Multidisciplinary management of brain metastases arising from breast cancer

#### Timothy M. Zagar, MD Carey Anders, MD

University of North Carolina Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center Chapel Hill, NC





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#### **Overview**

- Background
- What are brain metastases?
- What prognostic factors are important?
- What are the best treatment options?
  - Surgery, whole brain radiation, radiosurgery, chemotherapy
- Future directions

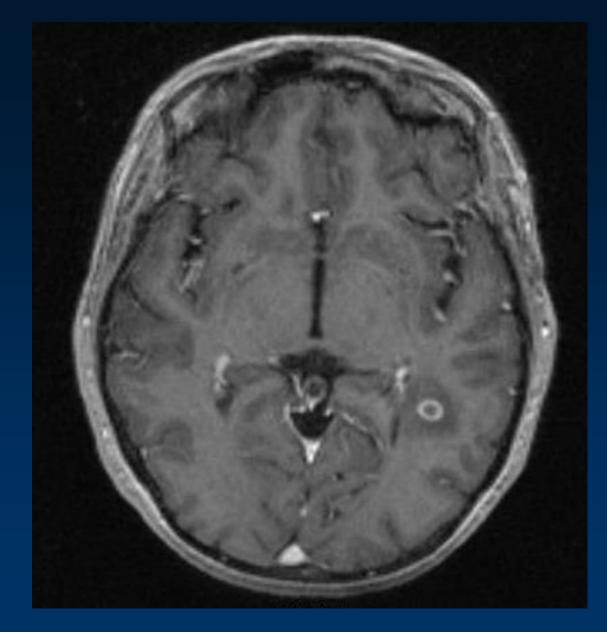




# Breast cancer Brain Metastases: Challenges faced...

- Devastating, feared and increasingly common consequence of breast cancer
  - Incidence 30% Her2+<sup>1</sup>, 50% triple negative<sup>2</sup> advanced BC
- Blood brain barrier limits exposure to chemotherapy
- Until recently, preclinical model systems were scarce
- Clinical trials frequently exclude patients with CNS disease
  - Trials specifically targeting patients with brain metastases few





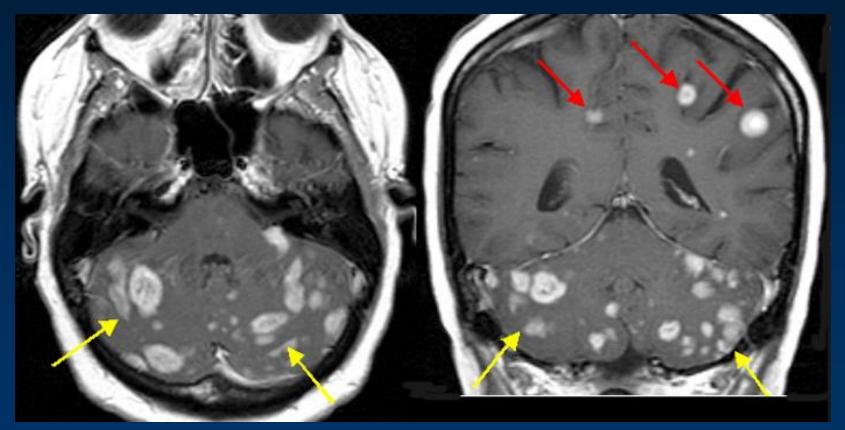
What is a brain metastasis?

