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Year: 2017

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**Interim results from the CATNON trial (EORTC study 26053-22054) of  
treatment with concurrent and adjuvant temozolomide for 1p/19q  
non-co-deleted anaplastic glioma: a phase 3, randomised, open-label  
intergroup study**

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DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)31442-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)31442-3)

Posted at the Zurich Open Repository and Archive, University of Zurich

ZORA URL: <https://doi.org/10.5167/uzh-141071>

Journal Article

Accepted Version

Originally published at:

van den Bent, Martin J; Baumert, Brigitta; Erridge, Sara C; et al; Stupp, Roger (2017). Interim results from the CATNON trial (EORTC study 26053-22054) of treatment with concurrent and adjuvant temozolomide for 1p/19q non-co-deleted anaplastic glioma: a phase 3, randomised, open-label intergroup study. *Lancet*, 390(10103):1645-1653.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)31442-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)31442-3)

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3 CONCURRENT AND ADJUVANT TEMOZOLOMIDE FOR 1P/19Q NON-CO-DELETED ANAPLASTIC GLIOMA: INTERIM  
4 RESULTS OF THE RANDOMIZED INTERGROUP CATNON TRIAL (EORTC STUDY 26053-22054).

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6 Running title: Interim analysis of the CATNON trial, a report of the EORTC Brain Tumor Group

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20 In part presented at the ASCO 2016 meeting, June 2016 Chicago, Ill USA

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23  
24 Abstract: 300 words

25 Research in context: 223 words

26 Text incl acknowledgements 3200 words

27 References: 30

Formatiert: Italienisch (Italien)

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Formatiert: Französisch (Frankreich)

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30

31 Research in context

32 Evidence before this study

33 At the time of study initiation, past studies on PCV chemotherapy given after radiotherapy had failed  
34 to produce survival benefit in anaplastic oligodendrogliomas which was assumed to be a  
35 chemotherapy responsive disease. These studies also showed that 1p19q non-co-deleted tumors  
36 have a much worse prognosis compared to 1p/19q co-deleted tumors. At the same time, combined  
37 chemo-irradiation with temozolomide was shown to improve outcome in glioblastoma, which was  
38 considered a relatively chemo-therapy resistant disease. In this latter study, MGMT gene promoter  
39 methylation was found to be predictive of benefit to temozolomide; it remained unclear if both  
40 temozolomide given concurrent with and after ('adjuvant') radiotherapy were required to improve  
41 patient outcome.

42 Added value of this study

43 In a preplanned interim analysis this study shows that 12 cycles of adjuvant temozolomide given  
44 after radiotherapy improve overall and progression free survival in non-1p/19q-codeleted anaplastic  
45 glioma.

46 Implications of all the available evidence

47 Standard of post-care for non-1p/19q1 codeleted anaplastic glioma should now be surgery followed  
48 by radiotherapy and 12 cycles of standard day 1-5 every 4 weeks temozolomide. Ongoing molecular  
49 research within this trial will show whether IDH mutational status and MGMT promoter methylation  
50 can be used to identify the patients benefitting from temozolomide chemotherapy. Further follow-up  
51 of the CATNON trial is necessary to understand if temozolomide given concurrently with  
52 radiotherapy also improves survival.

53

54

55 **Abstract Background, Methods, Findings, Interpretation, and Funding**

56 **Background**

57 The role of temozolomide chemotherapy in newly-diagnosed anaplastic glioma without 1p/19q co-  
58 deletion ('non-co-deleted') is unclear. The CATNON trial investigated the addition of a) concurrent  
59 and b) adjuvant temozolomide chemotherapy to 59.4 Gy of radiotherapy in adult patients with non-  
60 codeleted anaplastic glioma .

61 **Methods**

62 In an open label study with a 2x2 factorial design patients with newly diagnosed non-co-deleted  
63 anaplastic glioma were randomized using minimization technique to either radiotherapy alone,  
64 radiotherapy followed by 12 cycles of adjuvant temozolomide 150-200 mg/m<sup>2</sup> day 1-5 4-weekly,  
65 radiotherapy given concurrent with daily temozolomide 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, or radiotherapy with both  
66 concurrent and adjuvant temozolomide. Patients were stratified for prognostic factors including  
67 centrally assessed O-6-methylguanine-DNA methyltransferase gene promoter methylation status.  
68 The primary endpoint was overall survival (OS) adjusted for stratification factors. The study design  
69 required 748 patients, with a planned interim analysis once 41% (219) of the required events had  
70 occurred and which required a p-value < 0.0084 to reject the null hypothesis. (NCT00626990, EORTC  
71 26053-22054).

