

# Colorectal cancer -

## Issues and Visions

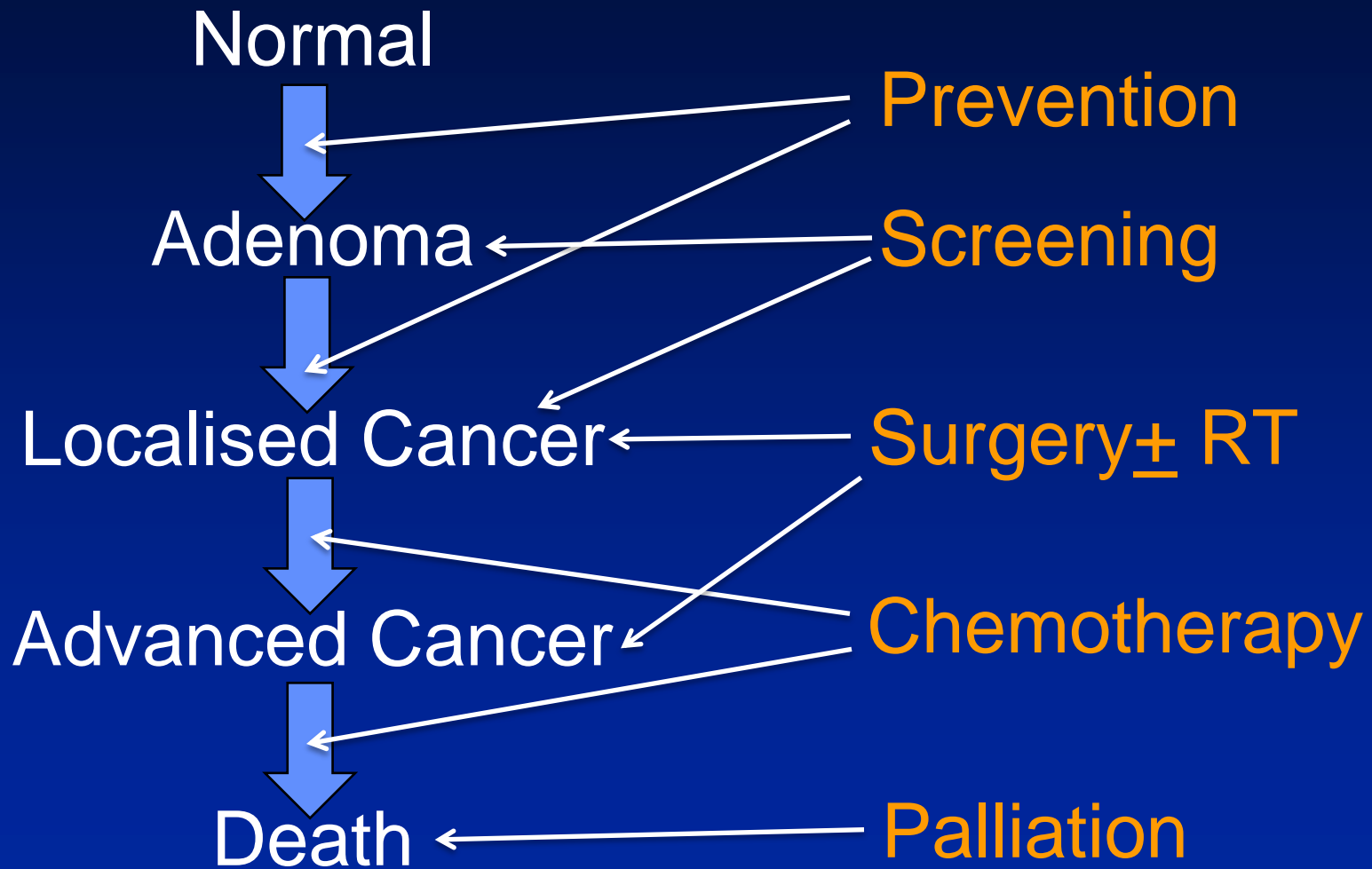


Prof. Bob Steele

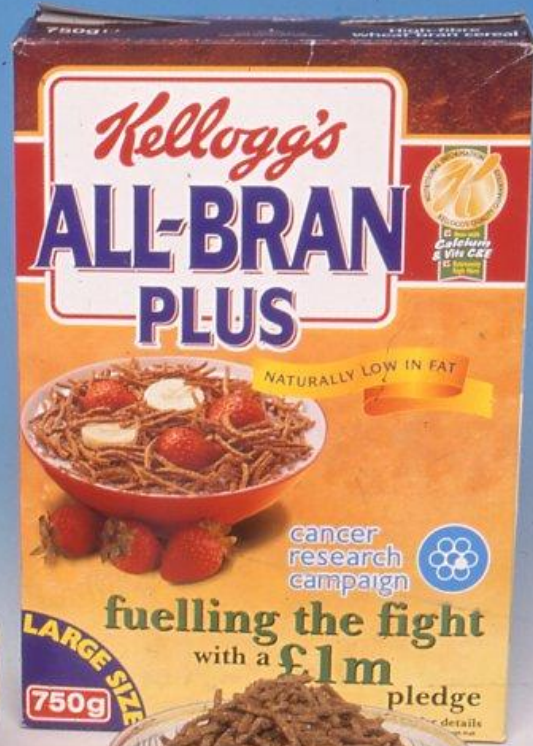
Ninewells Hospital, University of Dundee



# The Person / Patient Pathway



# Prevention



# Food, Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Colorectal Cancer (WCRF, 2011)

	Decreases risk	Increases risk
Convincing	Physical activity Foods containing dietary fibre	Red meat Processed meat Alcoholic drinks (men) Body fatness Abdominal fatness Adult attained height
Probable	Garlic Milk Calcium	Alcoholic drinks (women)

How to get the  
message across?

