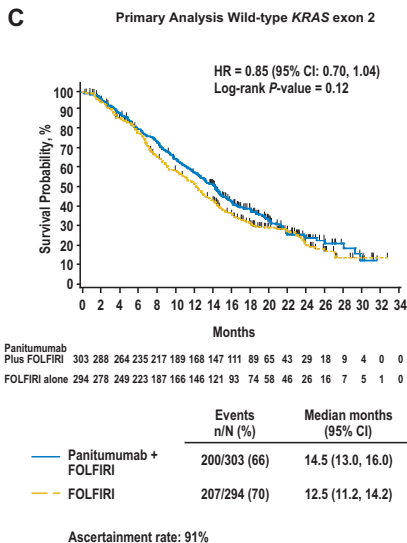
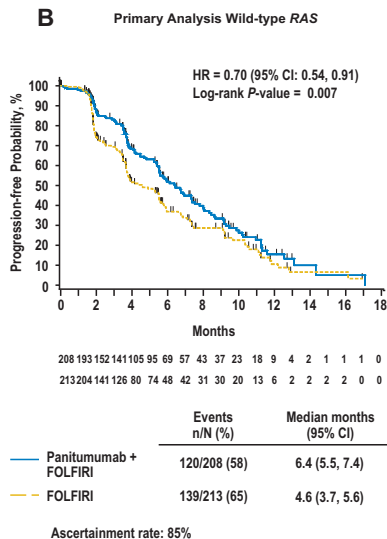
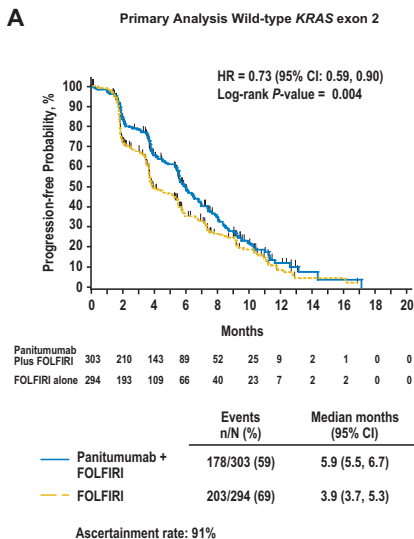
## FIGURE LEGENDS

- Figure 1.** PFS and OS among patients with wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 and among patients with wild-type extended *RAS*. FOLFIRI=fluorouracil, leucovorin, and irinotecan; HR=hazard ratio; OS=overall survival; PFS=progression-free survival; WT=wild-type.
- Figure 2.** PFS and OS among patients with wild-type *KRAS* exon 2 and another *RAS* mutation and among patients with any *RAS* mutation. FOLFIRI=fluorouracil, leucovorin, and irinotecan; HR=hazard ratio; MT=mutated; OS=overall survival; PFS=progression-free survival; WT=wild-type.
- Figure 3.** (A) Hazard ratios for PFS and OS for panitumumab plus FOLFIRI versus FOLFIRI alone by *KRAS* and *RAS* mutation status. (B) Hazard ratios for PFS and OS for wild-type and mutated *BRAF*. \*PFS by central assessment. FOLFIRI=fluorouracil, leucovorin, and irinotecan; HR=hazard ratio; MT=mutated; OS=overall survival; PFS=progression-free survival; Pmab=panitumumab; WT=wild-type.

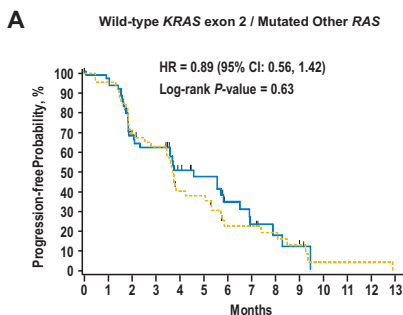
**Figure 4** (A) Mean (95% CI) percentage change from baseline in sum of longest diameters for patients with wild-type *RAS*. (B) Objective response rate, duration of response, depth of response, and association between early tumor shrinkage and PFS/OS in patients with wild-type *RAS*. Duration of response was defined as the time from first confirmed objective response to disease progression per RECIST. \*Percent tumor shrinkage from baseline; positive values indicate reduction in tumor size, whereas negative values indicate an increase in tumor size; *P*-value for difference between arms determined by Wilcoxon test. †Evaluated for patients with baseline and week 8 tumor measurements; *P*-value for difference between groups within the contingency table determined by Fisher's exact test. FOLFIRI=fluorouracil, leucovorin, and irinotecan.