72 **Findings**

73 745 patients were included in the interim analysis. The hazard ratio for OS for use of adjuvant  
74 temozolomide was 0.65 (99.145 % confidence interval: 0.45, 0.93) prompting the Independent Data  
75 Monitoring Committee to recommend early release of the data on adjuvant treatment. OS at 5 years  
76 was 55.9% with and 44.1% without adjuvant temozolomide.. Toxicity was mainly hematological and  
77 reversible.

78 **Interpretation**

79 This is the first study to show a survival benefit of temozolomide chemotherapy after radiotherapy in  
80 newly diagnosed non-co-deleted anaplastic glioma. Further follow-up is required for analysis of the  
81 role of concurrent temozolomide and of molecular factors, in particular *isocitrate dehydrogenase*  
82 gene mutations.

83 **Funding**

84 Schering Plough/MSD supported this trial with an unrestricted grant and provided temozolomide; the  
85 trial was further supported by grants from the EORTC Cancer Research Fund, NRG Oncology  
86 Operations, NRG Oncology SDMC, and Cancer Australia.

87

88

89 Introduction

90 The pivotal EORTC trial combining temozolomide with radiotherapy in glioblastoma was the first to  
91 show a statistically significant and clinically meaningful benefit from adding chemotherapy to  
92 radiotherapy in glioma.<sup>1</sup> That study also identified O6-ethylguaninemethyltransferase (MGMT) gene  
93 promoter methylation as a biomarker for increased activity of temozolomide.<sup>2</sup> Concurrently, two  
94 trials in anaplastic oligodendroglioma investigating adjuvant chemotherapy with procarbazine, CCNU  
95 and vincristine (PCV) with radiotherapy failed to show a survival benefit at the time of their first  
96 analysis.<sup>3;4</sup> However, these trials showed a major prognostic effect of the deletion of both the short  
97 arm of chromosome 1 (1p) and the long arm of chromosome 19 (19q), now known as 1p/19q co-  
98 deletion ('co-deleted') and associated previously with increased sensitivity to chemotherapy.<sup>5</sup> Since  
99 tumors without 1p/19q co-deletion are generally less chemo-responsive, we asked whether  
100 combined chemo-radiotherapy with temozolomide would improve outcomes in non-co-deleted  
101 anaplastic gliomas, and also whether it was the concomitant (given during radiotherapy), or the  
102 adjuvant (given after conclusion of radiotherapy) temozolomide treatment which determined any  
103 survival benefit. These questions induced a trial which in a 2 x 2 factorial design randomized patients  
104 with non-co-deleted anaplastic glioma to four study arms: radiotherapy with or without concurrent  
105 temozolomide, and with or without adjuvant temozolomide. Shortly after the end of accrual a  
106 planned interim analysis was conducted. This analysis resulted in the recommendation by the  
107 Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC) to immediately release the data on the addition of  
108 adjuvant temozolomide to radiotherapy. We now report on the outcome of adjuvant treatment  
109 based on the data and events the IDMC reviewed.

110

111 Methods

112 The CATNON intergroup trial was conducted in Australia (Cooperative trials Group for Neuro-  
113 Oncology, COGNO), North America (NRG Oncology, Canadian Clinical Trials Group (CCTG) and Europe



114 (European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), Medical Research Council  
115 (MRC), NeuroOnkologische Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Deutschen Krebsgesellschaft (NOA)).

#### 116 Study design and participants

117 The trial was a phase III, randomized, open-label, 2 x 2 factorial study involving patients with newly  
118 diagnosed anaplastic glioma without 1p/19q co-deletion. Previous surgery for low grade glioma was  
119 allowed, provided histological confirmation of an anaplastic tumor was obtained at progression.  
120 Patients were 18 years or older, with a WHO performance status 0-2, adequate hematological, renal  
121 and liver function, and on a stable or decreasing dose of corticosteroids. Treatment with other  
122 experimental agents was not allowed. Patients were required to start radiotherapy within 7 weeks of  
123 surgery and within 8 days of randomization. All patients gave written informed consent according to  
124 local, national and international guidelines. After stratification for institution, performance status (0  
125 vs >0), age ( $\leq 50$  vs  $> 50$  years of age), 1p loss (yes vs no), the presence of oligodendroglial elements at  
126 microscopy (yes vs no) and MGMT promoter methylation status (methylated vs unmethylated vs  
127 indeterminate) patients were electronically randomized through the EORTC web-based ORTA system  
128 (<http://www.eortc.org/investigators/>).

