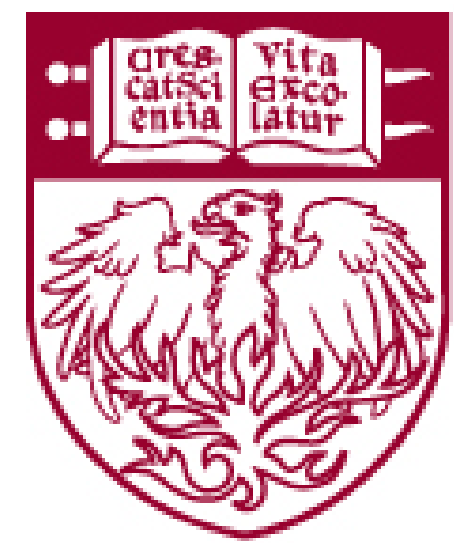


# Towards personalized treatment for gastroesophageal adenocarcinoma: Strategies to address inter- and intra- patient tumor heterogeneity: PANGEA



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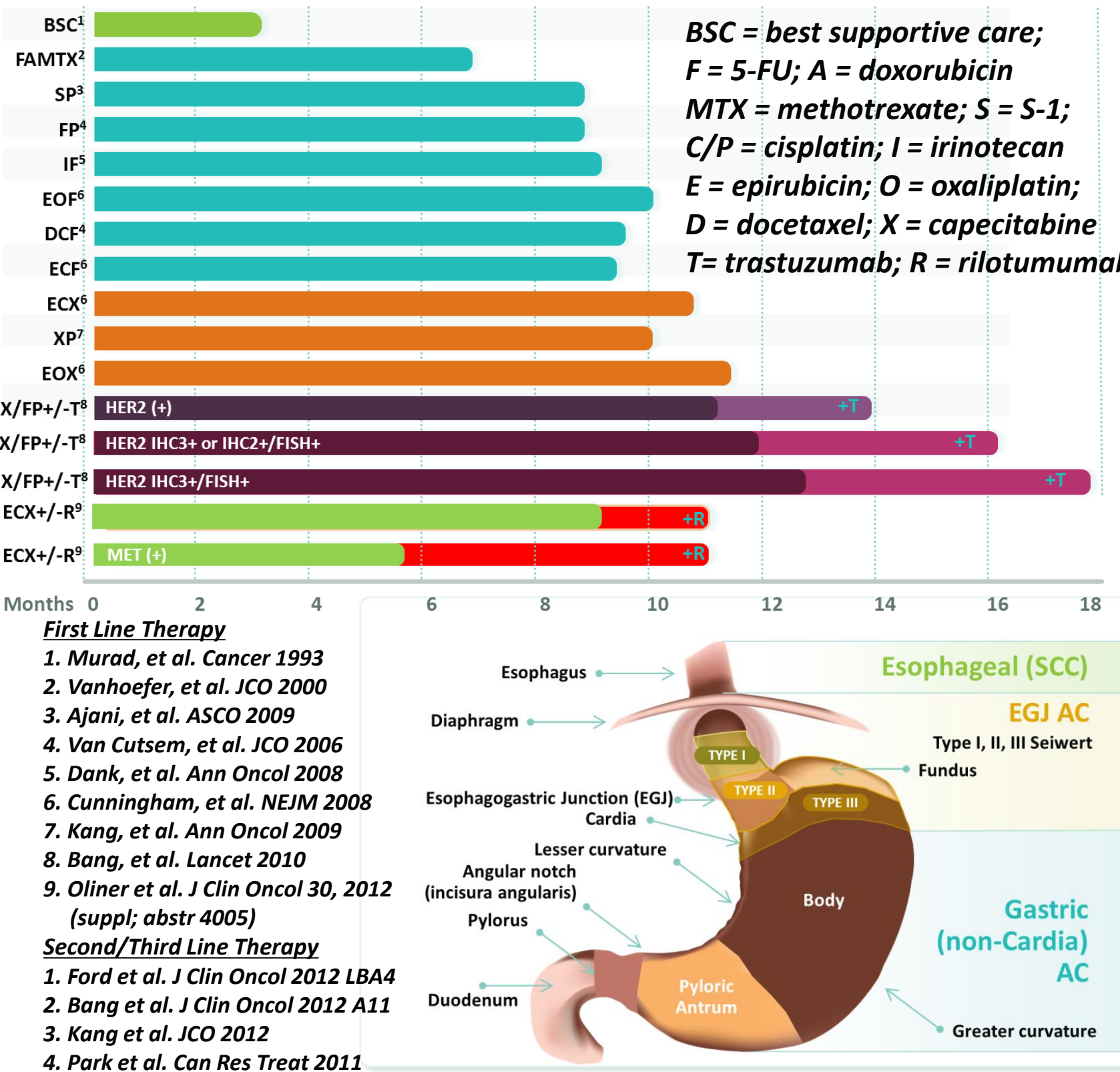
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## Abstract

Gastroesophageal adenocarcinoma (GEC) is the third most common malignancy and second highest cause of cancer mortality worldwide. The promise of 'personalized' cancer care with therapies targeted toward specific molecular aberrations has great potential to improve clinical outcomes. However, there is emerging understanding of profound molecular heterogeneity within GEC (inter-patient heterogeneity), and within an individual (intra-patient heterogeneity) through space (primary tumor to metastasis) and time (resistance to treatment). This heterogeneity is a hurdle to advancing GEC treatment. Current clinical trial design paradigms are challenged by heterogeneity, as they are unable to test targeted therapeutics against low frequency genomic aberrations with adequate power. Accrual difficulties to GEC trials are exacerbated by low frequencies of molecular 'oncogenic drivers'. Oncogenic drivers of GEC including MET, FGFR2, and others, have even less frequent genomic activation than HER2 (10-20%). To address this recognized challenge, there is need for novel clinical trial designs/strategies implementing medium throughput technologies in order to account for inter-patient molecular diversity. Importantly, there is also need for predefined treatment algorithms given multiple aberrations observed within any one individual. Finally, access to multiple therapeutic agents is required to be available for treatment. Intra-patient heterogeneity may be addressed by post-treatment biopsy and repeating the 'biomarker and treatment assignment algorithm'. We present an innovative clinical trial design, PANGEA (Personalized Anti-Neoplasia for Gastro-Esophageal Adenocarcinoma), that integrates novel medium throughput proteomic and genomic technologies with a practical 'biomarker assay and treatment algorithm', randomizing patients to 'personalized treatment' versus standard of care for metastatic GEC. Data from GEC patients having undergone biomarker assessment and mock treatment assignment on a pilot feasibility phase of the trial will also be presented.