# Figure 1

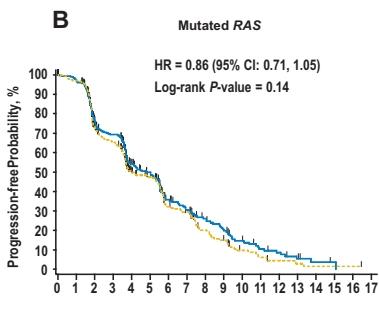


# Figure 2



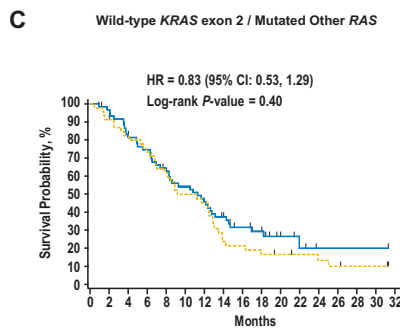
Panitumumab Plus FOLFIRI	61	55	34	30	19	15	9	6	3	2	0	0	0	0
FOLFIRI alone	46	44	32	28	17	16	8	7	6	4	1	1	1	0

	Events n/N (%)	Median months (95% CI)
— Panitumumab + FOLFIRI	37/61 (61)	3.7 (2.3, 5.8)
- - FOLFIRI	40/46 (87)	3.7 (2.8, 5.1)



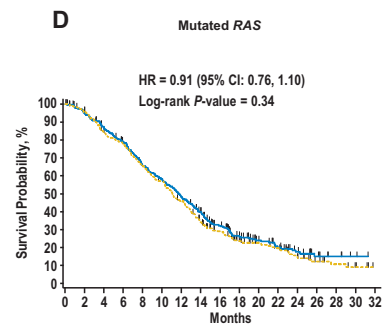
Panitumumab Plus FOLFIRI	299	273	199	175	119	104	63	51	39	30	19	12	9	5	2	1	0	0
FOLFIRI alone	294	264	178	154	105	94	58	51	31	23	11	7	3	2	1	1	1	0

	Events n/N (%)	Median months (95% CI)
— Panitumumab + FOLFIRI	199/299 (67)	4.8 (3.7, 5.5)
- - FOLFIRI	201/294 (68)	4.0 (3.6, 5.5)



Panitumumab Plus FOLFIRI	61	57	49	44	37	32	27	21	15	12	6	3	1	1	1	1	0
FOLFIRI alone	46	42	37	32	26	21	19	10	9	7	6	5	4	3	2	2	0

	Events n/N (%)	Median months (95% CI)
— Panitumumab + FOLFIRI	43/61 (70)	11.3 (8.3, 13.1)
- - FOLFIRI	38/46 (83)	9.2 (7.0, 12.9)

