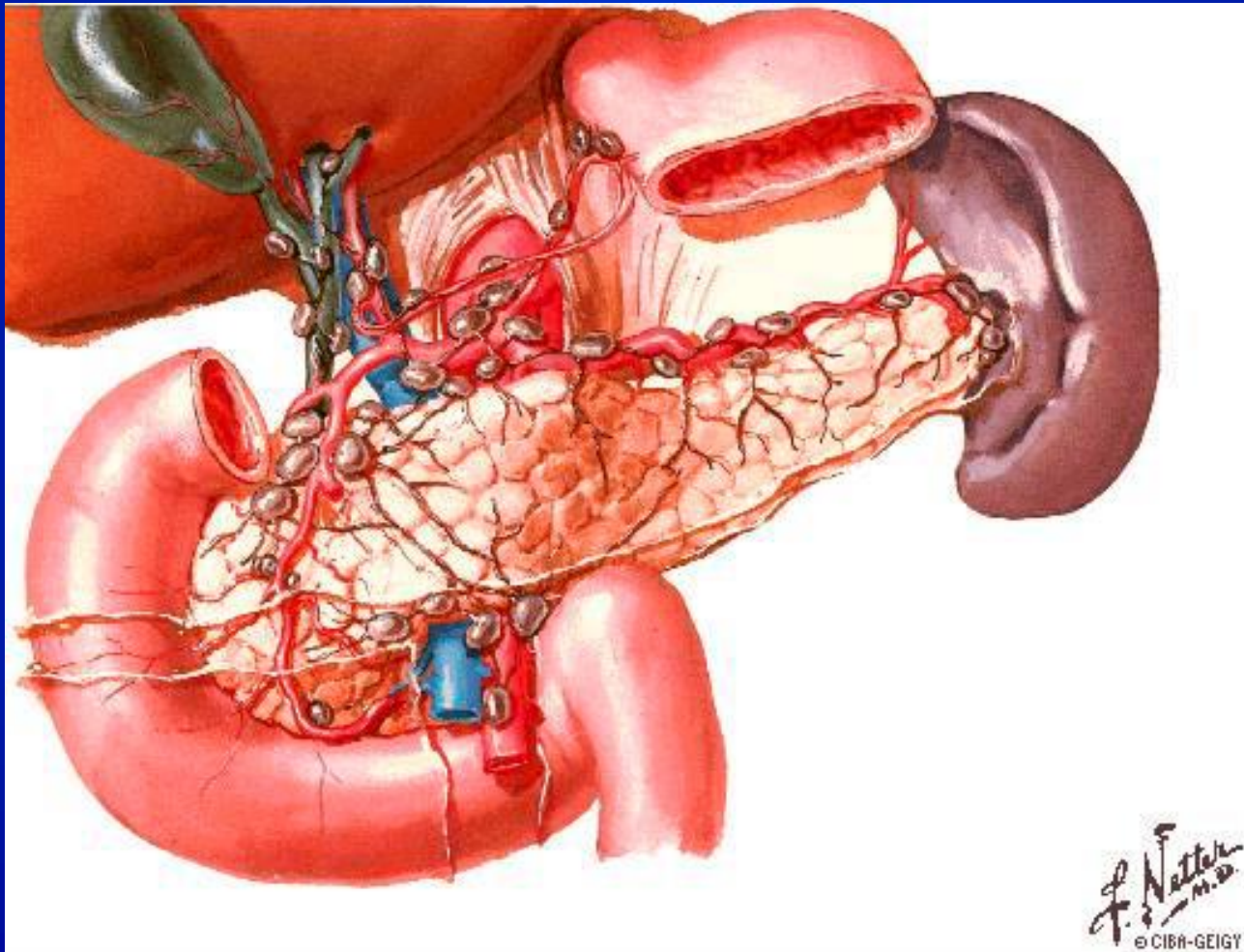


# Ongoing Challenges of Pancreatic Cancer

Jane McClements MD FRCSEd (Gen Surg)  
Consultant Hepatobiliary Surgeon  
Belfast HSCT