#### 129 Tumor evaluation

130 At patient registration, tumor material was submitted for pathology review, 1p/19q status  
131 determination, and assessment of MGMT promoter methylation status. Pathology review and central  
132 1p/19q determination were performed separately for North American and European/Australian  
133 patients. After central review of their local 1p/19q testing procedure, dedicated and experienced  
134 European centers were allowed to enroll patients based on the local histological and molecular  
135 diagnosis. For patients from centers requiring central pathology review, confirmation of the diagnosis  
136 of anaplastic glioma was required. For Europe and Australia, 1p/19q status was assessed using  
137 microsatellite analysis; in North America 1p/19q diagnostics were done with fluorescent in situ  
138 hybridization (FISH).<sup>6,7</sup> MGMT promoter methylation was performed by two central laboratories

139 using quantitative PCR as previously described.<sup>8</sup> If MGMT determination was not available in time to  
140 meet radiotherapy timelines, patients were randomized with an 'indeterminate' MGMT methylation  
141 status.

#### 142 Treatment

143 Patients were 1:1:1:1 randomized using the minimization technique to radiotherapy alone,  
144 radiotherapy combined with temozolomide, radiotherapy followed by temozolomide, or  
145 radiotherapy combined with and followed by temozolomide. Radiotherapy consisted of 59.4 Gy in 33  
146 fractions of 1.8 Gy. Whenever possible, target volume definition was based on co-registered pre- or  
147 (ideally) post-operative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). From 2011 onwards, centers were  
148 allowed to use IMRT after additional quality assurance. The radiotherapy gross tumor volume (GTV)  
149 volume was the entire region of high signal intensity on T2 weighted MRI images or FLAIR sequences,  
150 the regions of enhancement, and the tumor resection cavity. A 1.5 to 2.0cm margin (edited for  
151 anatomical barriers) was added to the GTV for microscopic spread, and then 0.5-0.7cm for daily set-  
152 up variability. Planning could be either by 3D-conformal radiotherapy or IMRT and the plan had to  
153 conform to the ICRU 50/62 criteria for target volume coverage, dose normalization and  
154 homogeneity.<sup>9;10</sup> Temozolomide was given daily during radiotherapy (including on non-  
155 radiotherapy weekend days) at a dose of 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for a maximum of 7 weeks. Adjuvant  
156 temozolomide started four weeks after completion of radiotherapy, for a maximum of 12 planned  
157 cycles. Temozolomide was given on days 1-5 every four weeks at a dose of 150 mg/m<sup>2</sup> during the  
158 first cycle with dose escalation to 200 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for subsequent cycles if no or only minimal toxicity was  
159 observed during the first cycle. Dose modifications were made as described elsewhere.<sup>1</sup> Treatment  
160 at progression was left to the discretion of the treating physicians, but temozolomide was suggested  
161 in patients randomized to radiotherapy only. During concomitant chemo-radiotherapy, pneumocystis  
162 jirovecii prophylaxis was mandatory.

#### 163 Assessments

164

165 Patients were reviewed weekly during radiotherapy, four-weekly during adjuvant temozolomide  
166 treatment and every three months after the completion of all therapy. Radiological assessment  
167 used MRI scans at baseline, four weeks after the end of radiotherapy and thereafter every three  
168 months until progression. Following progression, patients were followed up for survival. Progression  
169 was assessed using Macdonald's criteria, incorporating steroid dose and with a description of the  
170 possibility of pseudoprogression.<sup>11</sup> For non-enhancing tumors, progression was defined as a 25%  
171 increase in tumor area defined as the product of the two largest perpendicular diameters. Toxicities  
172 were scored using the National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria for Adverse Events (NCI  
173 CTCAE) version 3.0. For health-related quality of life (HRQoL) analysis, the EORTC QLQ-C30 and BN20  
174 questionnaires were used at baseline and all visits corresponding to MRI imaging.<sup>12</sup> Cognition was  
175 assessed at the same time points using the MiniMental State Examination, and in dedicated centers  
176 with a more comprehensive test battery which was performed annually after the start of  
177 radiotherapy.<sup>13;14</sup> HRQoL and Cognitive assessments will be reported separately.

178 Statistics

179 The study used a 2 by 2 factorial design with overall survival (OS) adjusted by the stratification factors  
180 as the primary endpoint. The study intended to answer two questions:

181 QI: whether OS would be improved by concurrent temozolomide chemotherapy (comparing all  
182 patients receiving radiotherapy alone or radiotherapy followed by adjuvant temozolomide to all  
183 those receiving either radiotherapy and concurrent temozolomide or radiotherapy and concurrent  
184 followed by adjuvant temozolomide)

185 QII: whether OS would be improved by adjuvant temozolomide chemotherapy (comparing all  
186 patients receiving radiotherapy alone and radiotherapy with concurrent temozolomide to all those  
187 receiving radiotherapy followed by adjuvant temozolomide or radiotherapy and concurrent followed  
188 by adjuvant temozolomide)