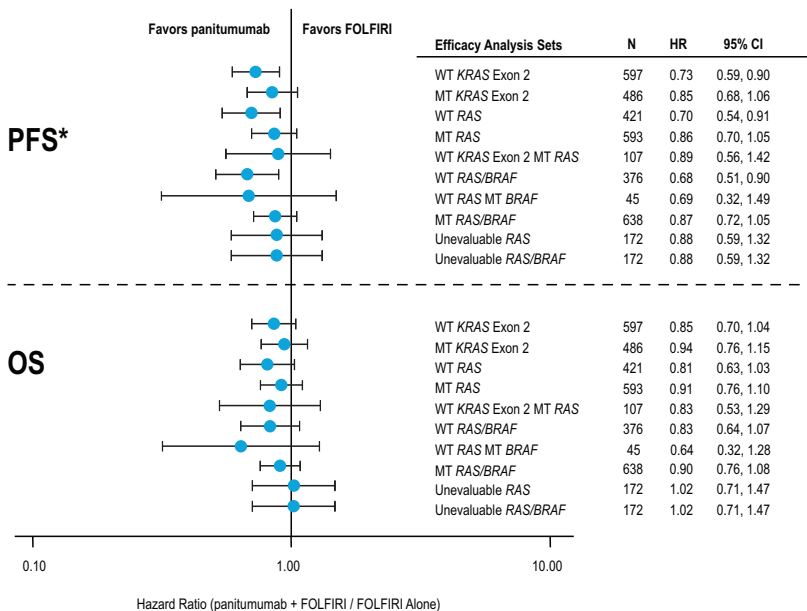


Panitumumab Plus FOLFIRI	299	281	256	228	190	168	139	111	80	57	40	29	20	10	5	2	0
FOLFIRI alone	294	277	240	221	185	160	127	92	70	50	39	32	20	11	7	4	0

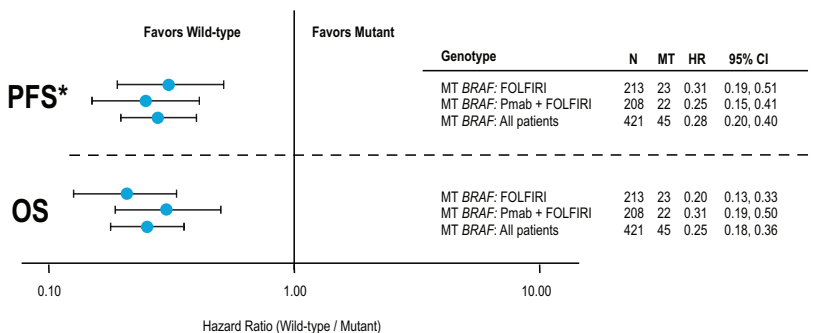
	Events n/N (%)	Median months (95% CI)
— Panitumumab + FOLFIRI	224/299 (75)	11.8 (10.4, 13.1)
- - FOLFIRI	231/294 (79)	11.1 (10.2, 12.4)

# Figure 3

## A

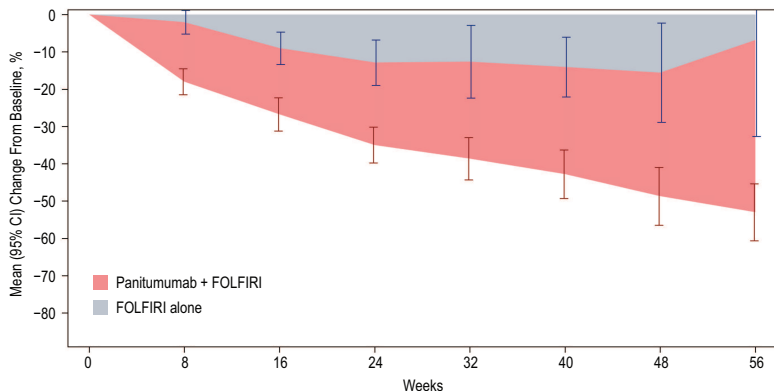


## B



# Figure 4

## A



Panitumumab + FOLFIRI	203	181	143	112	77	63	42	28
FOLFIRI alone	204	180	126	88	53	33	20	12

## B

	Panitumumab + FOLFIRI		FOLFIRI Alone	
Wild-type <i>KRAS</i> exon 2, n	297		285	
Objective response rate, n (%)	105 (35)		28 (10)	
95% CI	30-41		7-14	
Median duration of response, mo (95% CI)	7.6 (6.7-9.4)		6.6 (5.7-10.4)	
Wild-type <i>RAS</i> , n	204		207	
Objective response rate, n (%)	83 (41)		21 (10)	
95% CI	34-48		6-15	
Median duration of response, mo (95% CI)	7.7 (6.7-9.9)		9.3 (6.1-12.8)	
Depth of response*, n	177		172	
Median (interquartile range) tumor shrinkage, %	37 (13-56)		10 (-5-26)	
<i>P</i>	<0.0001			
Tumor shrinkage within first 8 weeks for wild-type <i>RAS</i> patients <sup>†</sup>	<30%	≥30%	<30%	≥30%
Patients, n (%)	114 (63)	67 (37)	168 (93)	12 (7)
<i>P</i>	<0.0001			