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5 years Cancer Mission: Stronger Through Connection

BRUSSELS
29 SEPTEMBER – 01 OCTOBER

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A precision medicine trial leveraging blood-based tumor genomics to optimize treatment in operable stage III and high-risk stage II colon cancer patients – the SAGITTARIUS trial



01 October 2026

5 years Cancer Mission:
Stronger Through Connection

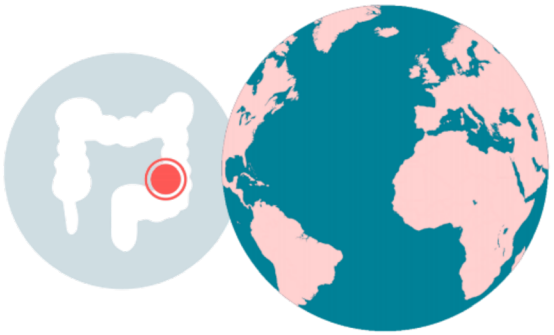
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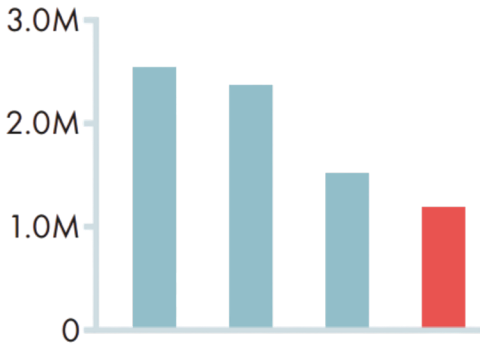


Why is this important?