## GEC Median Overall Survival

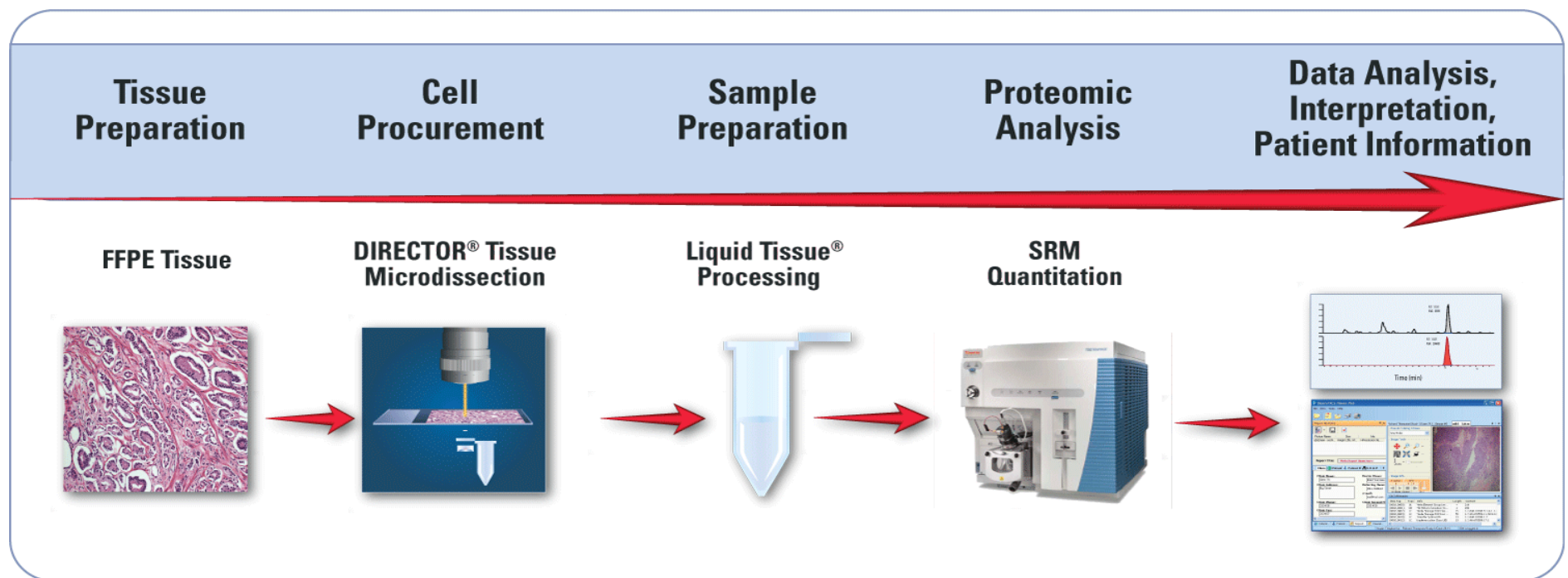


## Methods

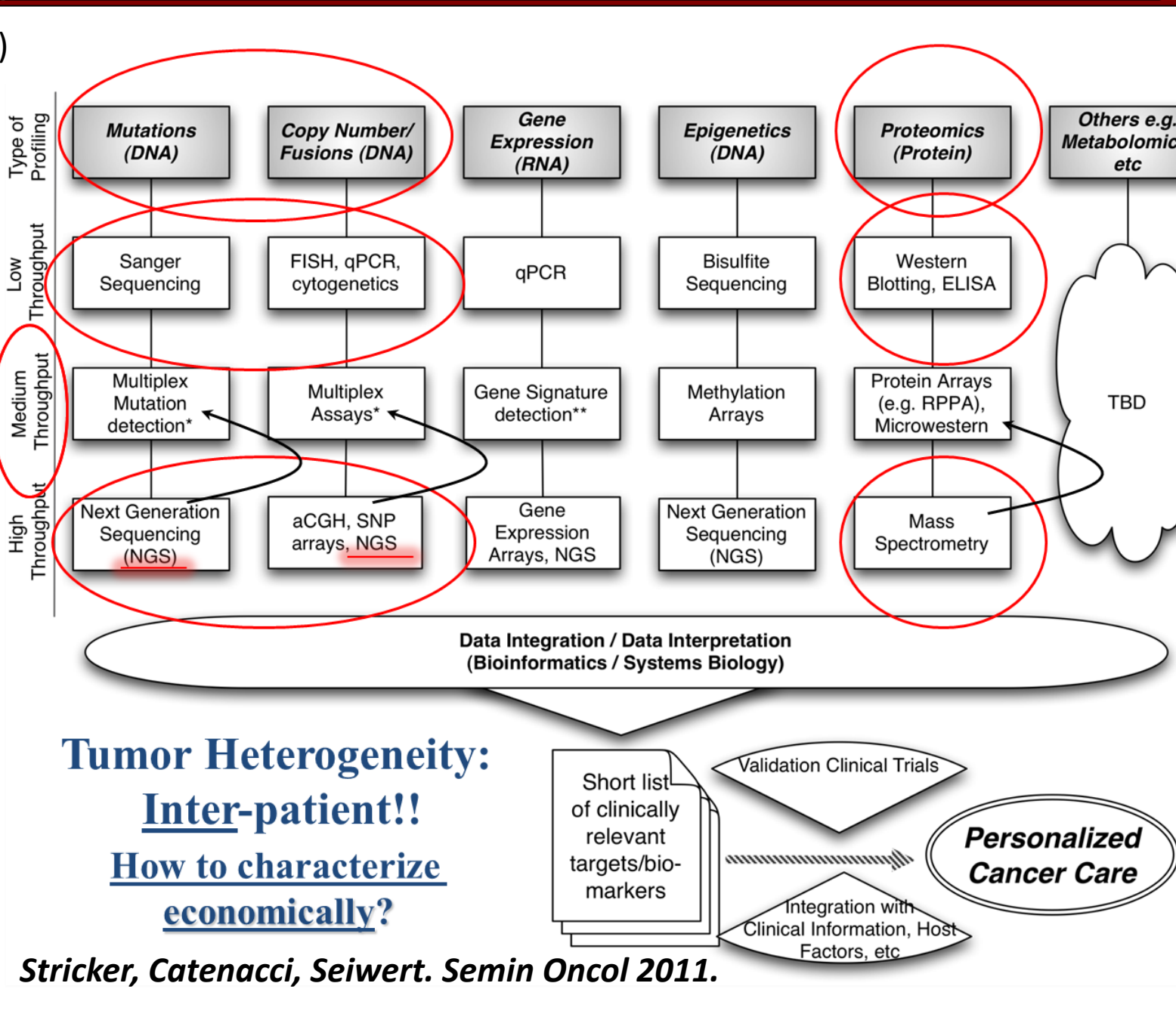
Cell Lines<sup>1</sup> were all obtained from ATCC, except MKN-45 (DSMZ) and Cat2 (University of Chicago) FFPE (Formalin Fixed & Paraffin Embedded) Cell line clots were used for IHC and FISH. FFPE Tissues were obtained from the University of Chicago under an IRB approved protocol. IHC<sup>1</sup> (Immunohistochemistry) was performed as previously described. FISH<sup>1</sup> (Fluorescence in situ hybridization) was performed as previously described. NGS<sup>1</sup> (Next-Gen Seq) was performed using the Foundation One Test (Foundation Medicine). MS<sup>1</sup> (Mass Spectrometry) was performed with OncoPlex Dx (GEC 'plex').