189 Survival was calculated from the date of randomization to the date of death from any cause.  
190 Secondary endpoints included univariate OS, PFS adjusted for stratification factors, landmark OS and  
191 PFS analyses, HRQoL outcomes, toxicity, and cognition. PFS was defined as the time from  
192 randomization to the date of first progression or death, whichever came first. For all time to event  
193 analyses, patients still alive and not having met the endpoint at the last follow-up visit were  
194 censored. The Kaplan Meier technique was used for the univariate estimates of OS and PFS. For the  
195 primary analysis of OS and PFS, the Cox proportional hazards model was fit with a question indicator  
196 variable (one for each question, QI and QII). Assuming a median survival of 24 months in patients  
197 receiving radiotherapy only and a risk reduction of 0.775 for both concurrent temozolomide and  
198 adjuvant temozolomide (two-sided logrank test), at an overall significance level of 5% and a power of  
199 83%, 523 events were needed and 748 patients were to be recruited. One interim analysis for  
200 efficacy was planned when 41% of the required events (n=219) had been observed. For this analysis,  
201 only the rejection of null hypothesis of no efficacy was considered for both questions; the nominal  
202 significance level for rejecting H0 was taken as 0.0084. To compensate for this interim look, 11  
203 additional events were needed for the final analysis (534 instead of 523).

204 Primary analysis was on the intention-to-treat population defined as all randomized patients in the  
205 arm they were allocated to by randomization. Relative dose intensity (RDI) was calculated as the  
206 administered dose per time as delivered divided by the planned dose per planned time of delivery. In  
207 2011, the study was amended to include a prospective analysis of the efficacy results in relation to  
208 tumor IDH status and to allow iMRT after additional quality control for treatment delivery.

209 Support and study analysis

210 Schering Plough/Merck supported the study by an unrestricted grant and by the provision of  
211 temozolomide but had no role in the data collection, analysis, interpretation, writing of the  
212 manuscript or the decisions to submit . The study protocol was prepared by EORTC, the study  
213 database was developed, housed and analyzed by EORTC. TG, MvdB, BB and MW had access to all

214 data. All authors have reviewed and approved of the manuscript. No writing assistance was provided.  
215 AN, TG, BB and MvdB had the responsibility for the submission of the manuscript.

216

## 217 Results

218 Between December 4, 2007 and September 19, 2015 1407 patients were screened and 748 were  
219 randomized. The required number of events for the interim analysis was observed in May 2015. This  
220 report is based on all data up to May 31, 2015 (clinical cut-off date for the interim analysis), with a  
221 first database lock on August 31, 2015 for the report to the IDMC, and a second lock for the study  
222 report on May 12 2016. At the time of the clinical cut-off date, 1400 patients had been registered  
223 and 745 randomized by 137 institutions in 12 countries (Figure 1). No significant imbalances in  
224 baseline characteristics were observed between the four treatment arms (Table 1). MGMT  
225 methylation status was available for 275 of 745 (37%) patients at randomization and for 550 of 745  
226 (74%) patients at the time of the interim analysis.

## 227 Treatment

228 All patients were treated according to the arm to which they were randomized. All except sixteen  
229 patients completed radiotherapy. Thirty patients did not start adjuvant treatment (figure 1), 21 of  
230 the 188 patients randomized to radiotherapy with concurrent temozolomide and 9 of the 185  
231 patients to radiotherapy alone. RDI of concurrent temozolomide was more than 90% in 89% (312  
232 349) of patients with sufficient treatment information available. The RDI in patients who completed  
233 adjuvant temozolomide was 92%; in 12% (31/262) of patients the RDI was below 70%. Sixty-four  
234 percent (167/262) of patients who completed adjuvant temozolomide had at least one cycle delayed:  
235 28% (74) for hematological toxicity, 6% (16) for non-hematological toxicity, 3% (8) for both and 47%  
236 (123) for non-drug related reasons.

## 237 Toxicity

238 Treatment was generally well tolerated. The most frequent related toxicity was hematological  
239 (supplemental table 1), with 8-12% of patients in the temozolomide-containing arms experiencing  
240 grade 3 or 4 toxicities, most frequently thrombocytopenia (7–9%). Supplemental table 1 summarizes  
241 the most frequent non-hematological grade 3 and 4 toxicities, excluding neurological events. Apart  
242 from constitutional and gastrointestinal toxicities, most toxicities were judged unrelated. Grade 3 or  
243 4 increase in transaminases occurred in 1% of temozolomide treated patients (5:547).