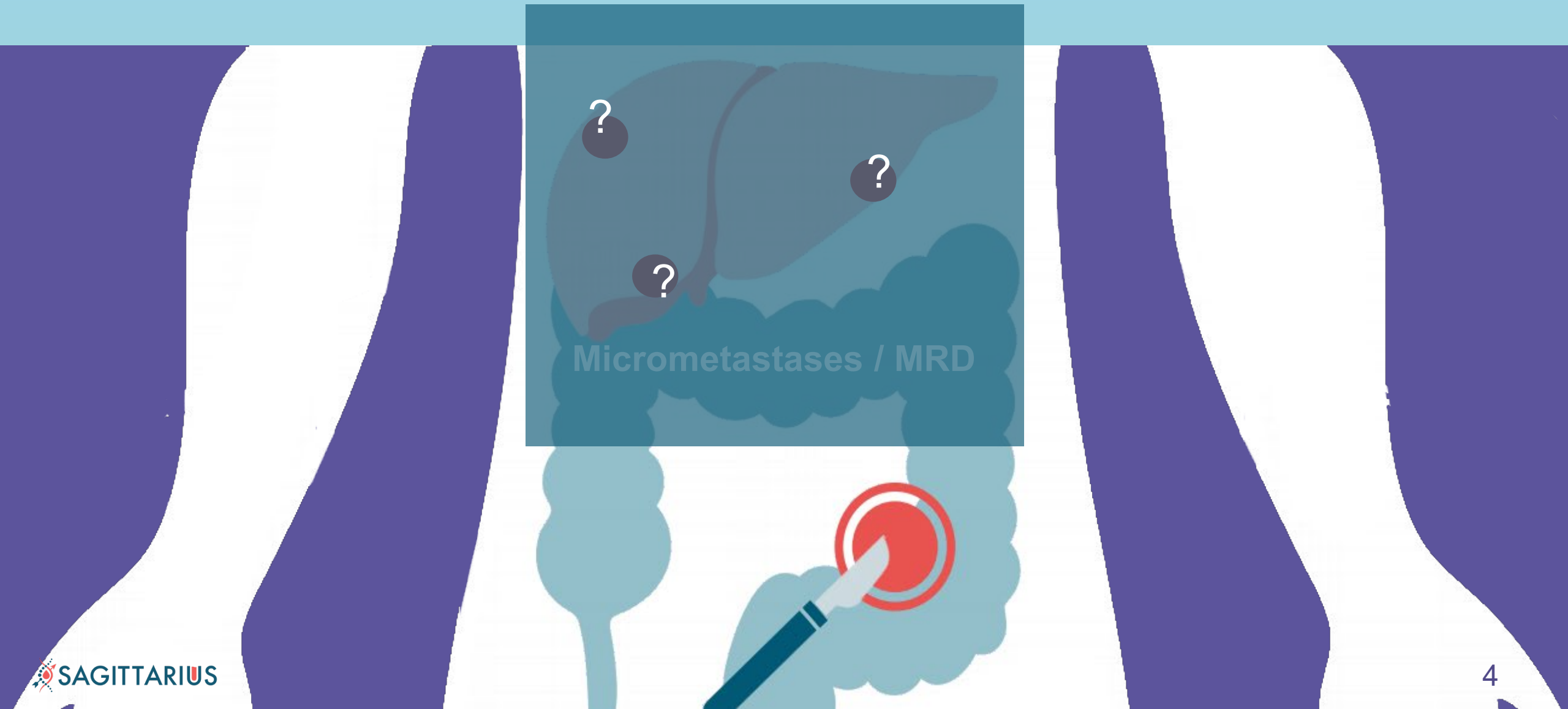
Colon cancer – a worldwide challenge

- **Colon cancer is the fourth most common type of cancer worldwide**
- **Over 342 300 new cases in Europe every year**
- **Surgery is the most common treatment, but it isn't always enough**





When surgery is not enough



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Post-surgery chemotherapy



What if we could personalize?