Aka brain met





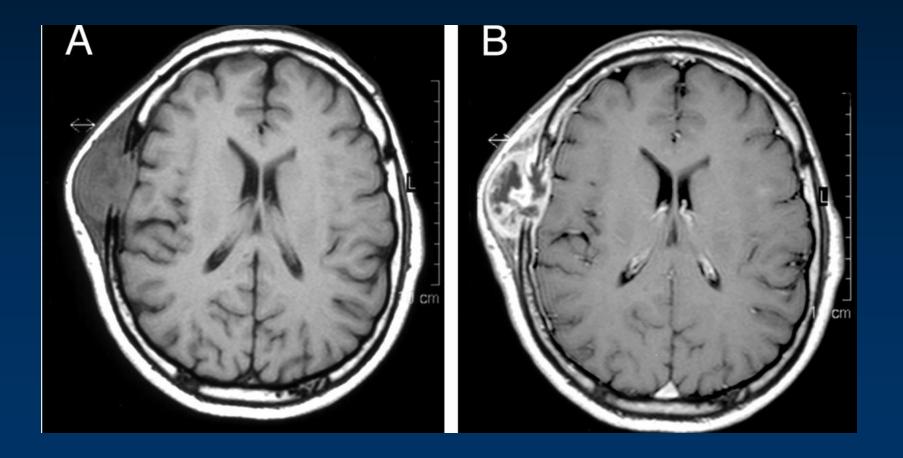
# Not all brain mets are created equal







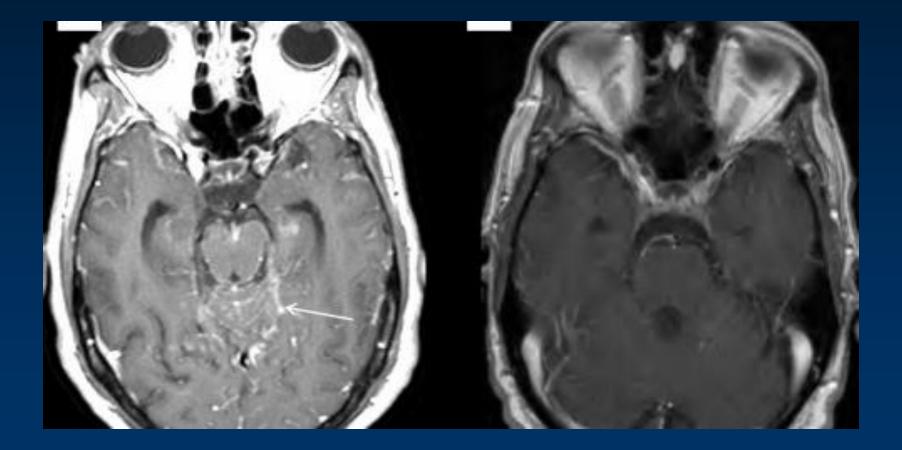
#### Bone metastasis, not brain







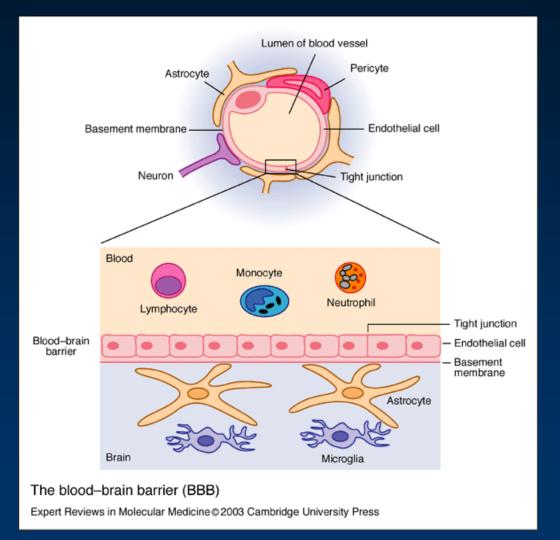
#### Leptomeningeal spread







#### The Blood Brain Barrier



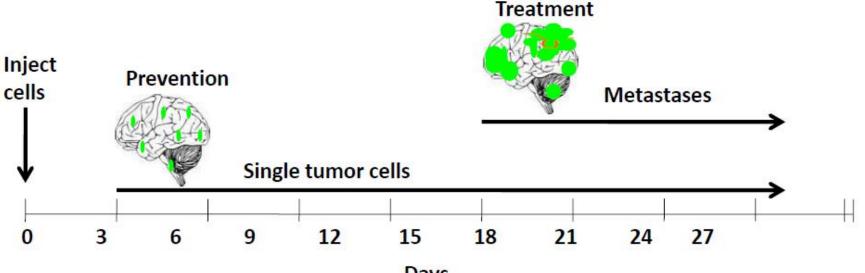




#### 231-BR Brain Metastasis Models for Preclinical Drug Testing

- Intracardiac Injection
- 4 week assay
- Count micrometastases and large metastases





Days

#### **Endpoints:**

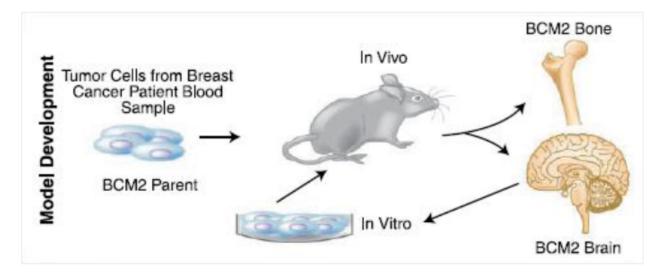
- Prevention Prevent development of brain metastases
- Treatment Shrink or stabilize size of already developed metastases - Similar to most clinical trials

Slide courtesy of P. Steeg, PhD





#### Intracranial Triple Negative Breast Cancer Murine Model



Successive rounds of culture → reinjection of brain metastasis cells → sublines of breast cancer cell lines that hone to CNS/bone

#### MDA-MB-231 (Br) and (Bo)

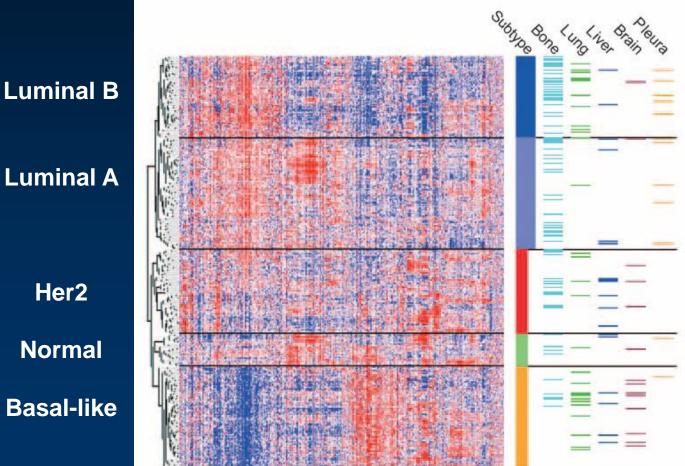
Kim et al. Clin Exp Metastasis, 2004

Yoneda et al. J Bone Min Res, 2001





#### Subtype-Specific Patterns of Metastases





**Basal-like** 





# Breast cancer brain mets ≠ other cancer brain mets

 Most of the data in brain metastases is from patients with ALL types of cancer→breast patients are clearly different than lung cancer patients for example