1. Catenacci et al. *CBT* 2011.
2. <http://www.foundationone.com/>
3. Hembrough et al. *J Clin Proteomics* 2012; <http://oncoplexdx.com/>

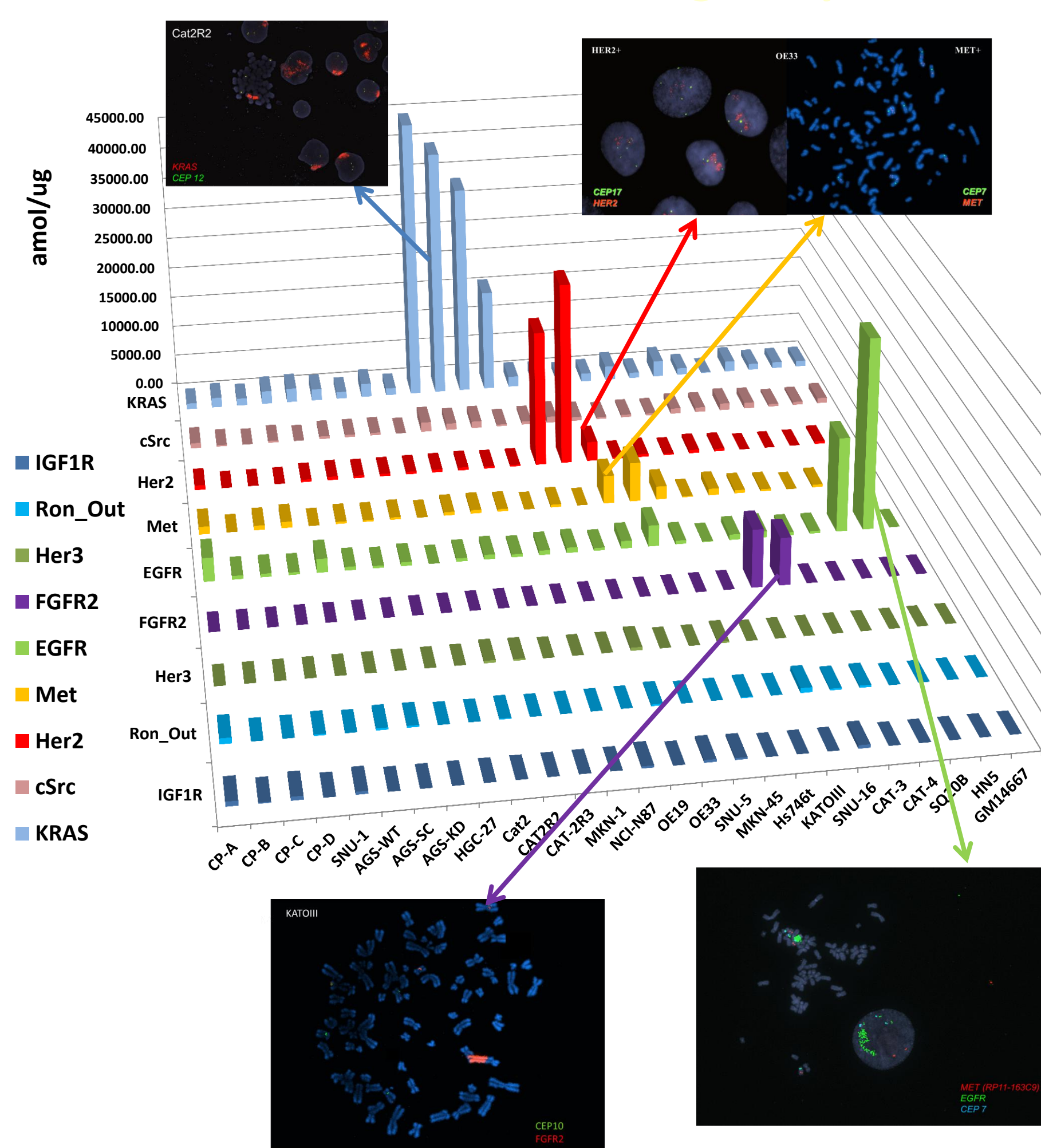
## Liquid Tissue Mass Spectrometry Method