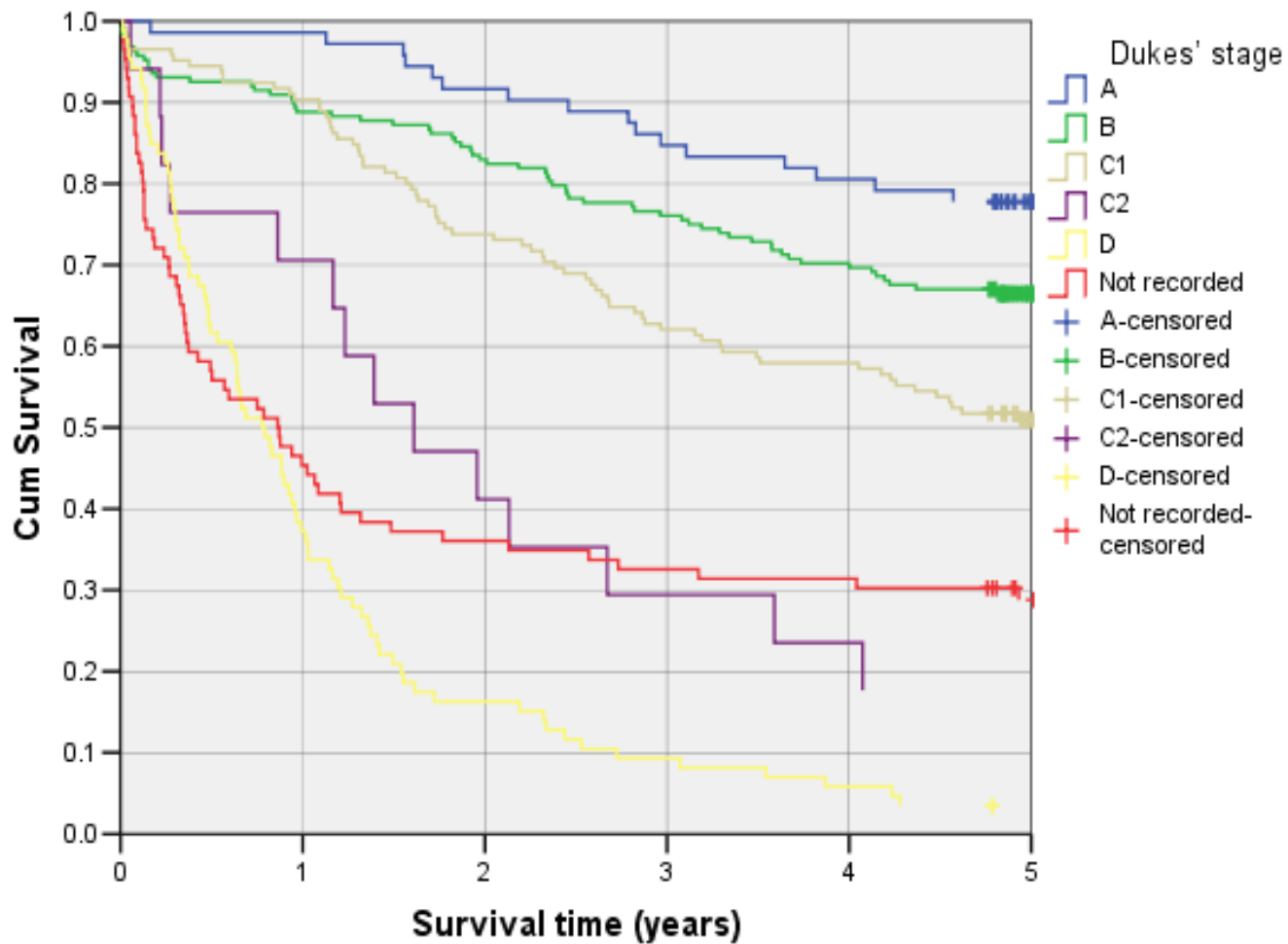
Who to get the  
message across to?

- General public?
- High risk groups?
- Patients?
- Health care professionals?
- Politicians?
- Industry?



# Early Detection

### Survival by Dukes' stage



# Symptoms or Screening?

- Symptom complexes have poor sensitivity for colorectal cancer

Jellema et al  
BMJ 2010;340:1269

- Symptoms in a FOBT screen-positive population do not predict neoplastic disease

Ahmed et al  
Bjs 2005;92:478



# Disease-Specific Mortality in gFOBT Randomised Trials (Relative Risks)

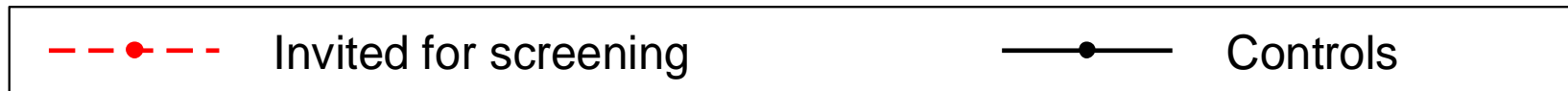
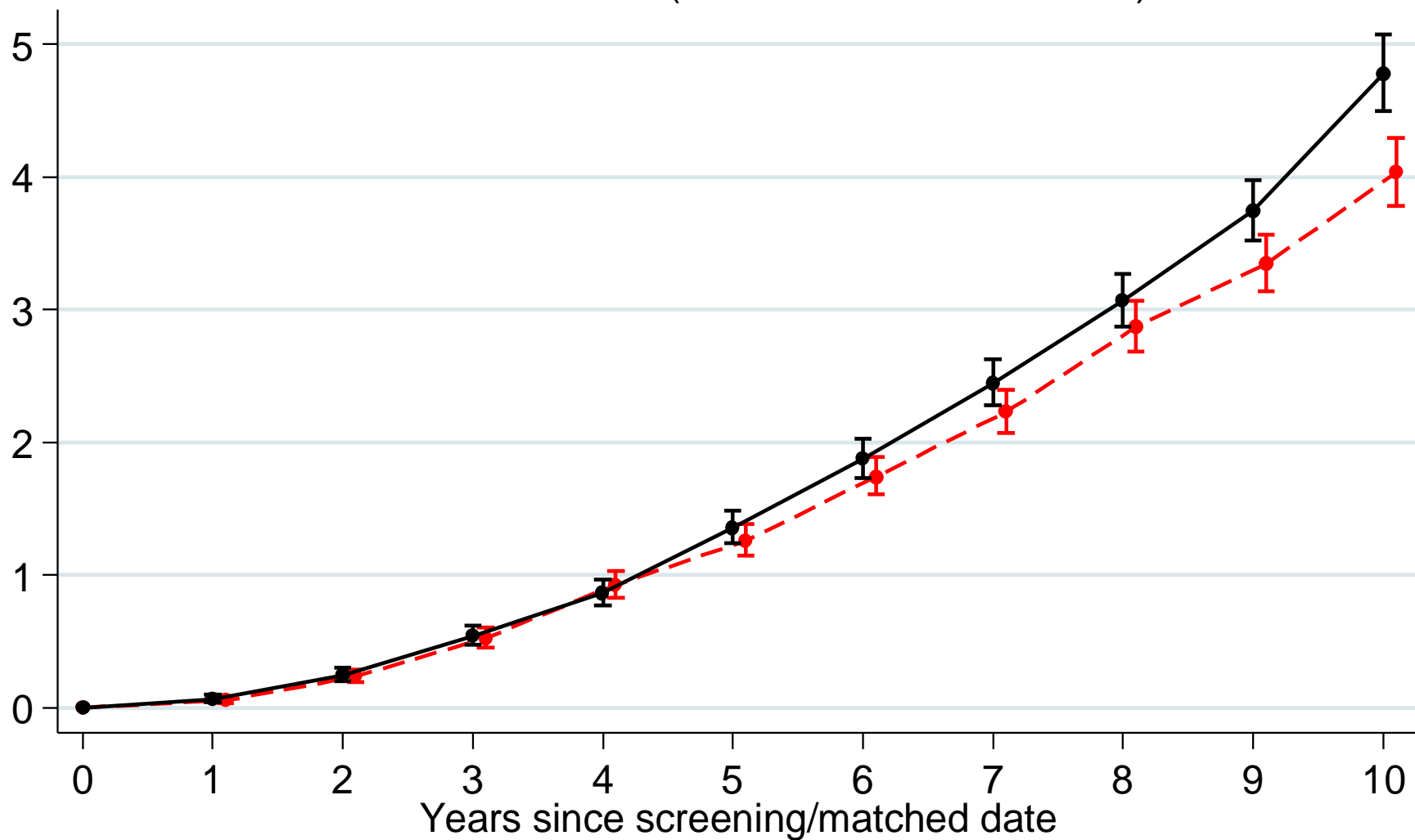
- Minnesota
  - Annual 0.67 (CI 0.51-0.83)
  - Biennial 0.79 (CI 0.62 - 0.97)
- Nottingham
  - Biennial 0.85 (CI 0.74 - 0.98)
- Funen
  - Biennial 0.82 (CI 0.68 - 0.99)
- Göteborg
  - Biennial 0.84 (CI 0.71-0.99)