Extrapolating data from old trials is a problem





### Other prognostic factors

- Age
- Performance status
- Status of other disease outside the brain
- Number of brain metastases





### Symptoms

- Headache
- Focal neurologic dysfunction
  - E.g. Weakness on one side
- Cognitive dysfunction
  - "not myself," problems concentrating
- Stroke
- Seizures





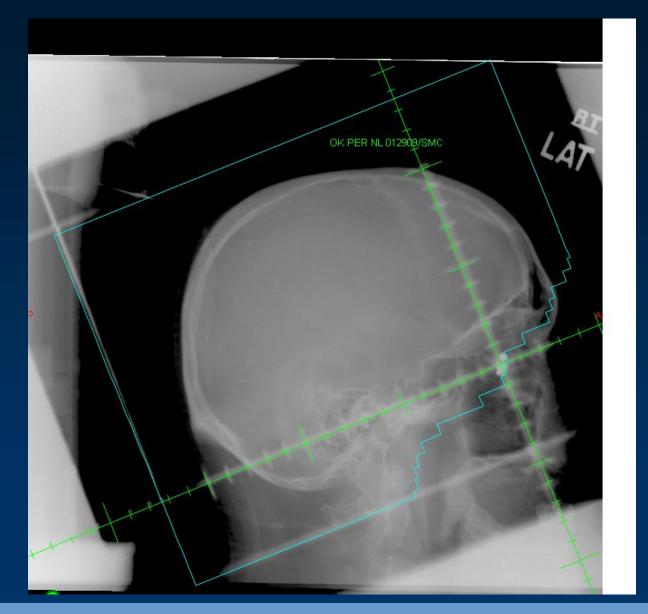
#### What are treatment options?

- Supportive care
  - Steroids
  - Antiepileptics
- Whole Brain Radiation Therapy (WBRT)
- Local Therapy
  - Surgical Resection
  - Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS)
- Combination of Local Therapy and WBRT
  - Surgery followed by WBRT or SRS
  - WBRT followed by Surgery or SRS
  - SRS followed by WBRT
- Systemic Therapy (Chemotherapy, Targeted Agents)





#### Whole brain radiation







#### Whole brain radiation

- Treats the whole brain, not just the diseased areas
  - decreases chances of developing new areas
- Sounds good, right?





#### Whole brain radiation

- FATIGUE
- Hair loss

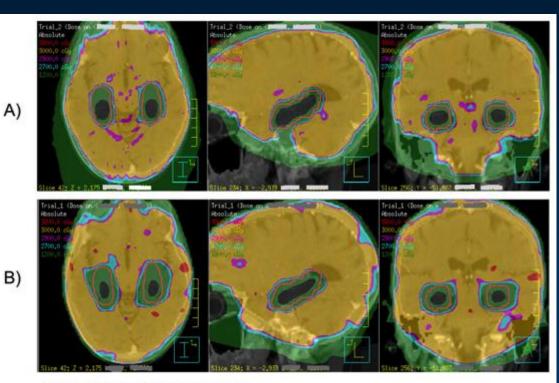
Neurocognitive dysfunction

 Trouble with short term memory
 In old days→Alzheimer's like dementia
 Namenda (memantine)?





Preservation of Memory With Conformal Avoidance of the Hippocampal Neural Stem-Cell Compartment During Whole-Brain Radiotherapy for Brain Metastases (RTOG 0933): A Phase II Multi-Institutional Trial



Gray shade: Hippocampus Orange contour: Hippocampal avoidance region

- N=113
- 3000 cGy
- 4 months Hopkins Verbal Learning Test-Revised Delayed recall
- 7% decline, better than historical data



J Clin Oncol 32:3810-3816.



Is there a radiation alternative to whole brain radiation?

• The answer is "yes"...

In select cases





### Radiosurgery

## CyberKnife for brain metastases







### High dose: 1 to 5 fractions

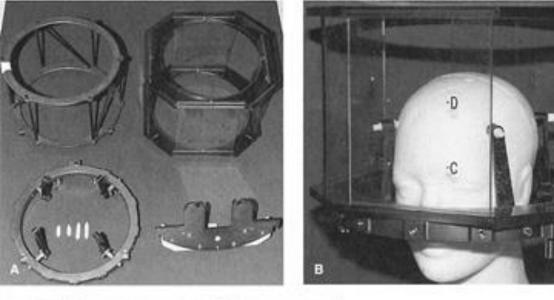
 Radiosurgery delivers high radiation doses to precise locations