ctDNA
Small fragments of DNA into the bloodstream



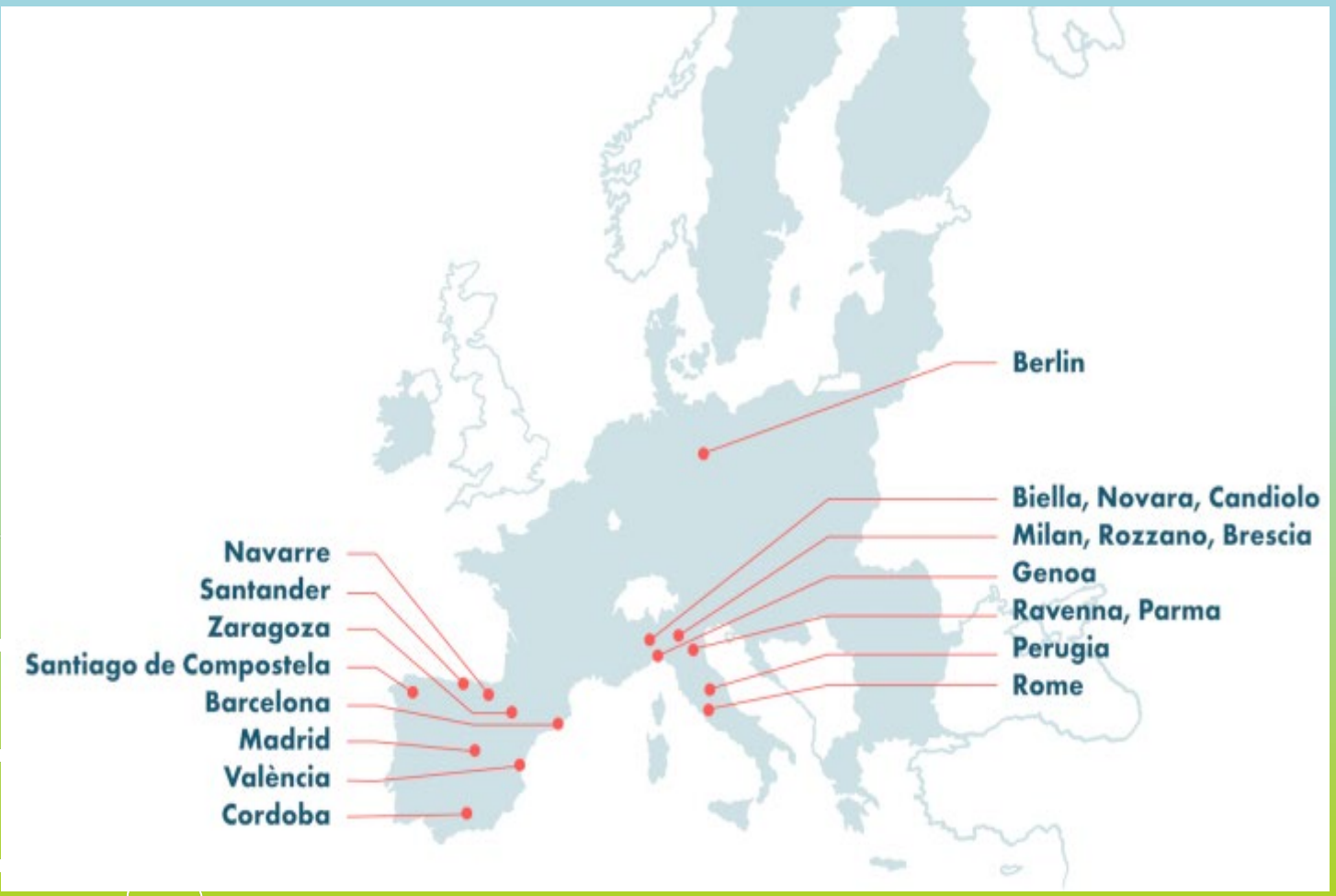
Liquid biopsy
Innovative blood test

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SAGITTARIUS



The project in a nutshell



9 PARTNERS

ES IT DE BE EE

26 HOSPITALS

ES IT DE



Silvia Marsoni
MD, PhD

IFOM — Project Coordinator & Clinical trial sponsor

cogentech

Hospital del Mar Research Institute Barcelona

Università Bocconi MILANO

DIGESTIVE CANCERS EUROPE

SPORE DATA

VHIO Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology

CHARITÉ UNIVERSITÄTSMEDIZIN BERLIN

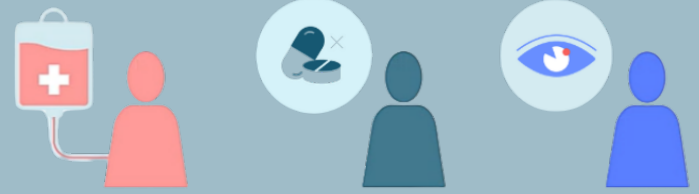
AIRC

The SAGITTARIUS project objectives

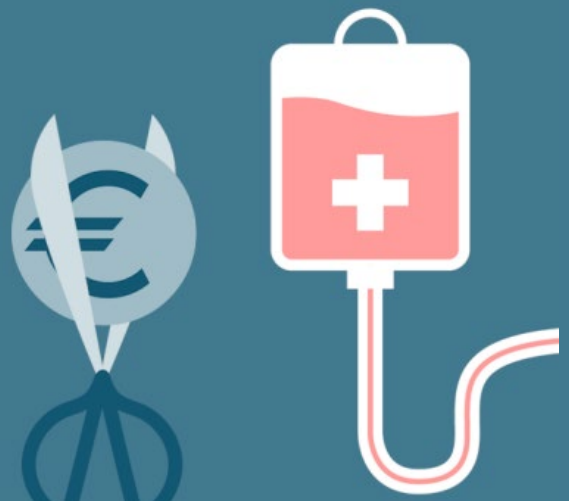
1. **Personalised post-surgical treatment**, only when it is necessary

2. Better **quality of life** for patients

3. **Improved cost-effectiveness**







Four research arms, four analyses

Trial SAGITTARIUS

The **impact of post-surgery liquid biopsy on clinical outcomes** – e.g. relapse-free survival and safety.