# Pilot Programme



# Cumulative Mortality from Colorectal Cancer

Rate and 95% CI (Nelson-Aalen estimates)



# Rate ratio of Colorectal Cancer invited vs controls

## Overall

0.90 (0.830 – 0.989)

Relative reduction in CRC mortality 10%

## Participants only

0.73 (0.653 – 0.824)

Relative reduction in CRC mortality 27%



Can we combine  
screening with  
prevention?

Hypothesis – screening  
contact is a teachable moment

# BeWEL

- Multi-centre randomised controlled trial
- Hospital setting:
  - NHS Tayside, NHS Forth Valley, NHS Ayrshire & Arran
- 12 month BeWEL intervention vs. usual care
- Participants:
  - Patients who have undergone screening colonoscopy for benign adenomas attending follow-up clinic
  - 50-74yrs, BMI >25kg/m<sup>2</sup>, no carcinoma, able to undertake exercise requirements, able to provide informed consent
  - n=316 (158 intervention + 158 usual care)

↔ 6 months ↔	↔ 12 months ↔	↔ 6 months ↔
Pre-trial development	Recruitment & intervention implementation	Data collection, analysis & interpretation

# Intervention vs. usual care

- Usual care: leaflet on healthy lifestyle
- BeWEL intervention (12 months)
  - Modification of the US diabetes prevention programme enhanced with provision of scales for self-monitoring of body weight
  - 3 face-to-face consultations with a lifestyle counsellor at 0, 1 and 2 months
  - Bi-monthly telephone consultations thereafter
- Outcome measures
  - Change in body weight, BMI and waist circumference

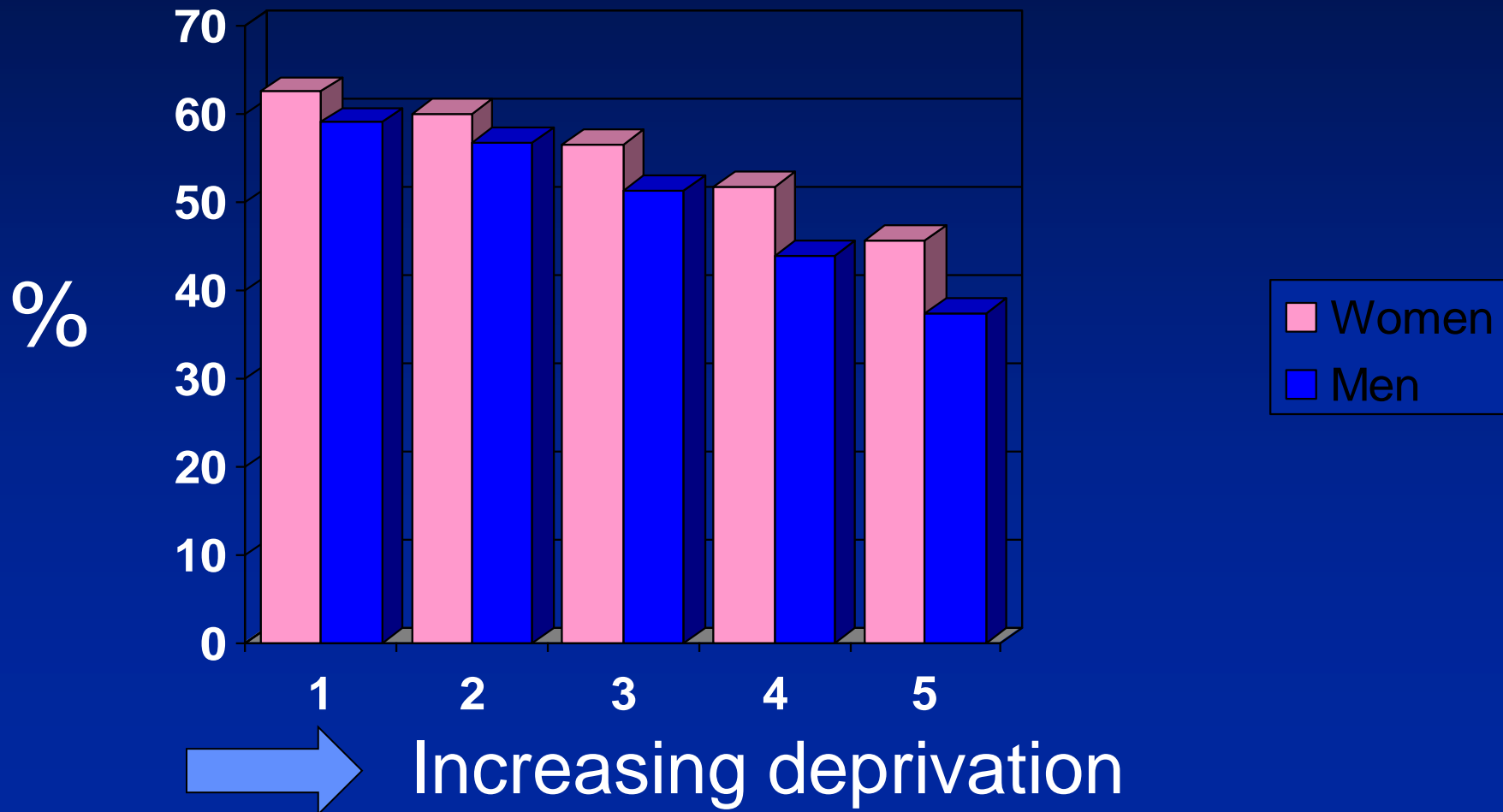
# Results to Date

- 997 approached
- 492 (49%) expressed interest
- 42 (9%) declined
- 121 (25%) ineligible
- 329 (33%) randomised
- 173 have reached 12 month follow-up