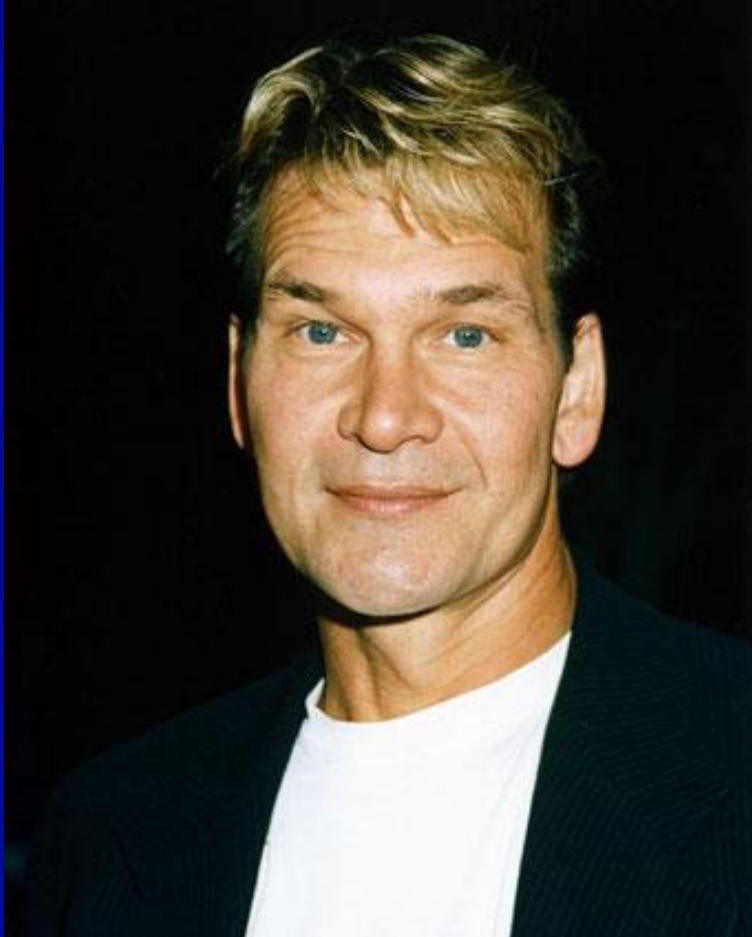


# Outline





"I was a fortunate and happy man. After that, this blow arrived. And now I am paying the penalty for this fortune and happiness."



"I keep dreaming of a future, a future with a long and healthy life, not lived in the shadow of cancer but in the light,"