Quality of Life SAGITTARIUS

The impact of this approach on **health-related quality of life and patient-reported outcomes**.

Health Economics SAGITTARIUS

The **cost-effectiveness** of this new approach, to understand its value for health systems.

OMICS SAGITTARIUS

The **biological processes** causing only some tumours to result in minimal residual disease after surgery.

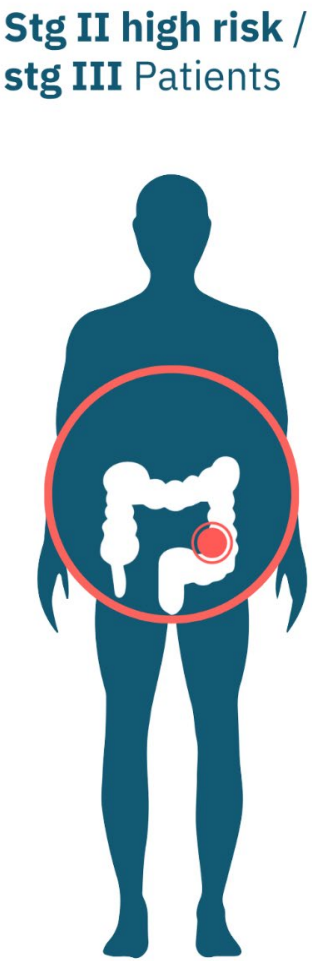
(Funded separately.)



The trial in a nutshell

A phase-III pragmatic study

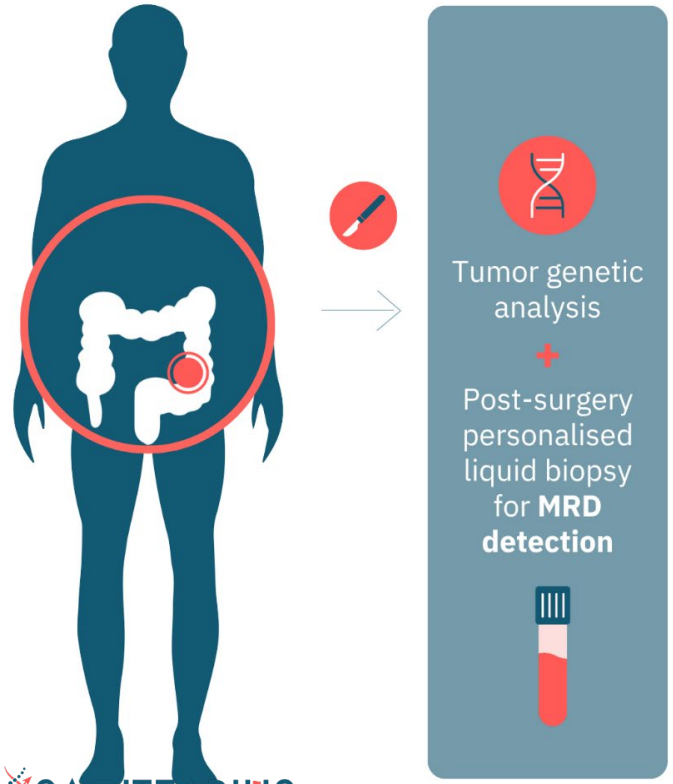
- **Population**: Patients with resected colon cancer (~650 enrolled by far)
- **Trials Within Cohort**
  - **1 trial in MRD- patients**
  - **1 trial in MRD+ patients**
- **EU-CT number: 2023-509851-15-00**