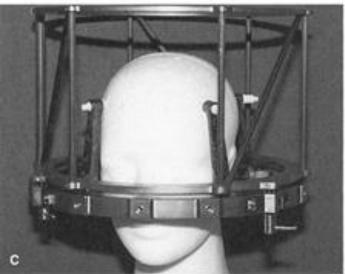
 Accomplished with advanced technology



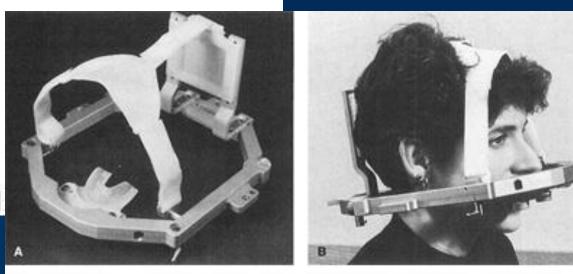








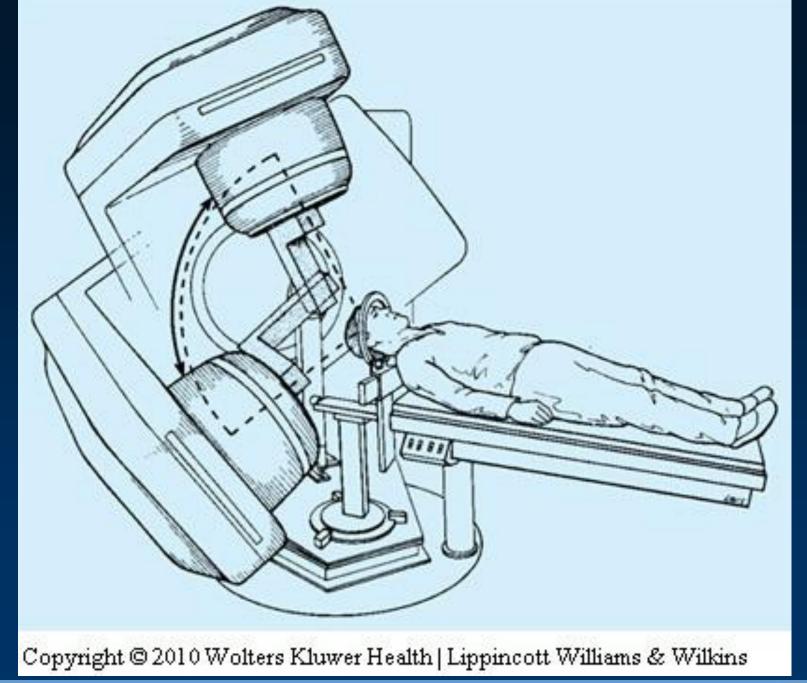
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#### CyberKnife

• Deliver radiosurgery accuracy without requiring the harsh restraints







#### CyberKnife

- The CK is built on a KUKA robot
- This gives great flexibility in beam direction

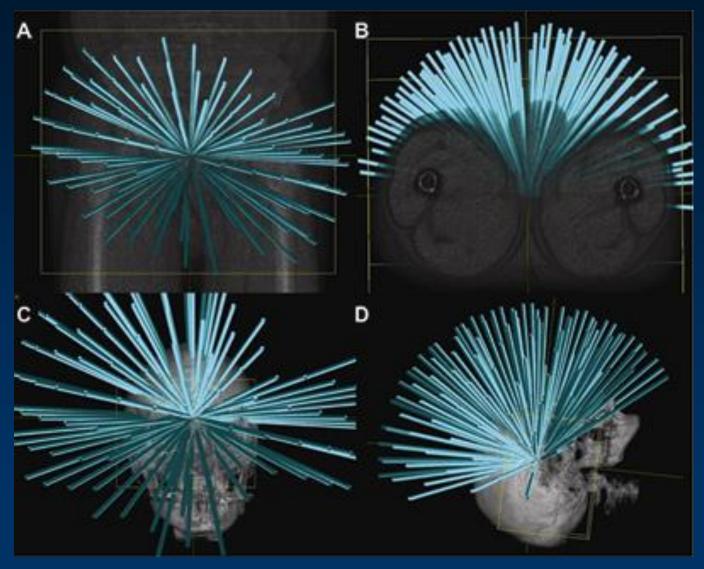








#### Lots o' beams







### CyberKnife

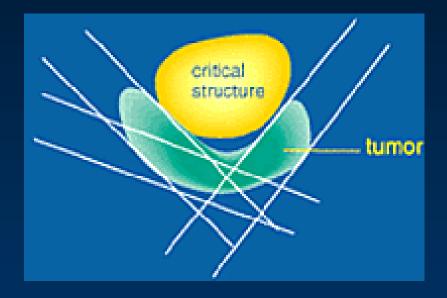






#### Dose conformality

- This allows great flexibility in beam direction
- Improved conformality becomes possible
- Less "normal" brain treated→less neurocognitive decline (we think)