# Problems with screening

# Uptake

## - Gender and Deprivation

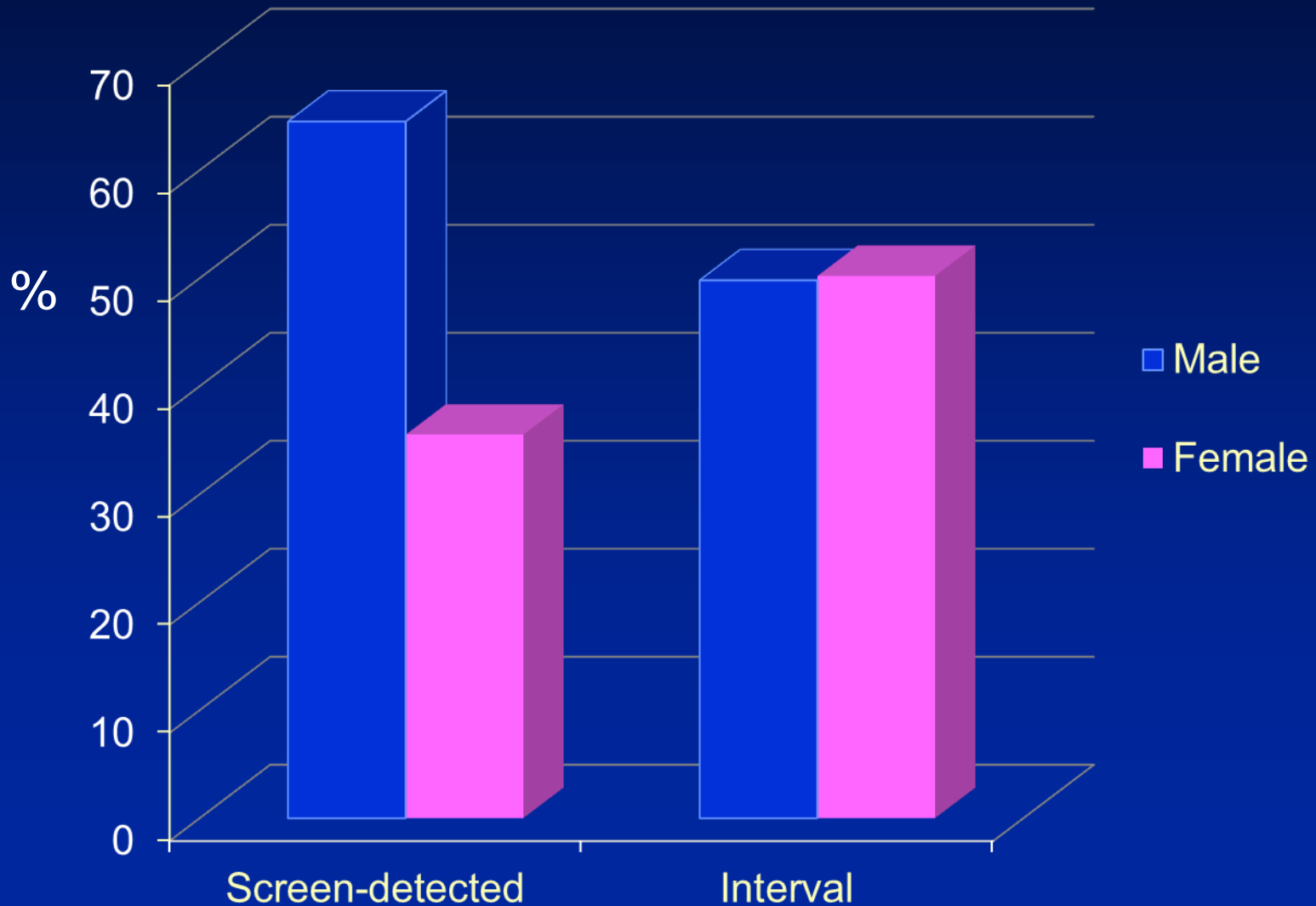


# Cancers Diagnosed in the Screened Population

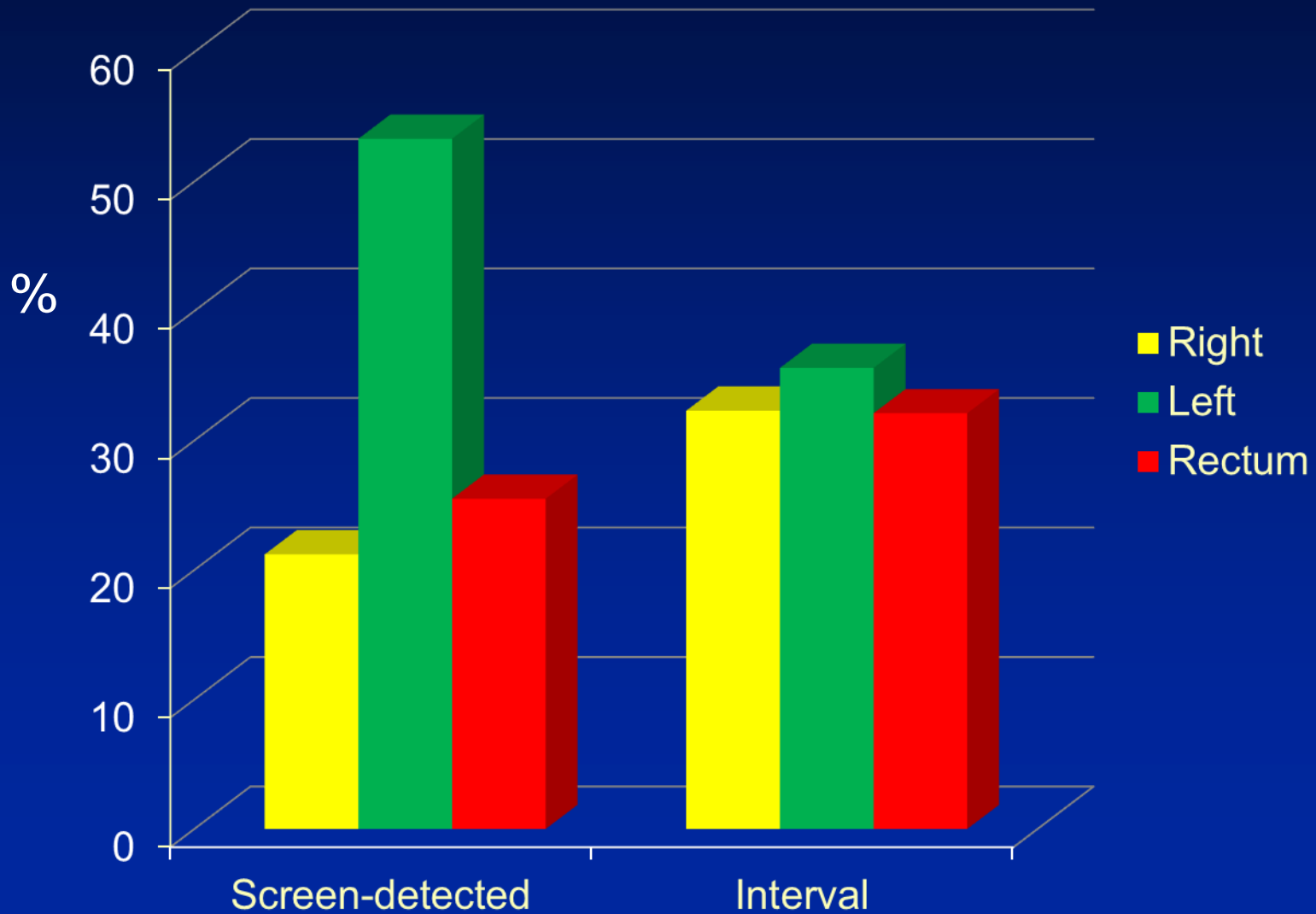
	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
Screen -detected	351 (56.6%)	208 (46.5%)	139 (35.7%)