The trial in a nutshell

Stg II high risk / stg III Patients

Risk stratification

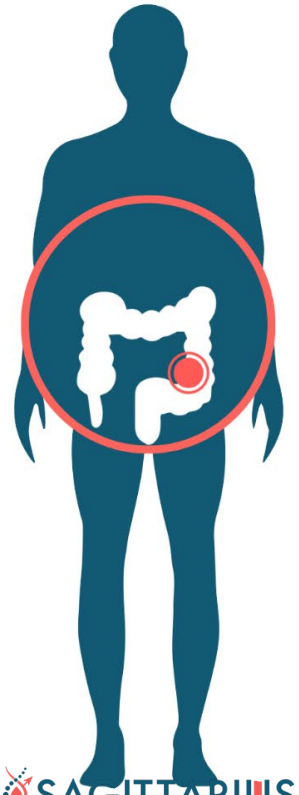




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The trial in a nutshell

Stg II high risk / stg III Patients



Risk stratification

Tumor genetic analysis

+

Post-surgery personalised liquid biopsy for **MRD detection**

MRD+ (+)

50% → Conventional

R → Personalised

50% → No treatment

MRD- (-)

50% → Conventional

R → Personalised

50% → No treatment

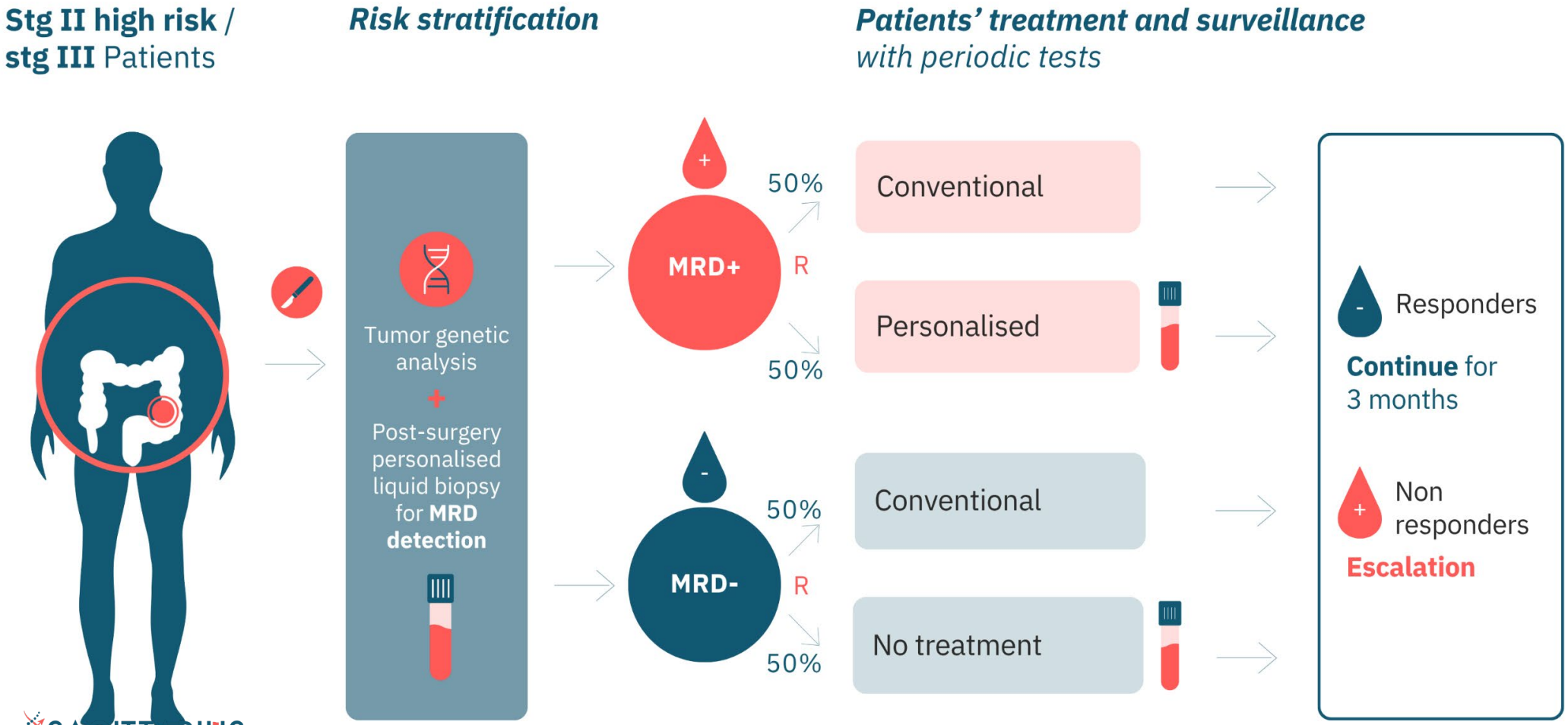
Patients' treatment and surveillance
with periodic tests