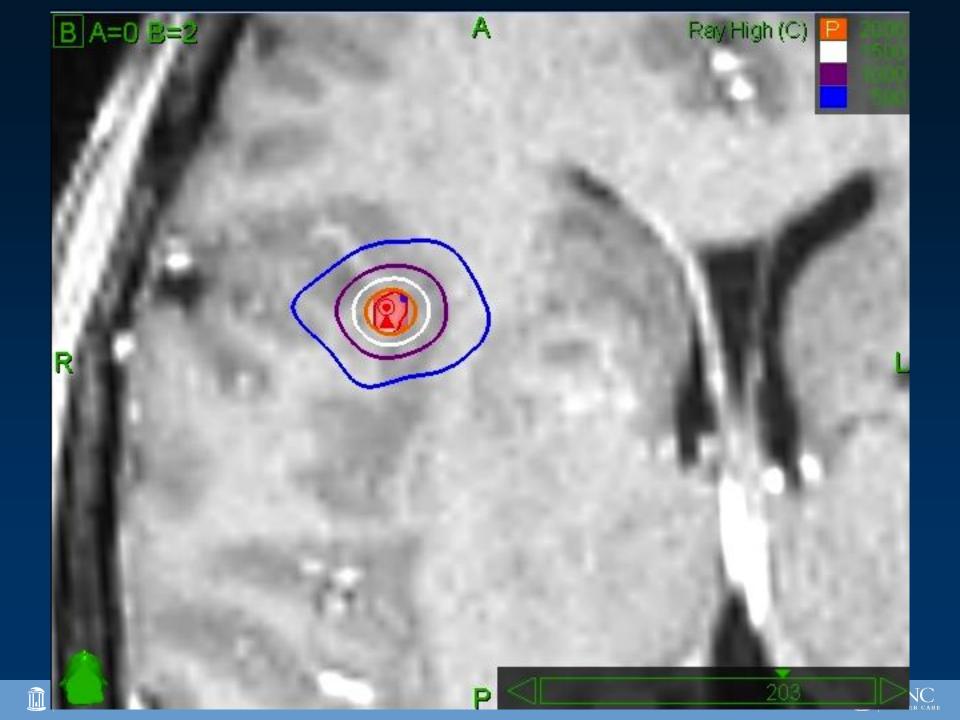
### Radiosurgery

- Less fatigue
- Usually no hair loss
- Often can go on to receive chemotherapy faster than after whole brain radiation

 Risk of radiation necrosis requiring neurosurgery







#### CyberKnife Treatment Planning







#### Conclusions

 CyberKnife delivers high doses with sub-millimeter accuracy to patients

Only light patient immobilization

 Sounds great...so why doesn't everyone get it?





#### Radiosurgery drawbacks

- Can only do for a "few" metastases

   Risk of radiation necrosis increases the more you treat
- CyberKnife (or any other method of delivering radiosurgery) only works where we point it

 Non-treated areas are still at risk for developing new metastases

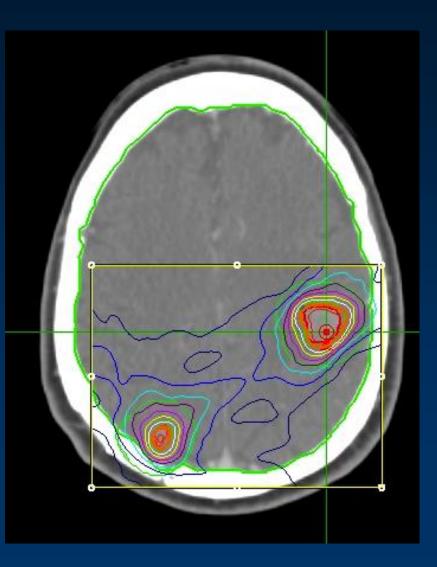




#### More than 1

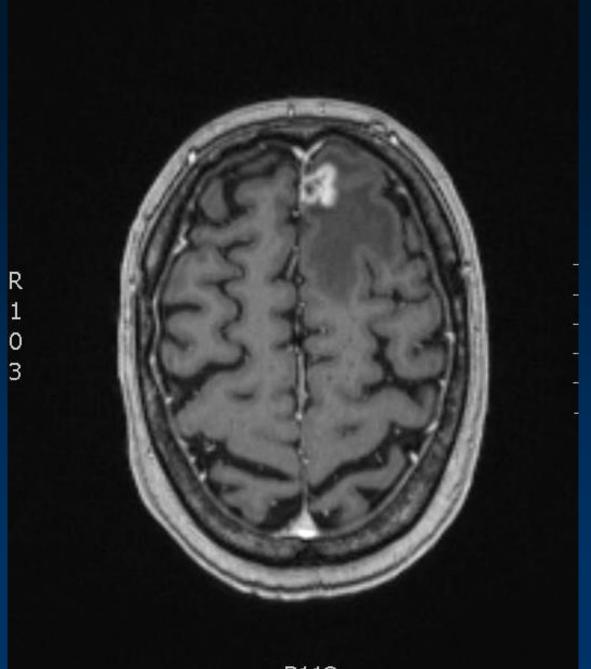
 "Low" dose radiation spill

- The more areas targeted, the more potential for dose overlap
  - Risk of radiation necrosis