True interval	193 (31.2%)	213 (47.7%)	229 (58.9%)
Missed	2 (0.3%)	4 (0.9%)	2 (0.5%)
Miscellaneous	66 (10.7%)	22 (4.9%)	19 (4.9%)
Not on Socrates	6 (1%)	0	0



# Gender distribution - all rounds



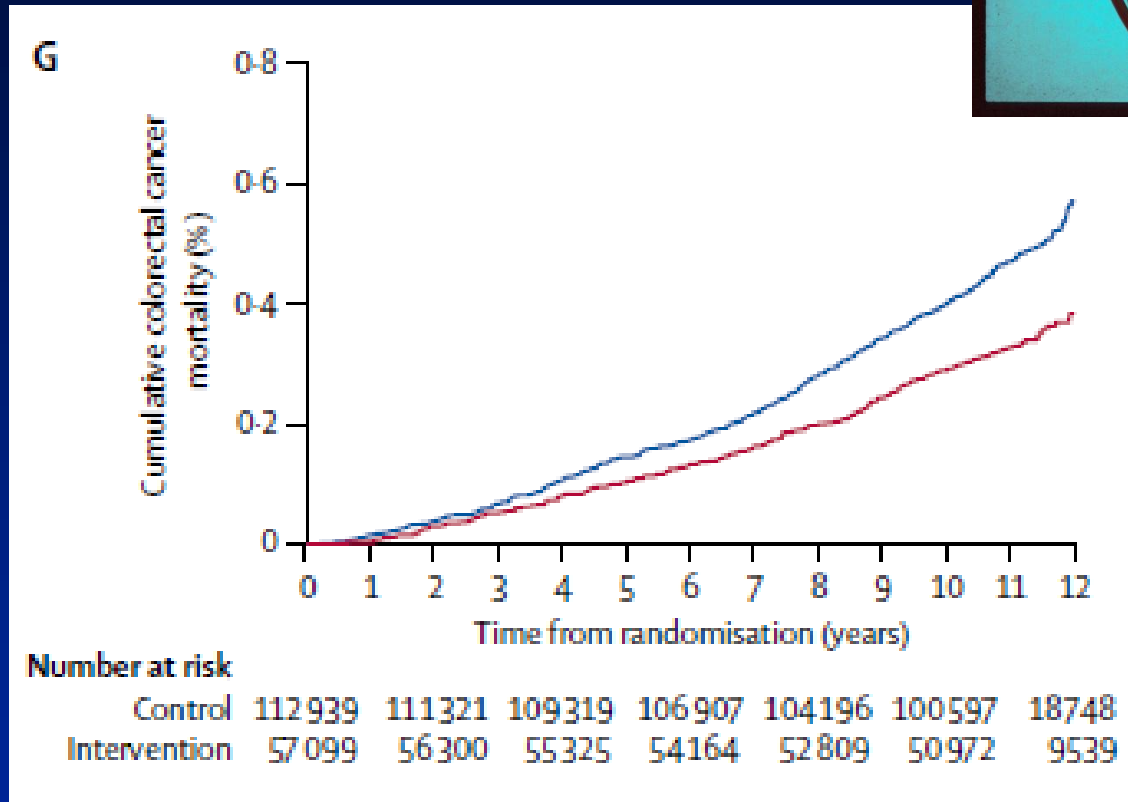
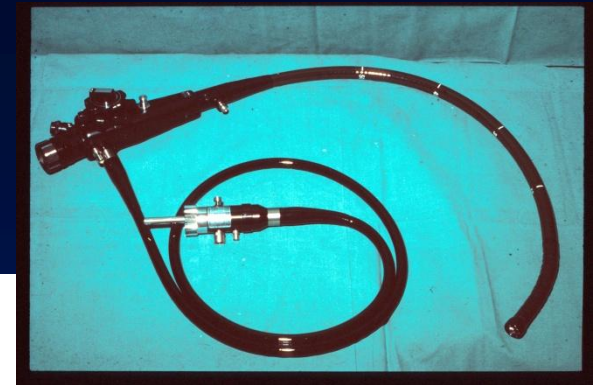
# Site distribution - all rounds