Personalised adjuvant therapy

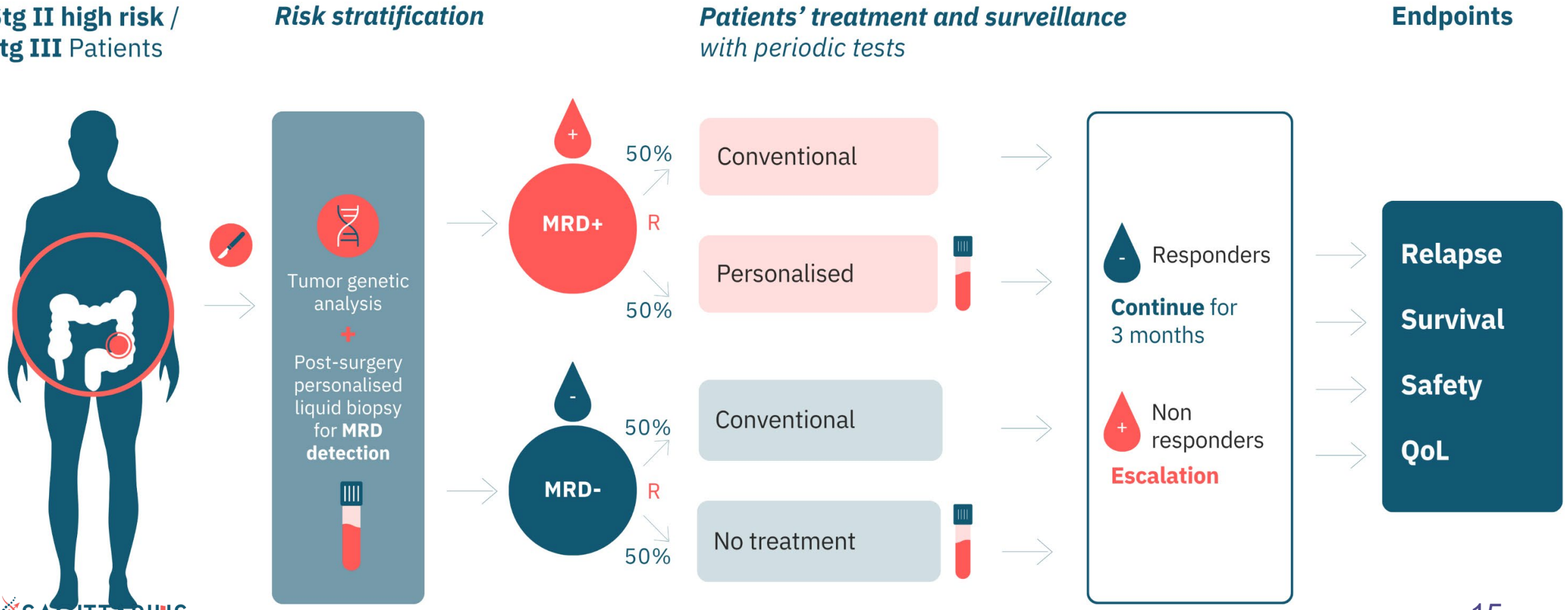
MSI-H	**Nivolumab + Ipilumumab**	→ CAPOX
POLE		
RAS/RAF mut	**CAPOX**	→ FOLFIRI, TEMIRI
HER2amp	**Trastuzumab + Pertuzumab**	→ CAPOX
Multiple wt	**FOLFOX + Panitumab**	→ FOLFIRI