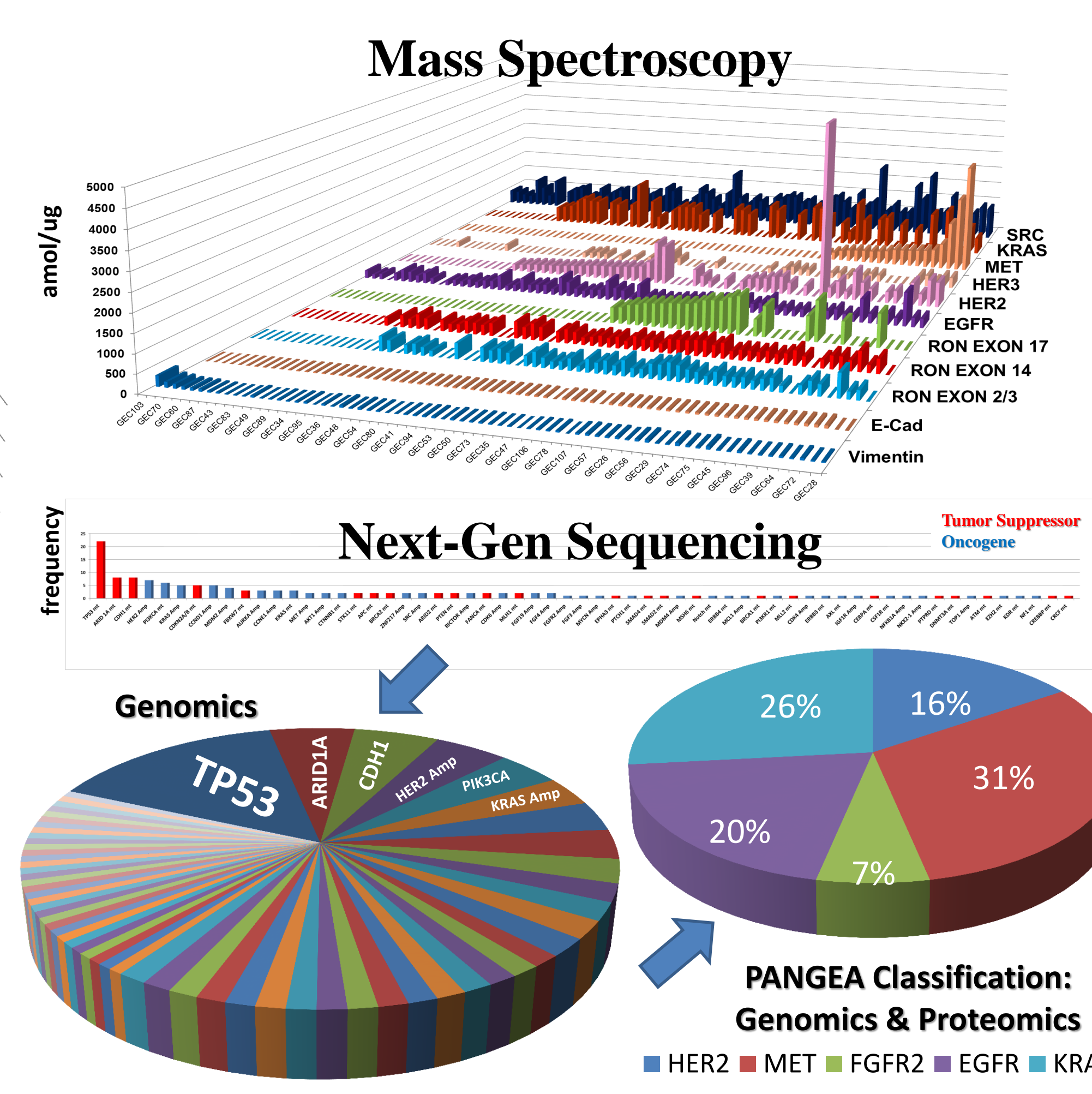
GEC cultured cells were washed, fixed with formalin, and subjected to Liquid Tissue<sup>®</sup> processing. FFPE tumor tissue blocks were cut on DIRECTOR<sup>®</sup> slides and processed using standard histological procedures. Tissues were laser microdissected on a Leica LMD-6000, collected in tubes and solubilized to tryptic peptides using Liquid Tissue<sup>®</sup> technology.