#### 244 Efficacy outcomes

245 With a median follow-up of 27 months, 344 patients (46%) had progressed and 221 patients (30%)  
246 had died: 129 in the arms without adjuvant temozolomide and 92 in the adjuvant temozolomide  
247 arms. The HR [99.145 CI] for the primary endpoint of OS adjusted for stratification factors for the  
248 arms containing adjuvant temozolomide was 0.65 [0.45, 0.93] (Table 2). Figure 2a shows the  
249 univariate OS analysis (HR 0.67, 95% CI 0.51, 0.88). If the methylation status of tumors that became  
250 known after randomization are also considered, the HR [99.145 CI] for adjuvant temozolomide was  
251 0.651 [0.454, 0.934]. Age (under 50 or 50 years and older) was also a highly significant risk factor for  
252 survival (HR 4.0, [2.8, 5.7]). In univariate analysis, PFS was also superior in patients receiving  
253 adjuvant temozolomide (Figure 2b, HR 0.62, 95% CI 0.50, 0.76]). Table 3 shows additional median  
254 and 5 year PFS and OS analyses.

#### 255 Treatment at progression

256 In the non-adjuvant arms, 200 patients progressed, compared with 144 in the adjuvant arms. Details  
257 for treatment given at progression were available for 195 and 143 patents respectively  
258 (supplemental table 2). Of these 338 patients, 303 received some additional treatment, mostly  
259 chemotherapy. Any chemotherapy was given to 143 (73%) in the non-adjuvant and 89 (62%) in the  
260 adjuvant arm, with temozolomide or PCV chemotherapy respectively being given to 82 (42.1%) and  
261 19 (9.7%) in the non-adjuvant arms, and 31 (21.7%) and 20 (14.0%) in the adjuvant arms.  
262 Bevacizumab was administered to 44 patients (22.6%) in the non-adjuvant arms and 38 (26.6%) in

263 the adjuvant arms. (Radio)surgery was used in 18 (9%) of the non-adjuvant arm patients and 9 (6%)  
264 of the adjuvant arm patients.

#### 265 Discussion

266 This planned interim analysis of the CATNON trial showed a statistically significant and clinically  
267 meaningful benefit of adjuvant temozolomide on OS and PFS in non-co-deleted anaplastic glioma,  
268 mandating immediate release of the results. With adjuvant temozolomide, median PFS increased  
269 from 19 to 42.8 months and five-year OS increased from 44% to 56% . The present data do not imply  
270 that concurrent temozolomide does not have a beneficial effect; they only indicate that the interim  
271 analysis for this comparison did not cross the predefined boundaries. Of note, with 30% of patients  
272 having died and 46% having progressed, follow-up is still immature and further follow-up is ongoing.  
273 Nevertheless, the HR observed in the interim analysis is striking, and passing the very strict statistical  
274 boundaries of the preplanned analysis.. With longer follow-up the survival curves diverge more ,  
275 suggesting that with time the OS improvement is likely to increase. More follow-up is needed for  
276 both the answer to the concurrent question and for a more detailed OS analysis.

277 This trial on a molecularly defined subgroup of anaplastic glioma is noteworthy for several reasons.  
278 By allowing only patients without co-deletion of 1p/19q, this is the first trial on glioma which used  
279 molecular criteria for eligibility. This approach was induced by the worse outcome of 1p/19q non-co-  
280 deleted tumors in the PCV trials on anaplastic oligodendroglioma.<sup>3;4</sup> It is also the first trial in WHO  
281 grade II or III glioma with a radiotherapy only group that investigated the addition of temozolomide,  
282 rather than PCV, to radiotherapy.<sup>15-17</sup> The toxicity profiles of PCV and single agent nitrosoureas are  
283 less favorable than that of temozolomide.<sup>18;19</sup>As a consequence, temozolomide has almost  
284 completely replaced PCV in clinical use. However, until now there has been no evidence supporting  
285 the activity temozolomide in the adjuvant setting in diffuse grade II or III glioma; the pivotal  
286 temozolomide trial investigated glioblastoma which represents at the molecular level an entirely  
287 different disease with as a rule no IDH mutations.<sup>1</sup> Although CATNON recruited patients with a less

288 chemotherapy sensitive subset of anaplastic glioma compared to 1p/19q co-deleted glioma,  
289 temozolomide is clearly beneficial. Thirdly, prolonged follow-up was required to show an OS benefit  
290 in trials of adjuvant PCV in low grade glioma and anaplastic oligodendroglioma, with all three trials  
291 showing separation of survival curves only four to six years after randomization.<sup>15-17</sup> Each of these  
292 trials was initially reported as negative for OS, before the impact of early adjuvant PCV on OS was  
293 demonstrated with longer follow-up. Strikingly, in the CATNON trial there is an early separation of  
294 the OS curves which was sufficiently large to be detected in the interim analysis