# Issues to address

- Uptake
- Interval Cancers
- Gender inequality
- Rectal and right-sided cancers

# Mortality from CRC



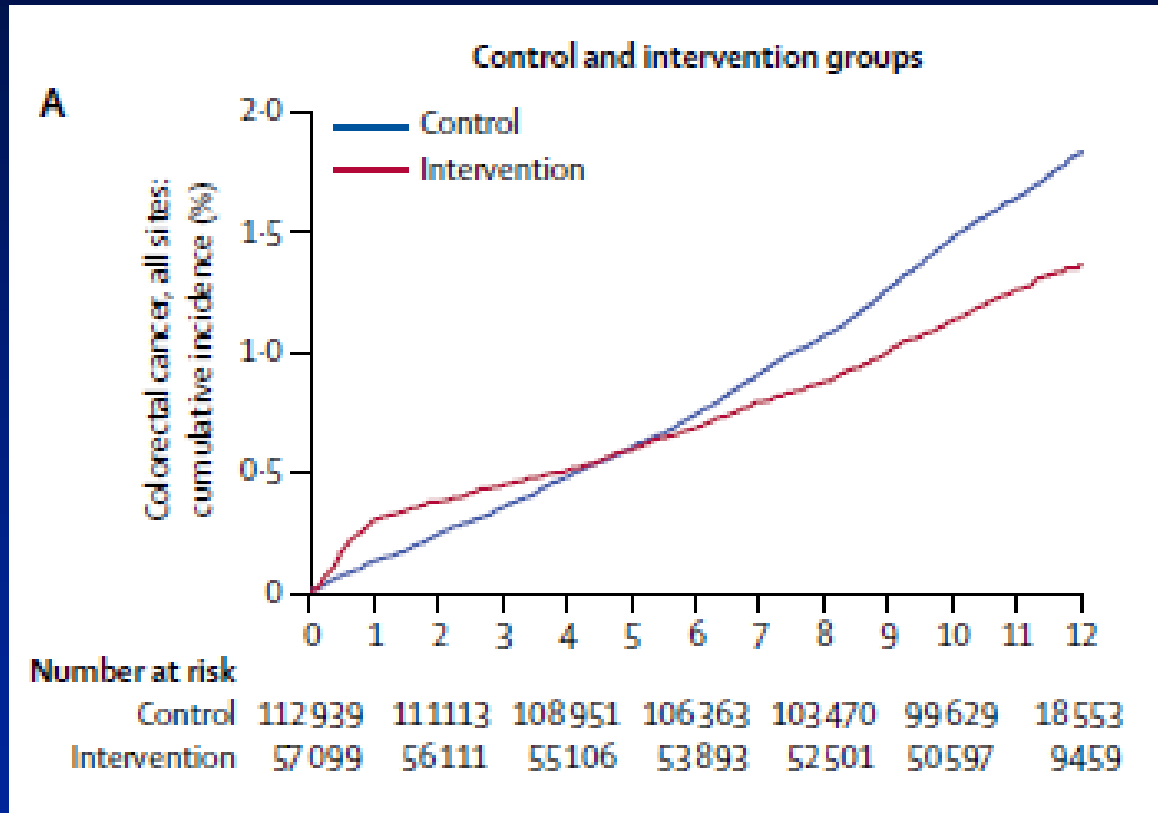
Once-only flexible sigmoidoscopy screening in prevention of colorectal cancer: a multicentre randomised controlled trial



Wendy S Atkin, Rob Edwards, Ines Kralj-Hans, Kate Wooldrage, Andrew R Hart, John M A Northover, D Max Parkin, Jane Wardle, Stephen W Duffy, Jack Cuzick, UK Flexible Sigmoidoscopy Trial Investigators

Published Online  
April 28, 2010  
DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)60551-X

# Incidence of CRC



# Potential Advantages of FS

- Disease prevention
  - Enhanced detection of left-sided adenomas
- Detection of rectal cancer
- Unlikely to be a gender difference

# Potential Problems with FS

- Uptake
  - Unlikely to be >30%
  - Possibility of exaggerated deprivation gradient
- Effect on right-sided cancers

# Future of FS

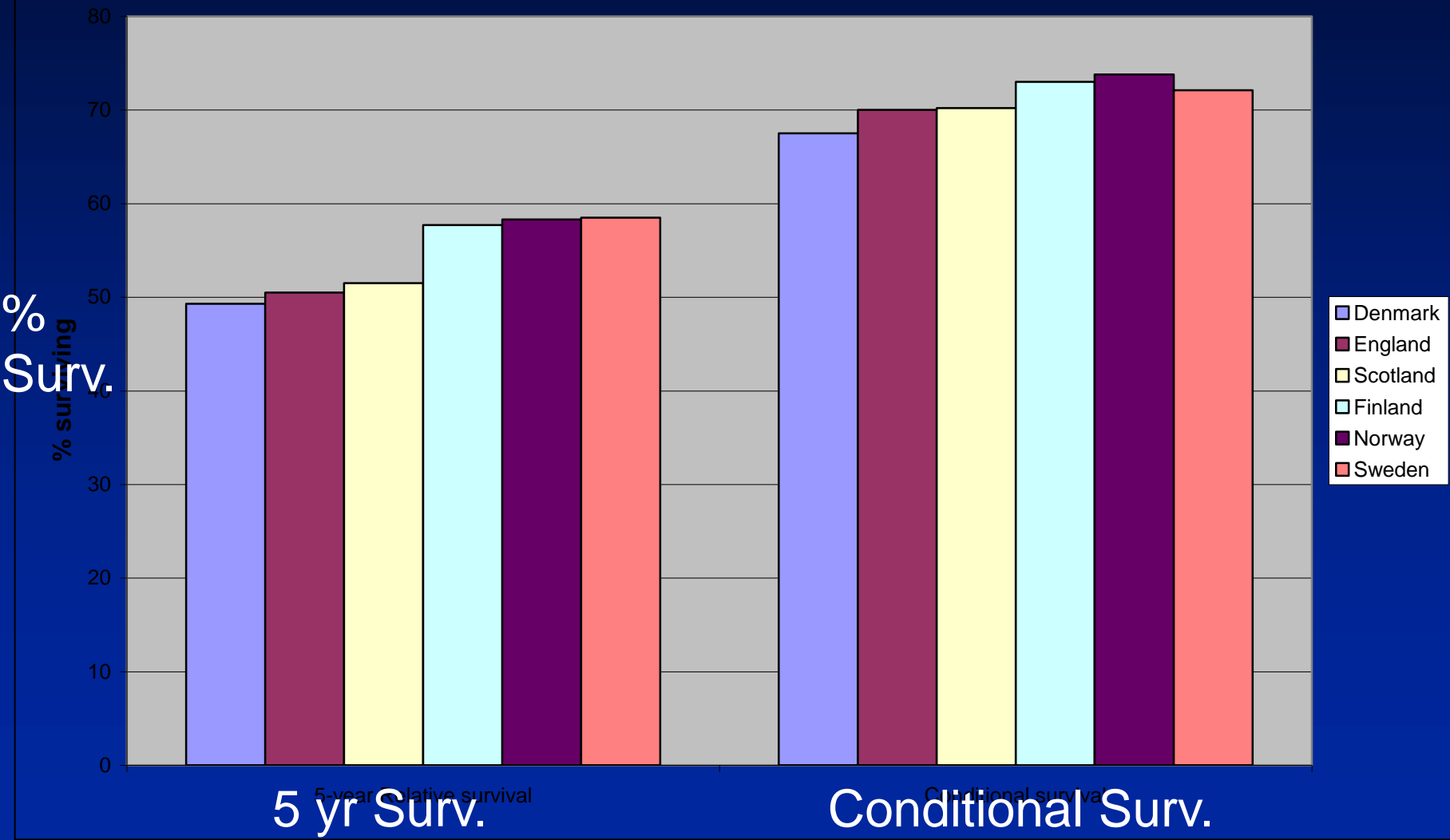
- Commitment to role out in England
  - At age 55 before FOBT screening starts
- Position in Scotland
  - FOBT screening starts at age 50
  - What is added value of FS in a population that has been offered FOBT?
  - Pilot planned at ~ age 60