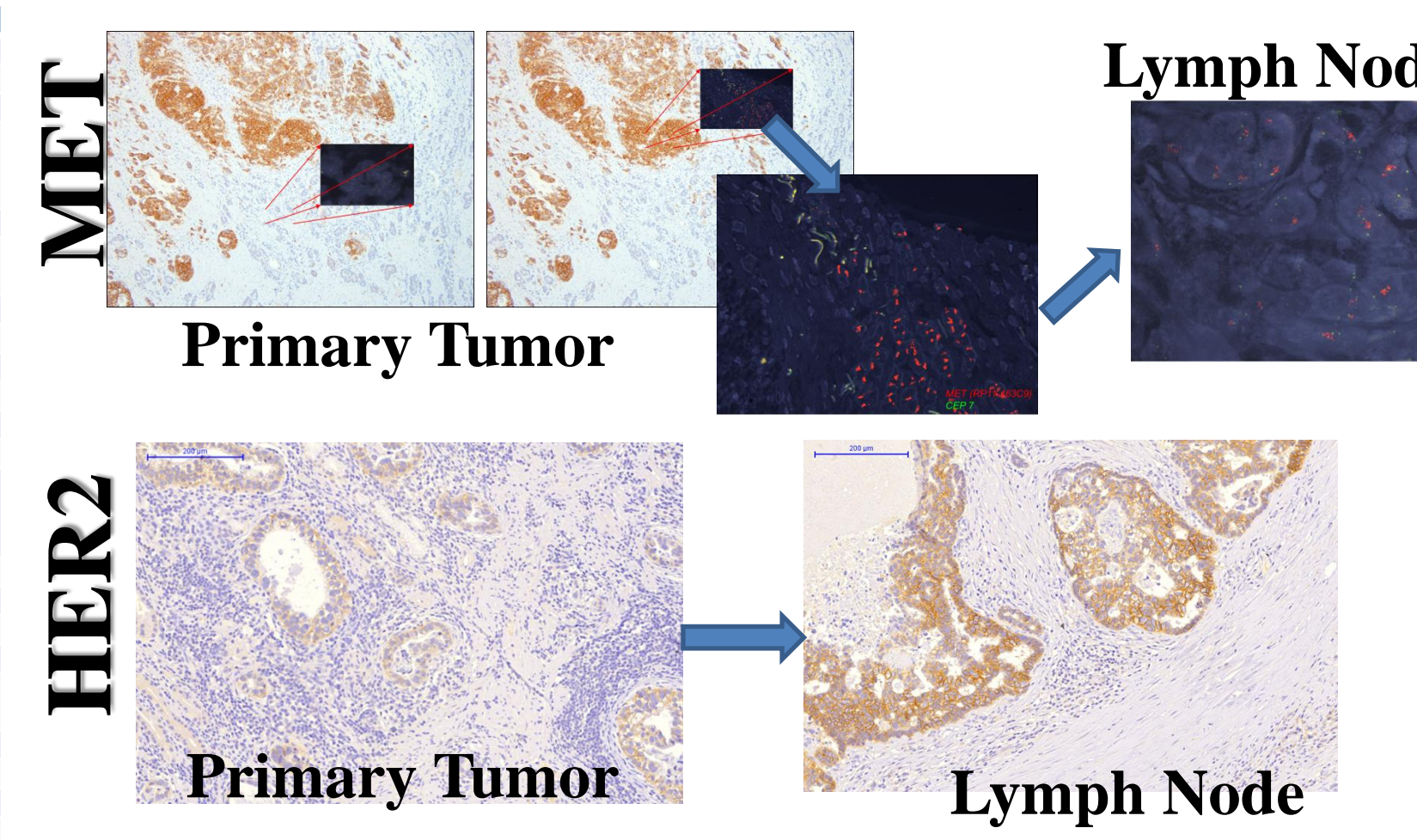
## Inter-Cell Line Heterogeneity



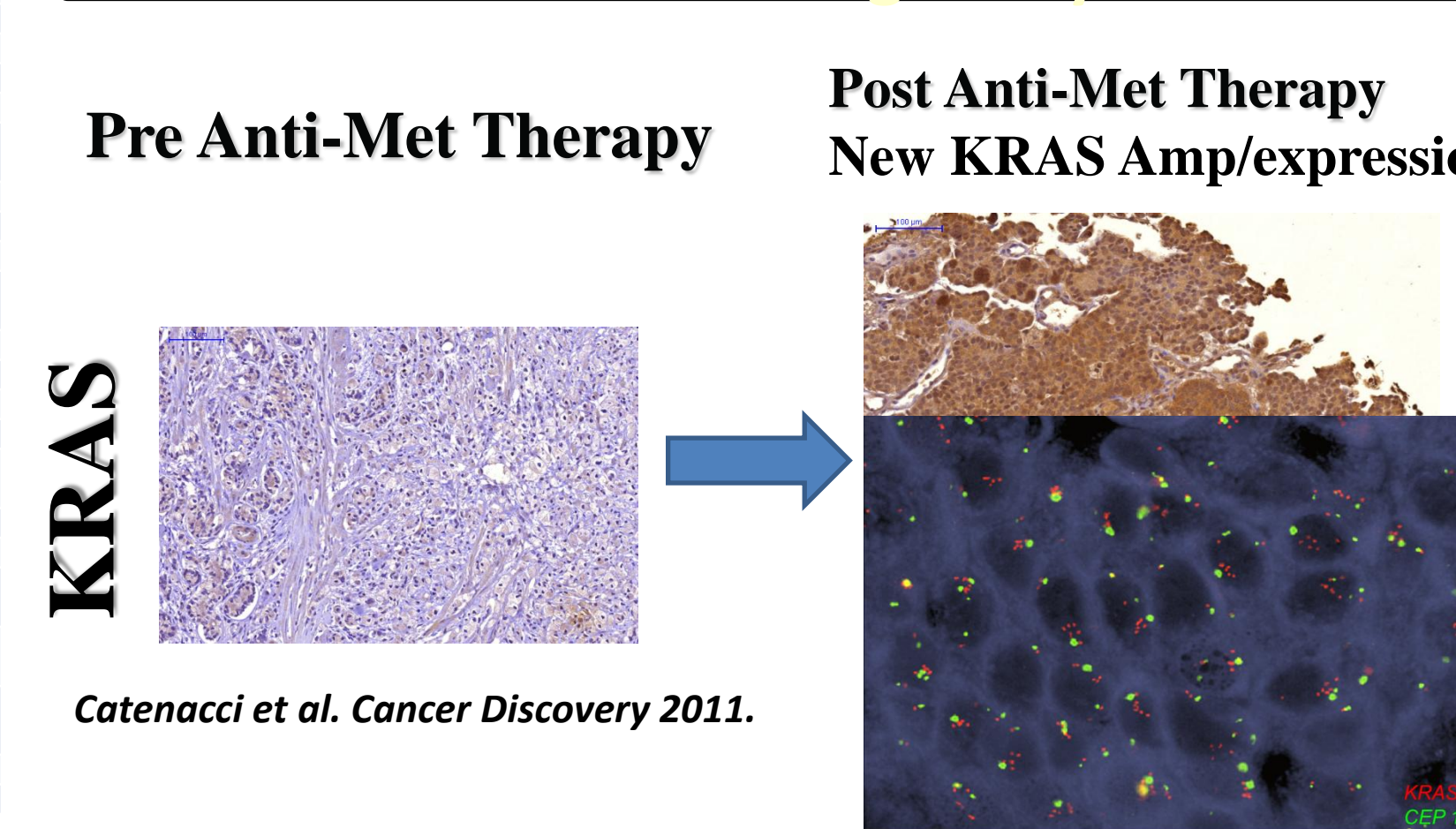
## Inter-Patient Heterogeneity



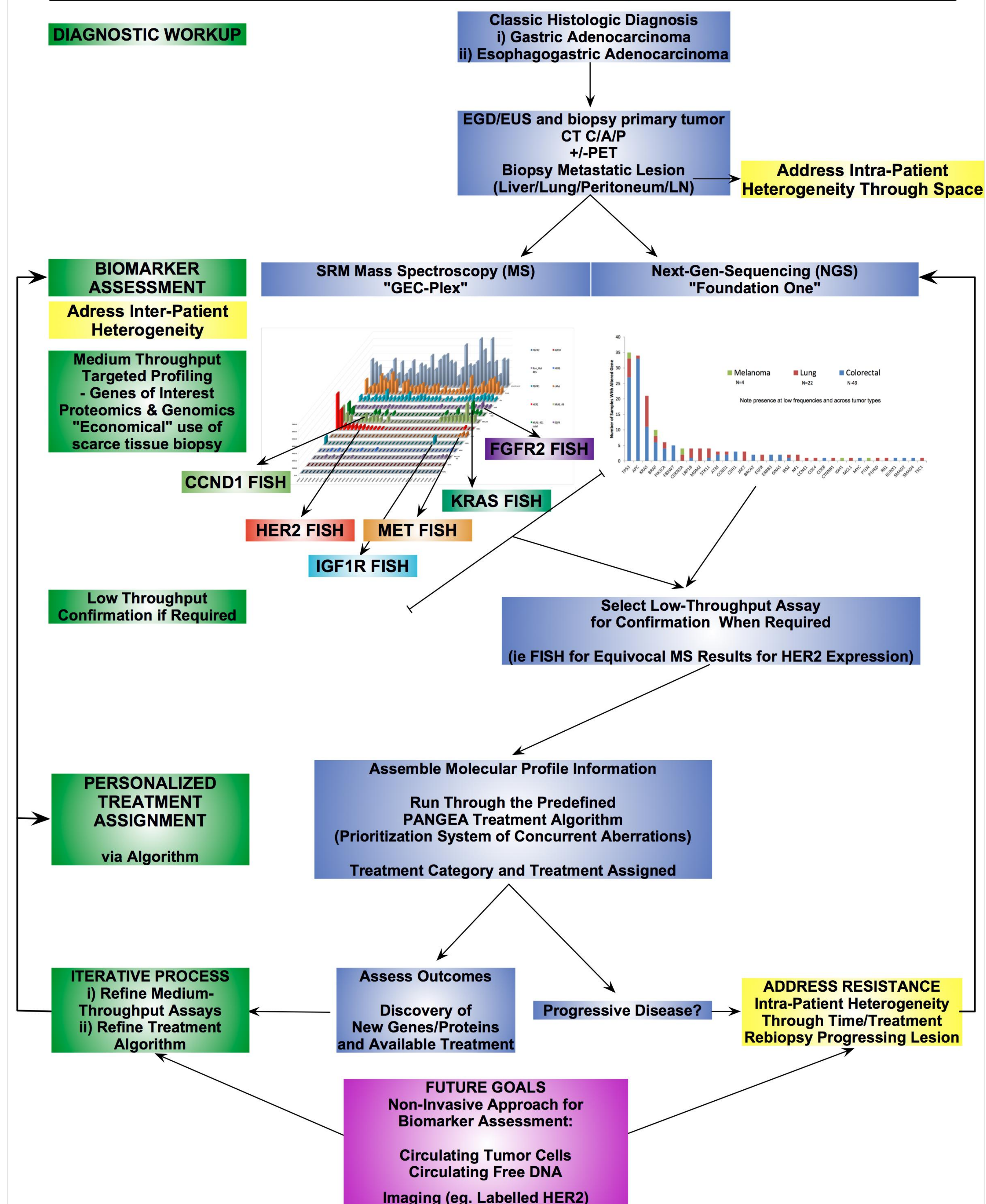