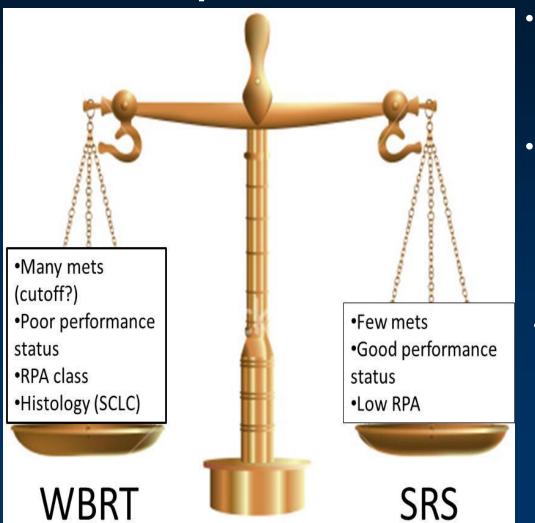




### Radiotherapy Treatment Options

Better
 "distant"
 whole brain
 microscopic
 disease
 control

 Risk of longterm neurotoxicity and side-effects



- Avoid sideeffects of WBRT
- Availability of salvage treatments

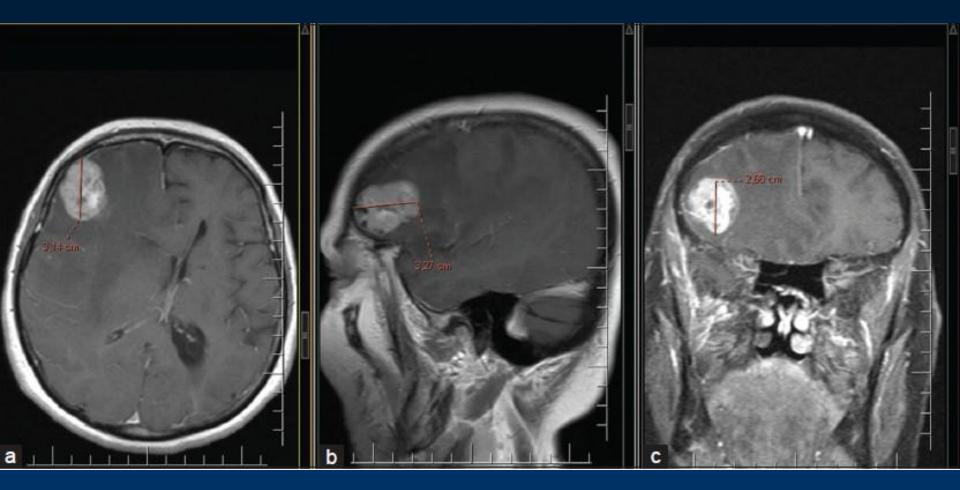
Negative impact of tumor progression

ullet





## Neurosurgery







### What about surgery?

- Often when there is 1 metastasis (rarely 2)
- When symptomatic
- When diagnosis is in question

Not enough—need more treatment after resection





# When do we consider systemic therapy to treat brain metastases?





### Systemic Therapy for Breast Cancer Brain Metastases

- When to consider?
  - Recurrent or progressive CNS disease after surgery and/or radiation
  - In patients with minimal CNS disease in setting of significant systemic disease
  - ?? After SRS alone to delay/avoid need for WBRT
    - No prospective data from clinical trials
  - ?? In the highly motivated, informed patient with newly diagnosed brain metastases and limited CNS disease
    - *No drugs with FDA approval for systemic treatment of brain metastases*





Overview of Systemic Therapies for Breast Cancer Brain Metastases

### Chemotherapy

- Epothilones, Irinotecan/TMZ, Carrier-mediated agents (2B3-101, ANG1005)

### Targeted Agents

- HER2-targeted (namely Lapatinib), Parp Inhibitors (Veliparib), CDK4/6 inhibitors (abemaciclib)

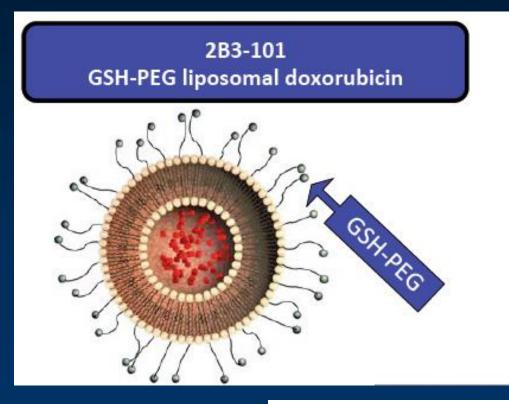
### **Preclinical**

- mTOR, MEK and PI3K inhibitors and beyond!

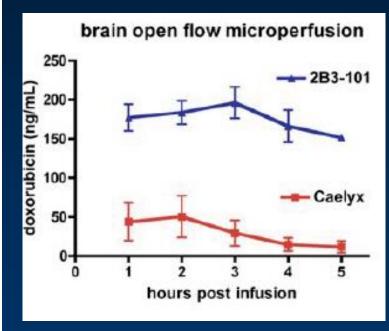




### 2B3-101: PEGylated liposomal anthracycline



#### 5X's greater brain exposure vs. Doxil®



Phase I study completed in Europe Phase II study near completion in the US and Europe