295 By recruiting only patients without co-deletion of 1p/19q, this trial aimed at a molecularly defined  
296 subgroup of glioma patients ; since then further molecular research has resulted in new basic insight  
297 in glioma. In 2008, key mutations were first identified in IDH1 and IDH2 genes, occurring in 70-80%  
298 of all grade II and III diffuse glioma. These mutations are associated with improved outcomes and are  
299 now the cornerstone of the WHO 2016 classification of glioma.<sup>20-24</sup> In 2011 the study protocol was  
300 therefore amended to incorporate analyses of IDH mutation status; these molecular analyses of their  
301 predictive value for temozolomide efficacy are pending. In view of today's emphasis on IDH  
302 mutations and the large metabolic differences between IDHmt and IDHwt tumors, future trials in  
303 grade II and III glioma should consider only either IDHmt or IDHwt tumors.

304 The results of MGMT testing were not available for 60% of patients at the time of randomization, due  
305 to timelines issues with samples requiring both 1p/19q testing and MGMT testing in a limited  
306 timeframe. However, when considering the MGMT tests that became available post-randomization  
307 the study arms remained well balanced for MGMT promoter methylation. We also note that the  
308 percentage of successfully tested tumors showing MGMT methylation (42%) is lower than  
309 anticipated, being within the range expected in glioblastoma. This may be explained by the use in  
310 this trial of a PCR technique which was optimized for glioblastoma.<sup>8;25</sup> To overcome both this  
311 technical issue and the still modest rate of successful MGMT determination, MGMT promoter  
312 methylation status testing will be repeated using a genome wide methylation platform.<sup>26;27</sup> Both  
313 the presence of IDH mutations and MGMT promoter methylation have been proposed as predictive



314 factors for benefit to chemotherapy. 28 The results of this study that will have enrolled both patients  
315 with IDH mutant and with IDH wild type gliomas with an anticipated difference in prognosis and  
316 sensitivity to outcome will help to decide on this question.

317 The interim analysis of the CATNON trial has shown a similar risk reduction (HR 0.65) in non-co-  
318 deleted anaplastic glioma treated with adjuvant temozolomide to that from adjuvant PCV in the low  
319 grade glioma trial, with an overall HR of 0.59, and HR 0.73 for the subset of astrocytoma (less likely  
320 1p/19q co-deleted).<sup>17</sup> Since the distinction between WHO grade II and III diffuse glioma is subjective  
321 and gradual and these tumors have similar molecular abnormalities, it seems reasonable to consider  
322 adjuvant temozolomide for patients with grade II non-co-deleted diffuse glioma. Furthermore, four  
323 trials now show clear clinical benefits from adding chemotherapy to radiotherapy, whereas two trials  
324 in grade II and III glioma failed to show improved outcome with initial chemotherapy alone compared  
325 to initial radiotherapy alone.<sup>15-17;29;30</sup> With the currently available data, it seems prudent to  
326 extrapolate that treatment with chemotherapy alone will deliver worse OS results compared to initial  
327 treatment with radiotherapy and adjuvant chemotherapy. Another issue relates to the use of 12  
328 cycles adjuvant treatment in this trial, whereas for glioblastoma 6 cycles of adjuvant temozolomide  
329 are advised. This duration of 12 cycles was chosen as half of the patients randomized to the adjuvant  
330 arm would not receive concurrent TMZ, and we specifically wanted sufficient TMZ exposure in the  
331 patients treated with TMZ in adjuvant setting alone. Lastly, the role of concurrent temozolomide  
332 remains to be clarified, at present no evidence based guidance can be given on this part of the  
333 treatment. While concurrent chemo-irradiation with temozolomide improves outcome in  
334 glioblastoma, outcome data on the individual parts of combined treatment (concurrent and  
335 adjuvant) in glioblastoma are lacking.<sup>1</sup> Also, as opposed to the 12 months of adjuvant treatment in  
336 the CATNON trial, the pivotal glioblastoma trial used only 6 months adjuvant treatment. Of note, the  
337 use of concurrent temozolomide with radiation therapy may increase late neurotoxicity, which will  
338 especially be relevant in favorable prognosis patients.

339 To conclude, the preplanned interim analysis of the CATNON trial shows that 12 cycles of adjuvant  
340 temozolomide given after radiotherapy significantly improves OS in 1p/19q non-co-deleted  
341 anaplastic glioma and should now constitute standard care. Further follow-up and tissue studies are  
342 required to establish the efficacy of concurrent temozolomide chemotherapy and the impact of the  
343 molecular signature on outcome.