## Intra-Patient Heterogeneity: Space



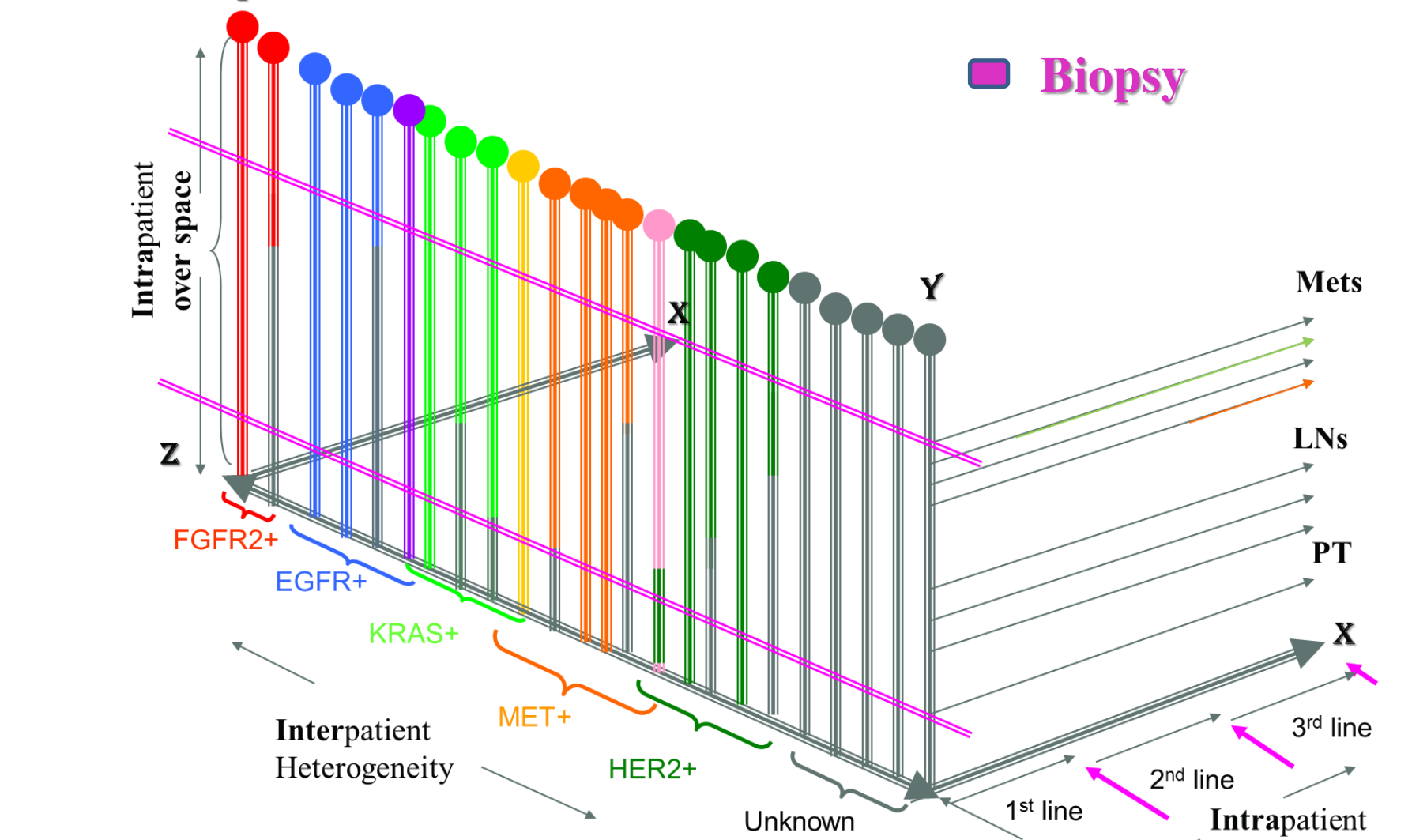
## Intra-Patient Heterogeneity: Time



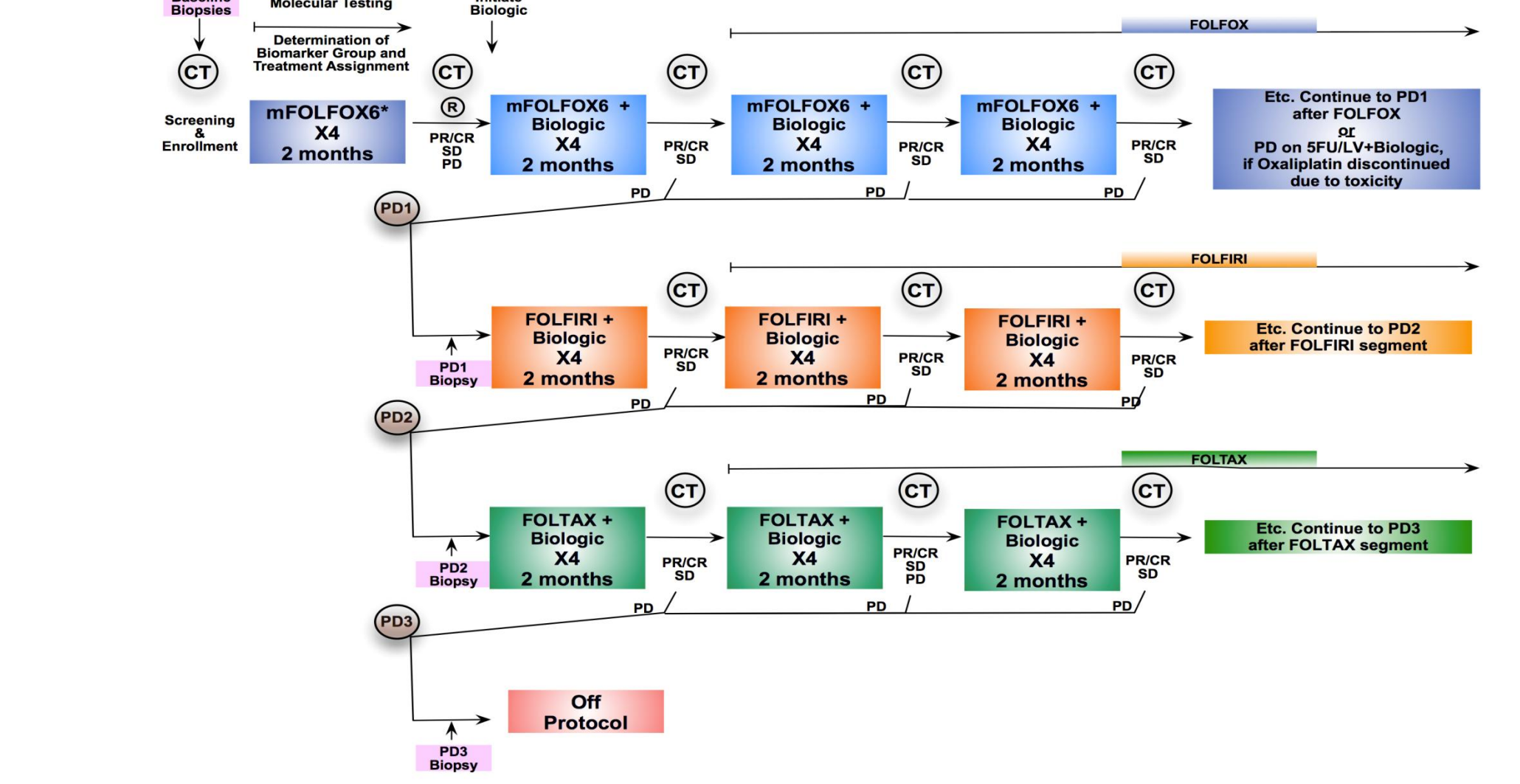
## PANGEA: Targeted Therapies for Targeted Populations