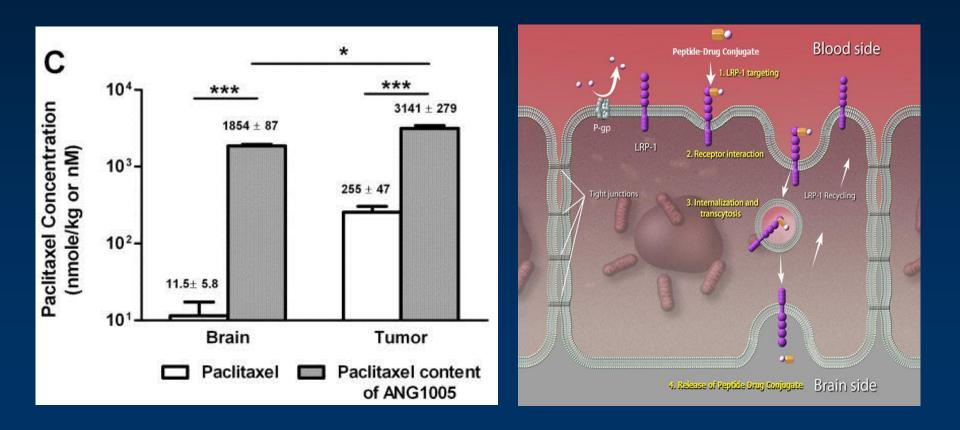


Personal communication, to-BBB 2013



### ANG-1005 (GRN-1005)

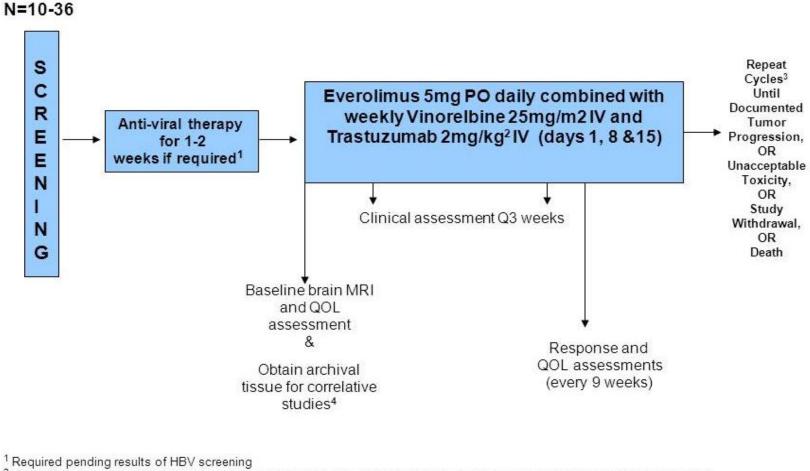
- •Paclitaxel conjugated to Angiopep-2
- •Targets the LRP-1 receptor, located at the BBB and up-regulated in brain tumors
- •Facilitates receptor-mediated transcytosis across BBB



Lin et al. SABCS 2012, Abstr P3-12-04 🏦



# Phase II study of everolimus, navelbine and trastuzumab in HER2+ breast cancer brain metastases



<sup>2</sup> Patients NOT receiving trastuzumab prior to enrollment in the study will receive 4mg/kg as a loading dose on Day 1 of cycle 1 followed by 2 mg/kg weekly for subsequent doses

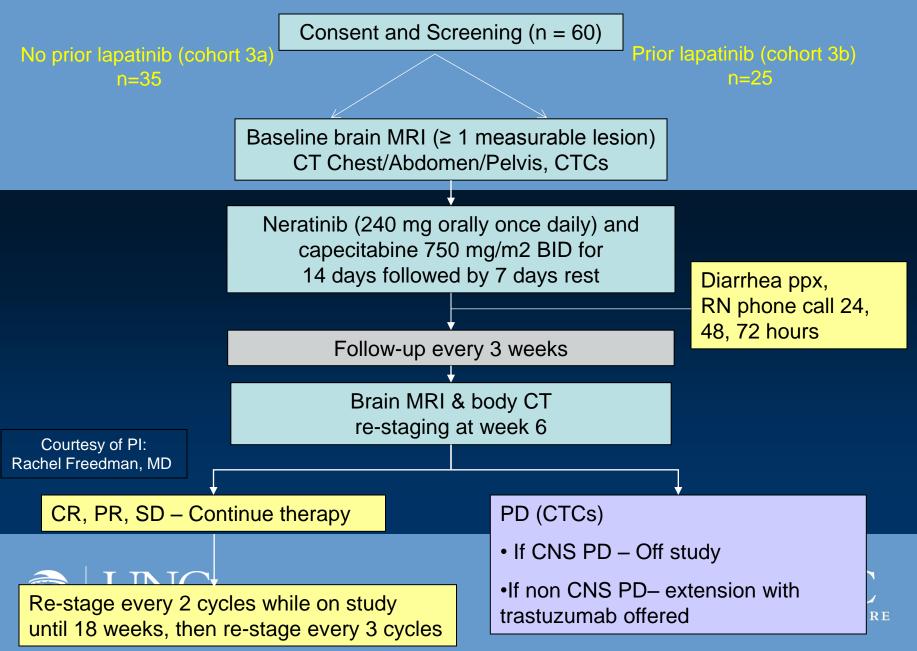
<sup>3</sup> One cycle = 21 days

<sup>4</sup> See Section 7.0 and laboratory manual





### Neratinib in Progressive HER2+ CNS Disease



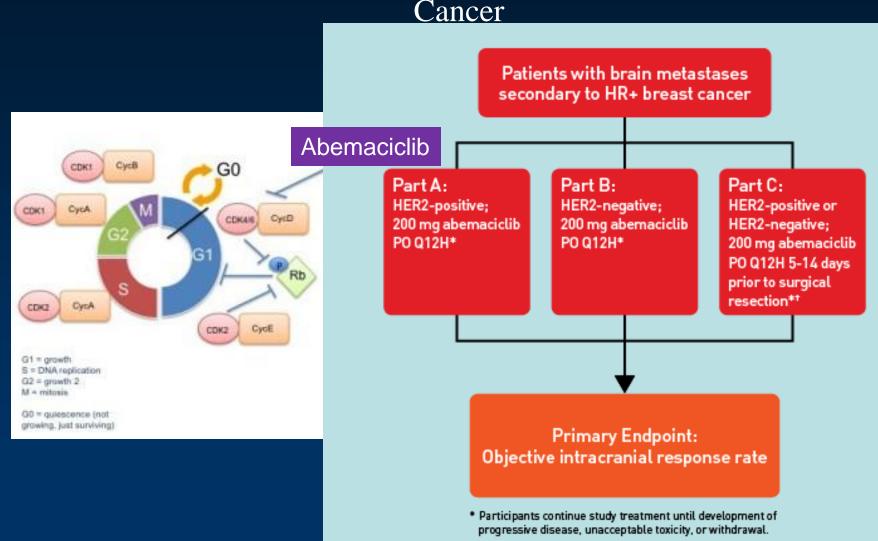
# Other Brain Permeable Her2-targeted agents to keep your eye on....