344

#### 345 Acknowledgements

346 Study support for EORTC by the EORTC Cancer Research Fund; for NRG by NRG grants U10CA180868  
347 (NRG Oncology Operations) and U10CA180822 (NRG Oncology SDMC), and for Australia by Cancer  
348 Australia (Project Grants 1026842 and 1078655)

#### 349 Contributions

350 The study was designed by MVDB, BB, SCE, MAV, AAB, PC, WM, MW, RS, KA, HJD, WNMD, TG, WW.  
351 The data were analyzed and the manuscripts was prepared by MVDB, BB, SE, AAB, AKN, WT, MW,  
352 HJD, WNMD, PW, VG, TG, WW, JMK. All authors provided administrative support and contributed  
353 to the data collection, and approval of the final version of the manuscript.

#### 354 Disclosures authors

355 Dr. van den Bent reports grants from MSD, during the conduct of the study; personal fees from Novartis,  
356 personal fees from BMS, personal fees from Roche, grants and personal fees from Abbvie, personal fees from  
357 Actelion, personal fees from Blue Earth Diagnostics, personal fees from Cavion, personal fees from MSD,  
358 personal fees from Merck Ag, outside the submitted work;

359 Dr. Baumert reports personal fees, non-financial support and other from Noxxon, personal fees and non-  
360 financial support from Roche/Genentech, outside the submitted work;

361 Dr. Vogelbaum reports other from Infuseon Therapeutics, Inc, personal fees from NeuralStem, Inc,  
362 personal fees from Tocagen, personal fees from Medicenna, outside the submitted work;

363 Dr. Nowak reports grants from Astra Zeneca Australia, personal fees from Bayer pharmaceuticals, personal fees  
364 from Roche pharmaceuticals, personal fees from Sellas Life Sciences, personal fees from Aduro pharma,  
365 personal fees from Astra Zeneca, personal fees from Boehringer Ingelheim, outside the submitted work;

366 Dr. Clement reports grants from MSD, outside the submitted work;

367 Dr. Mason reports personal fees from Merck and Co., during the conduct of the study; .

368 Dr. Olivier Chinot reports grants, personal fees and non-financial support from ROCHE, personal fees from  
369 IPSEN, personal fees from SERVIER, personal fees from CELDEX, personal fees from IMMATICS, personal fees  
370 from BMS, outside the submitted work;

371 Dr. Weller reports grants from MSD, personal fees from MSD, outside the submitted work;

372 Dr. McBain reports personal fees from Bristol Meyers Squibb, personal fees from Bristol Meyers Squibb, other  
373 from Bristol Meyers Squibb, outside the submitted work; .

374 Dr. Reijneveld reports non-financial support from Roche Nederland BV, outside the submitted work;

375 Dr. Lesimple reports personal fees and non-financial support from Roche, personal fees and non-financial  
376 support from BMS, personal fees and non-financial support from MSD, personal fees and non-financial support  
377 from Novartis, outside the submitted work;

378 Dr. Ulrich Herrlinger reports grants and personal fees from Roche, personal fees from Medac, personal fees  
379 from Bristol-Myer-Squibbs, personal fees from Novocure, personal fees from Mundipharma, personal fees from  
380 Noxxon, outside the submitted work;

381 Dr. Hau reports personal fees from Roche, personal fees from Novocure, non-financial support from Medac,  
382 outside the submitted work;

383 Dr. Stupp reports other from Celgene, other from Ipsen, other from MSD-Merck, other from Novartis, other  
384 from Novocure, other from Roche, outside the submitted work; and Spouse employee of Celgene

385 Dr. Aldape reports personal fees from Merck, personal fees from Cavion, outside the submitted work

386 Dr. Wick reports grants and personal fees from Roche, grants from Pfizer, grants from Boehringer Ingelheim,  
387 grants from Apogenix, personal fees from Celldex, personal fees from BMS, outside the submitted work;