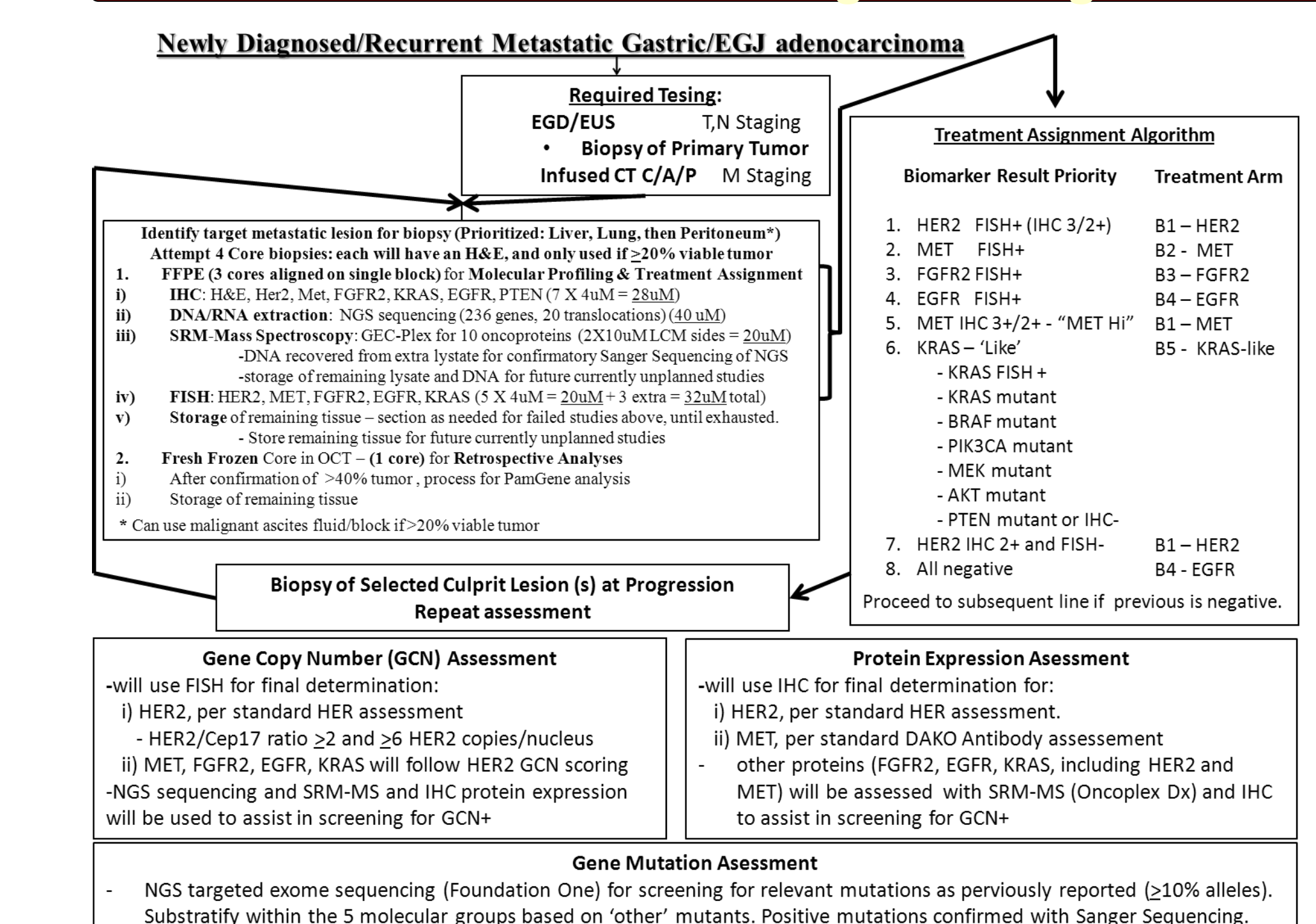
## Inter/Intra-Patient Heterogeneity Schema