Drug Name	Company	MOA	Study Status
ARRY-380 (ONT-380)	Array- Biopharma	Selective HER2 inhibitor	Phase Ib (+trastuzumab; + TDM1 )
KD019 (XL-647)	Kadmon Corp.	Multi-targeted TKI; Her2 and Src	Phase I w/ trastuzumab
TDM1 (??)	Genentech	Trastuzumab conjugated to Emtansine	Phase II in development





### A Phase 2 Study of Abemaciclib in Patients With Brain Metastases Secondary to Hormone-Receptor-Positive Breast

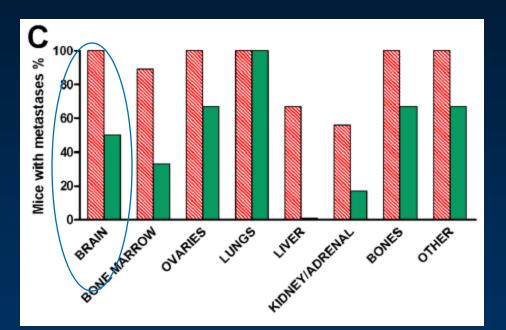


+ Dosing may resume after wound healing period.

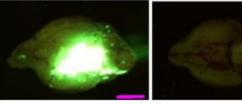




### Preclinical Summary Slide: PI3K, MEK and mTOR inhibition BKM120 (PI3K inhibition)



Vehicle BKM120



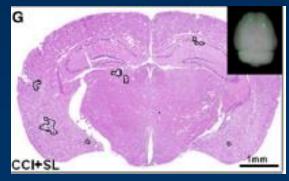
### BRAIN

Nanglet al. PLOS ONE 2012, 7(6), e39626





#### MEKi + mTORi



Zhao et al. BCRT, Marth 2015

### <u>QUESTION:</u>

Can we use systemic therapies to protect un-irradiated brain from metastases following radiation therapy?

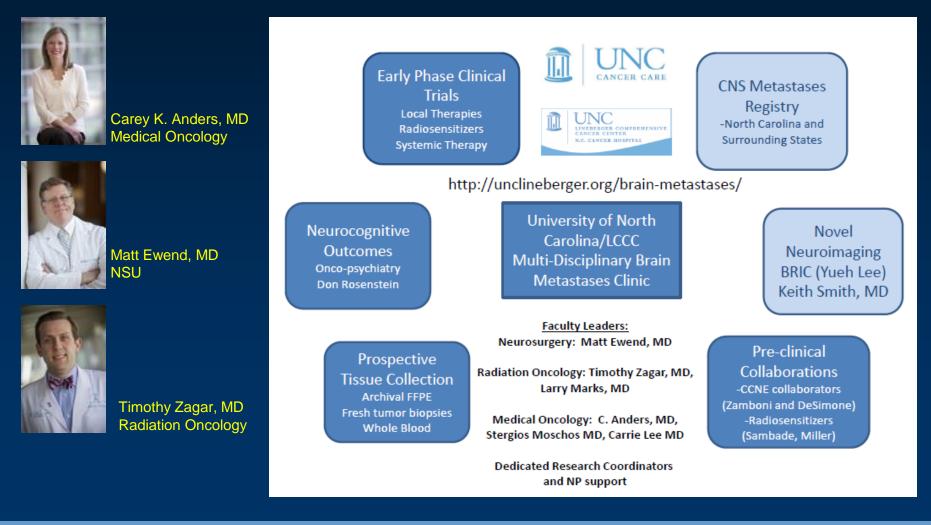
#### THE ROAD TO APPROVAL To clinically validate drugs for preventing metastases, new trial designs are needed to expand on the current phase II trials. CURRENT END POINTS Shrinkage of existing Prevention metastatic lesions of metastasis Adjuvant Phase I Phase II Phase III Regulatory Preclinical Regulatory setting: trial validation trial trial approval phase III approval trial Phase II DETOUR metastasisprevention TRIAL DESIGN Randomize patients to receive a placebo or a potential metastasis-preventive drug in combination with standard-of-care therapy 1. PRIMARY METASTASIS-2. SECONDARY METASTASIS-PREVENTION TRIAL PREVENTION TRIAL EXAMPLE PATIENT GROUPS: EXAMPLE PATIENT GROUP: Treated, limited Aggressive Many positive primary tumour lymph nodes metastatic disease NEW END POINT NEW END POINT Time to the Time to a first metastasis new metastasis

Steeg, Nature 2012



### UNC/LCCC Multi-disciplinary Brain Metastases Specialty Clinic

#### **Co-Directors**





# BCBM Specialty Clinic at UNC Clinic is held every Wednesday morning Radiation Oncology Department in the NCCH Contact: 1-919-445-5295

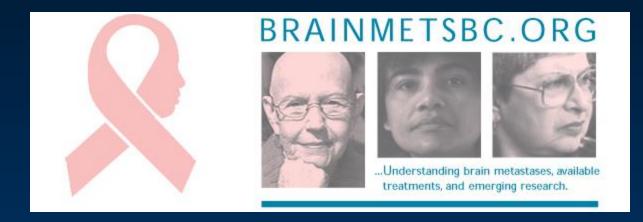
### http://unclineberger.org/brain-metastases







### Resources for patients <u>www.brainmetsbc.org</u>



Invaluable resource which includes information about Brain/CNS metastases, clinical trials, support and stories, ongoing research, scientists and clinicians all determined to make a difference in the treatment of patients with breast cancer and brain metastases.





• Thank you!

Questions?