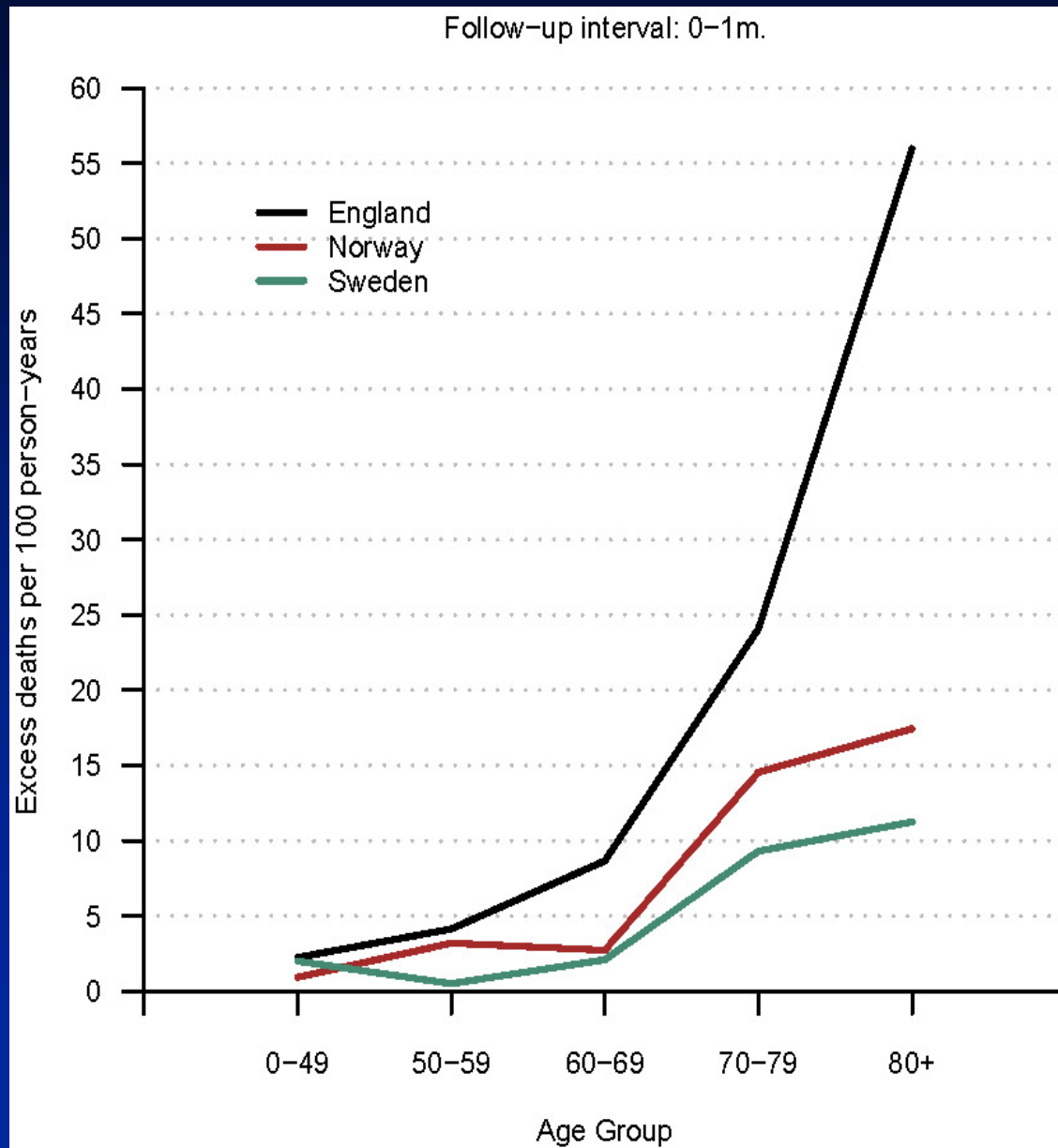
How can we  
improve outcomes  
of treatment?

# CRC Survival by Country

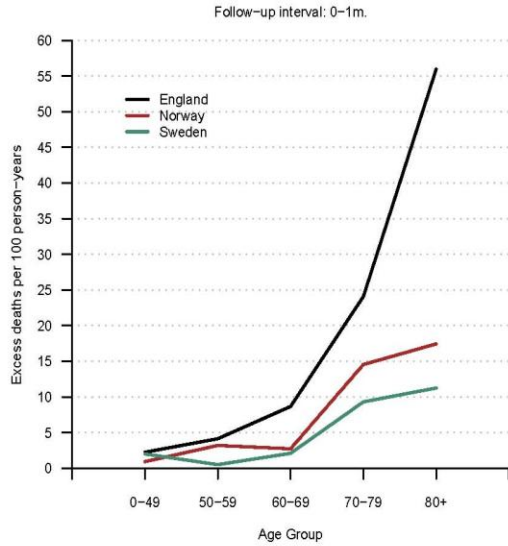
Colorectal cancer diagnosed 1993-2005: 5-year relative survival conditional on surviving at least one year