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The trial in a nutshell



The trial in a nutshell

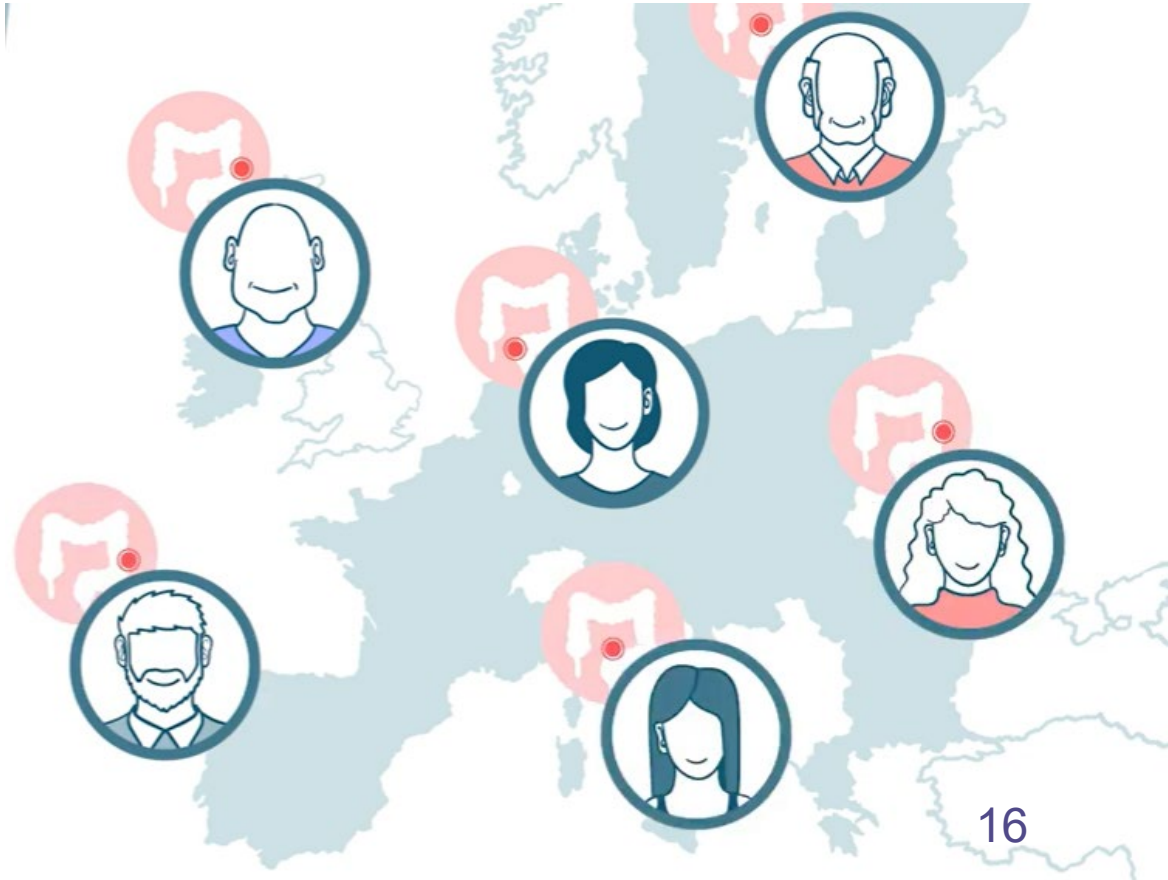




Why SAGITTARIUS matters for the Cancer Mission

Innovation, collaboration, and patient-centred research

- **Making therapeutic decisions more effective**
- **Sparing thousands of patients unnecessary toxicities**
- **More efficient care**
- **One step further for precision medicine**



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Thank you!