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390

391 Table 1. Patient characteristics at the time of randomization, including the stratification factors (bolded).

	Treatment arm				Total (N=745) N (%)
	RT (N=187) N (%)	TMZ/RT (N=185) N (%)	RT->TMZ (N=185) N (%)	TMZ/RT->TMZ (N=188) N (%)	
	<b>Age (years)</b>				
Median	42.2	43.2	39.9	42.8	42.2
Range	19.0 - 81.2	20.1 - 77.1	20.0 - 82.3	18.3 - 80.1	18.3 - 82.3
<b>≤50 years</b>	132 (71)	124 (67)	129 (70)	129 (69)	514 (69)
<b>&gt;50 years</b>	55 (29)	61 (33)	56 (30)	59 (31)	231 (31)
<b>Presence of oligodendroglial elements (Yes vs No)</b>					
No oligo	144 (77)	141 (76)	143 (77)	144 (77)	572 (77)
Oligo	43 (23)	44 (24)	42 (23)	44 (23)	173 (23)
<b>WHO Performance Status (&gt;0 vs 0)</b>					
PS 0	110 (59)	109 (59)	108 (58)	112 (60)	439 (59)
PS >0	77 (41)	76 (41)	77 (42)	76 (40)	306 (41)
<b>Presence of 1p LOH (Yes vs No)</b>					
1p no loss	173 (93)	173 (94)	171 (92)	175 (93)	692 (93)
1p loss	14 (8)	12 (7)	14 (8)	13 (7)	53 (7)
<b>Pre-randomization MGMT (Methylated vs Unmethylated vs Undetermined/invalid)</b>					
Methylated	29 (16)	27 (14.6)	29 (16)	29 (15)	114 (15)
Unmethylated	40 (21)	40 (21.6)	40 (22)	41 (22)	161 (22)
Undetermined/invalid	118 (63)	118 (63.8)	116 (63)	118 (63)	470 (63)
<b>Post-randomization MGMT (Methylated vs Unmethylated vs Undetermined/invalid)</b>					
Methylated	60 (32)	53 (29)	66 (36)	54 (29)	233 (31)
Unmethylated	80 (43)	76 (41)	76 (41)	85 (45)	317 (43)
Undetermined/invalid	47 (25)	56 (30)	43 (23)	49 (26)	195 (26)

	Treatment arm				
	RT	TMZ/RT	RT->TMZ	TMZ/RT->TMZ	Total
	(N=187)	(N=185)	(N=185)	(N=188)	(N=745)
	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
<b>Sex</b>					
male	107 (57)	116 (63)	102 (55)	102 (54)	427 (57)
female	74 (40)	65 (35)	79 (43)	79 (42)	297 (40)
Missing	6 (3)	4 (2)	4 (2)	7 (4)	21 (3)
<b>Mini Mental State Evaluation</b>					
Median	29	30	30	29	29
<27	25 (13)	21 (11)	21 (11)	24 (13)	91 (12)
≥27	138 (74)	150 (81)	145 (78)	146 (78)	579 (78)
Missing	24 (13)	14 (8)	19 (10)	18 (10)	75 (10)
<b>On corticosteroids at study entry</b>					
no	131 (70)	128 (69)	128 (69)	122 (65)	509 (68)
yes	49 (26)	54 (29)	52 (28)	58 (31)	213 (29)
Missing/unknown	7 (4)	3 (2)	5 (3)	8 (4)	23 (3)
<b>Prior surgery for low grade tumor</b>					
no	158 (85)	161 (87)	160 (87)	154 (82)	633 (85)
yes	23 (12)	20 (11)	21 (11)	27 (14)	91 (12)
Missing	6 (3)	4 (2)	4 (2.2)	7 (4)	21 (3)
<b>Type of surgery</b>					
biopsy	33 (18)	41 (22)	35 (19)	40 (21)	149 (20)
partial removal	100 (54)	86 (47)	89 (48)	72 (38)	347 (47)
total removal	48 (26)	54 (29)	57 (31)	69 (37)	228 (31)

393 Table 2. Cox model of the primary endpoint, with the effect of adjuvant temozolomide adjusted by  
394 the stratification factors (and MGMT status at randomization).

395

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Pr &gt; ChiSq</b>	<b>Hazard Ratio (HR)</b>	<b>99.145% HR Confidence Limits</b>
<b>Adjuvant Temozolomide</b>	<b>0.0014</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.450, 0.926</b>
Age (>50 vs ≤50)	<.0001	4.04	2.784, 5.867
WHO Performance Status (>0 vs 0)	0.0273	1.36	0.943, 1.960
Presence of 1p LOH (Yes vs No)	0.0572	1.56	0.844, 2.877
Presence of oligodendroglial elements (Yes vs No)	0.2230	1.20	0.812, 1.762
MGMT (Methylated vs Unmethylated)	0.0031	0.49	0.259, 0.925
MGMT (Undetermined/invalid vs Unmethylated)	0.1606	0.81	0.538, 1.207

396

397

398 77 3. Median (months) and 5-year OS and PFS (percentage) with 95% CI

399

Adjuvant TMZ	Progression Free survival			Overall Survival		
	Events	Median (months)	% at 5-years	Events	Median (months)	% alive at 5-years
No	200	19.0 (14.4, 24.6)	24.3 (17.7, 31.6)	129	41.10 (36.6, 60.7)	44.1 (36.3, 51.6)
Yes	144	42.8 (28.6, 60.6)	43.1 (35.0, 50.9)	92	Not reached	55.9 (47.2, 63.8)

400

401

402 Figure 1: CONSORT diagram at the time of interim analysis

403

404 Figure 2 a, b. Overall survival (a) and Progression Free Survival (b) in patients treated with or without  
405 adjuvant temozolomide chemotherapy

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