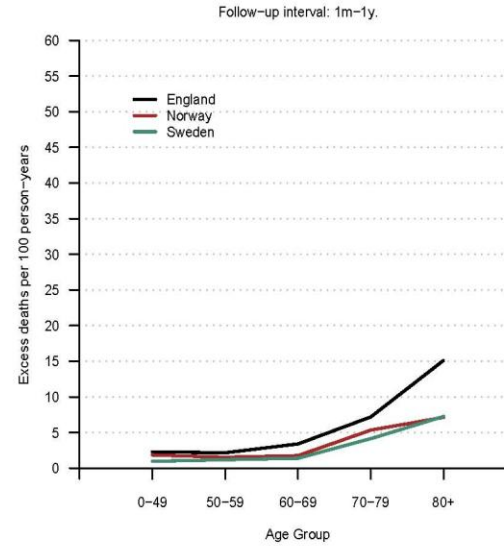
# Absolute excess death rates from CRC



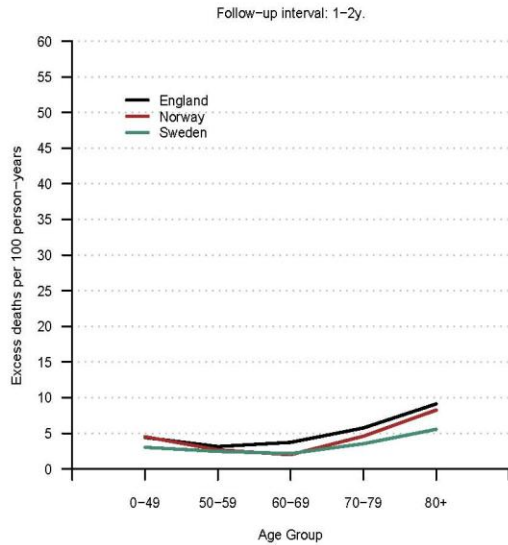
0-1m



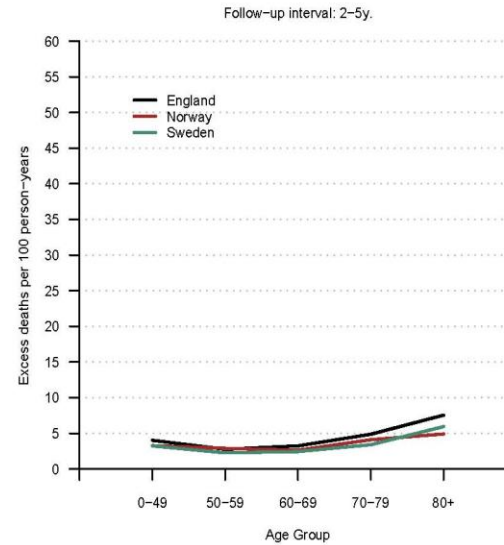
1m-1y



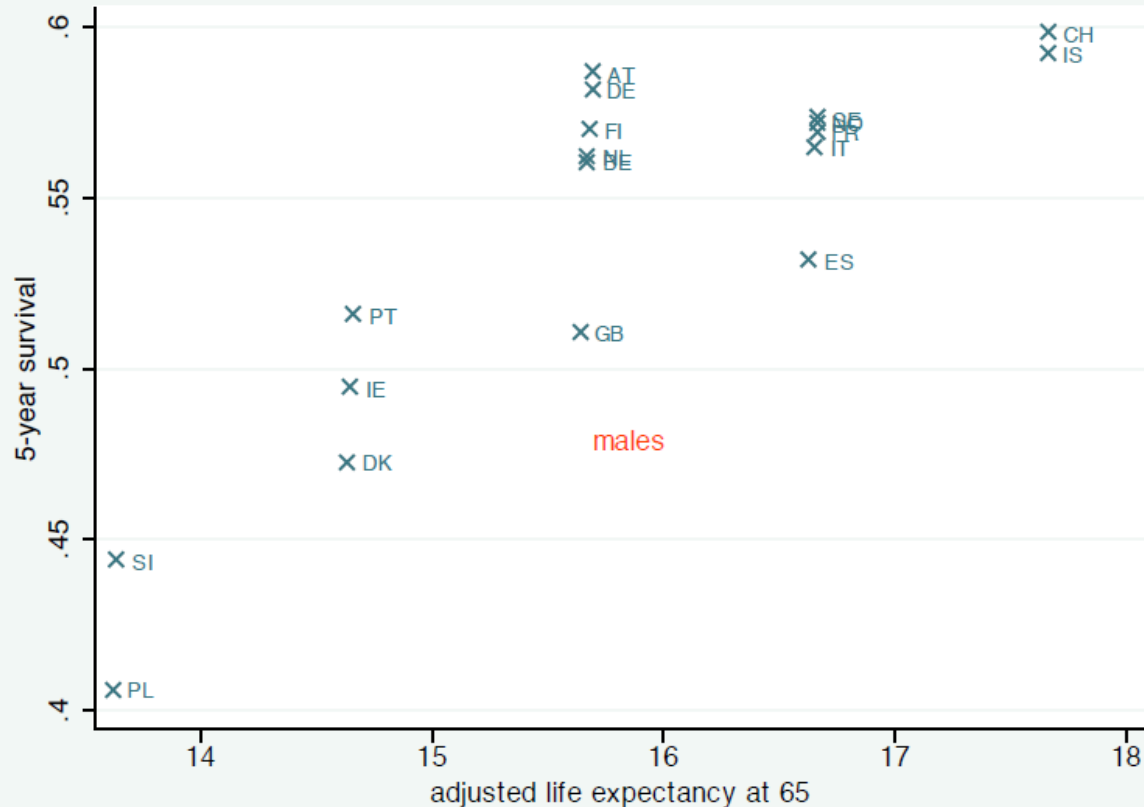
1y-2y



2y-5y



# CRC Survival vs Av. National Life Expectancy



$P < 0.001$

# Fitness is a Factor

- Deprivation ass. with decreased CRC survival (1<sup>st</sup> month)
- Deprivation ass. with increased operative mortality
- Deprivation ass. with poor cardiovascular fitness
- Poor cardiovascular fitness ass. with poor short term outcomes

Pre-operative  
optimization  
combined with  
postoperative  
lifestyle  
modification ?



# StartWELL

- Randomised feasibility study of a lifestyle intervention programme initiated *before* surgery for CRC and continued for 10 weeks after the end of treatment
- Intervention – smoking, physical activity and dietary change
- Outcome measures
  - 1°: treatment related side effects
  - 2°: long term cancer and CV outcomes



# Summary

- Effective prevention interventions
- More effective screening
- Role of aspirin
- Optimizing surgical treatment at a population level