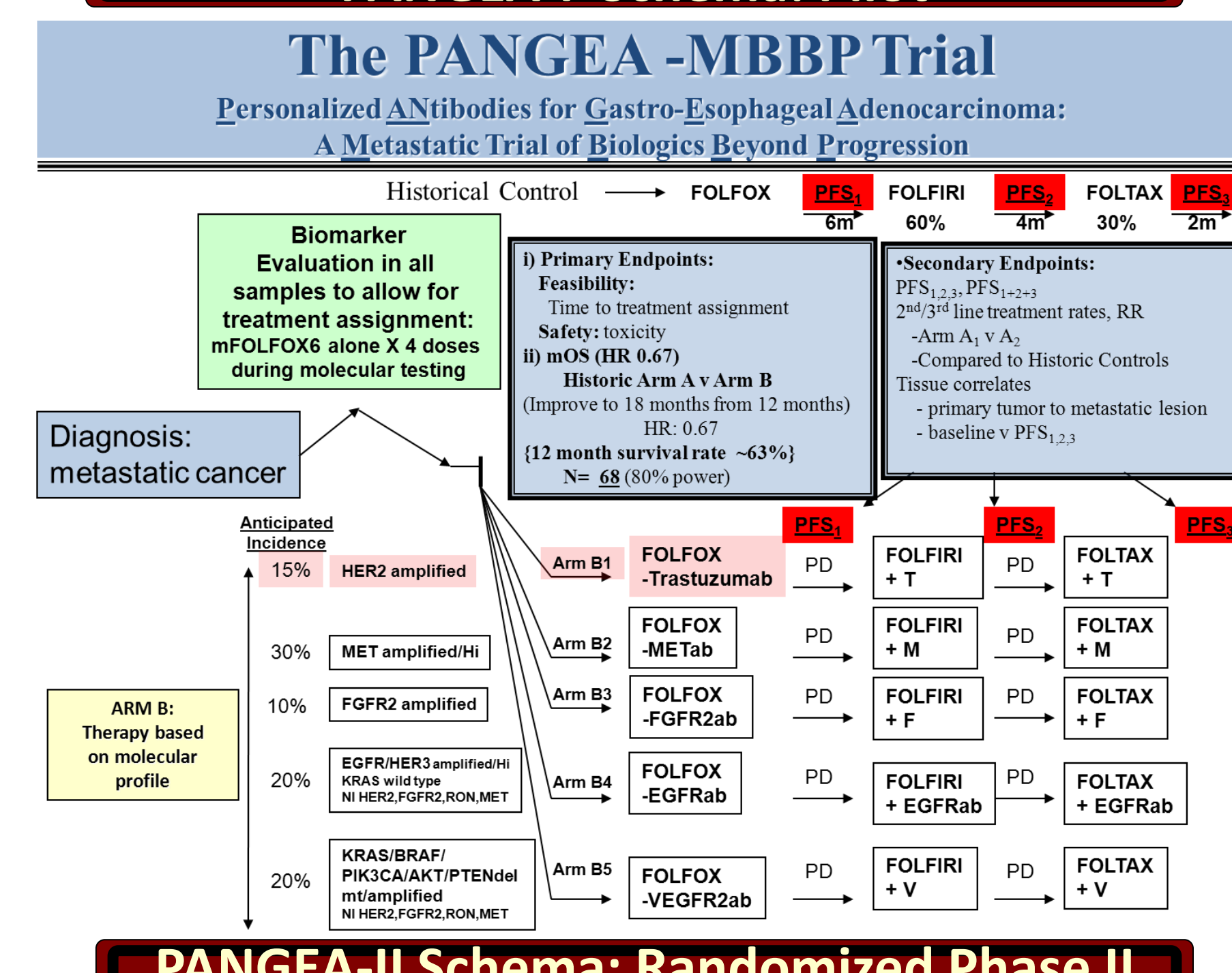
## PANGEA Treatment Strategy



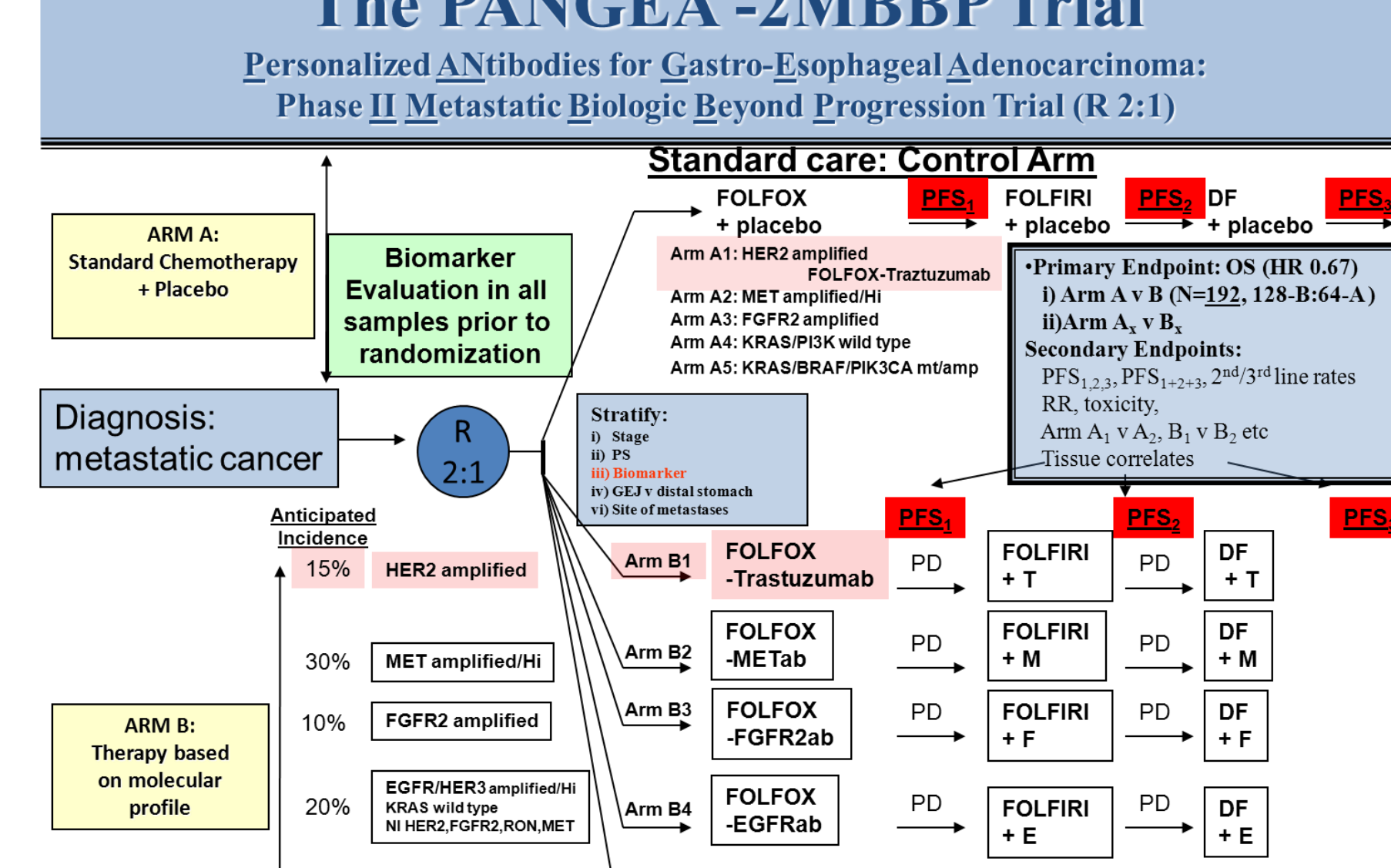
## Biomarker & Treatment Assignment Algorithm



## PANGEA-I Schema: Pilot



## PANGEA-II Schema: Randomized Phase II



## Conclusions

- Profound molecular heterogeneity and limited tissue are hurdles to implementing targeted therapeutics.
- PANGEA is a trial design that incorporates various strategies, including medium throughput genomic/proteomic assays along with mandated biopsies, to address inter- and intra- patient heterogeneity.
- Predefined treatment algorithms and access to multiple therapeutic agents are required, given the observed immense tumor complexity.
- PANGEA-I/II is a compromise between the number of potential treatment categories and feasibility.
- Future iterations may include more treatment groups