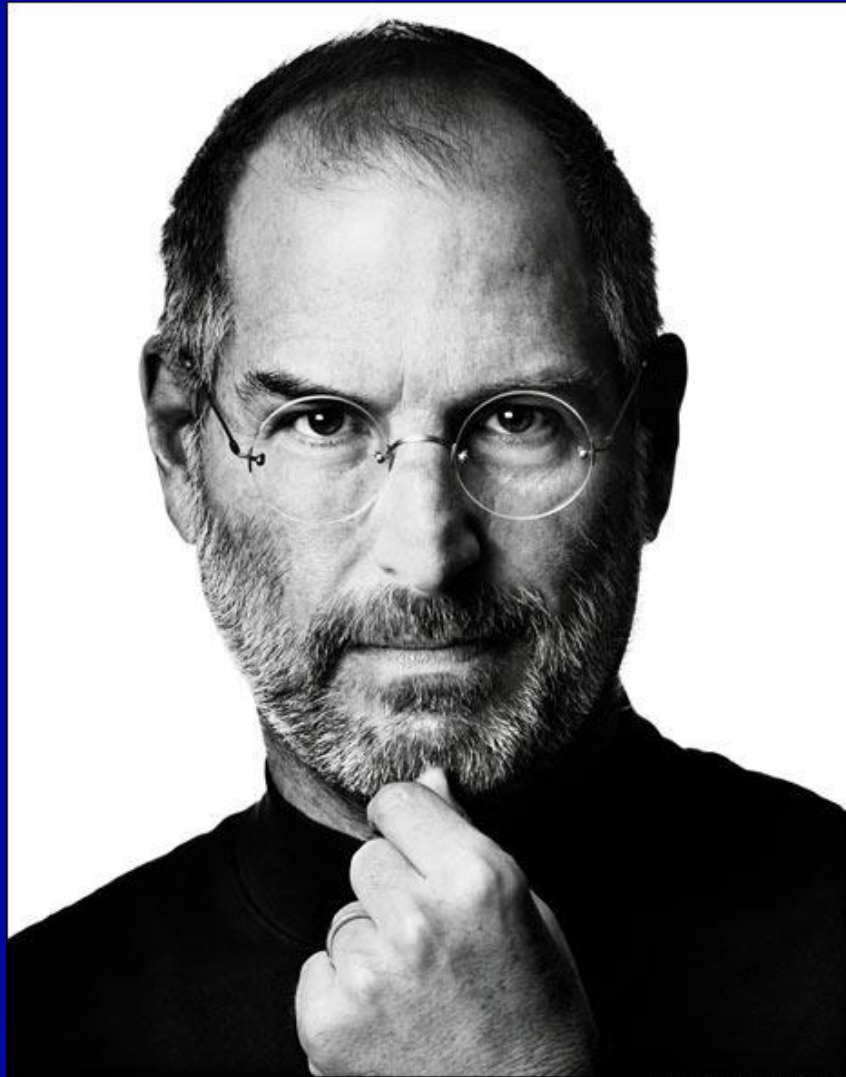


PHOTO: ALBERT WATSON

“It means to try to tell your kids everything you thought you’d have the next ten years to tell them in just a few months. It means to make sure everything is buttoned up so that it will be as easy as possible for your family. It means to say your goodbyes.”

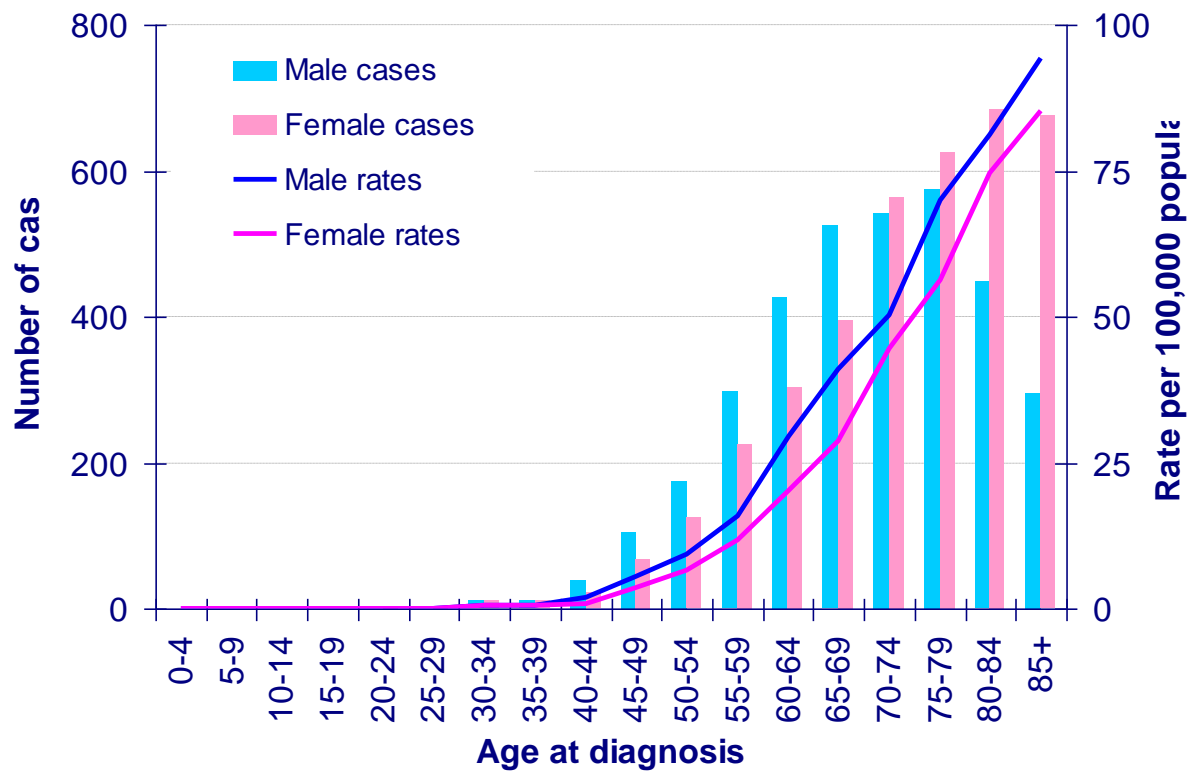
# Pancreatic cancer

- Fourth leading cause of cancer-related death
- > 7000 deaths annually in UK
- Overall 5-year survival approx 1%
- Only approx 13% alive after 1 year
- Often called the “silent disease” because it usually doesn’t cause symptoms in early stages



# Demographics

Figure 1.2: Numbers of new cases and age-specific incidence rates, by sex, pancreatic cancer, UK 2003





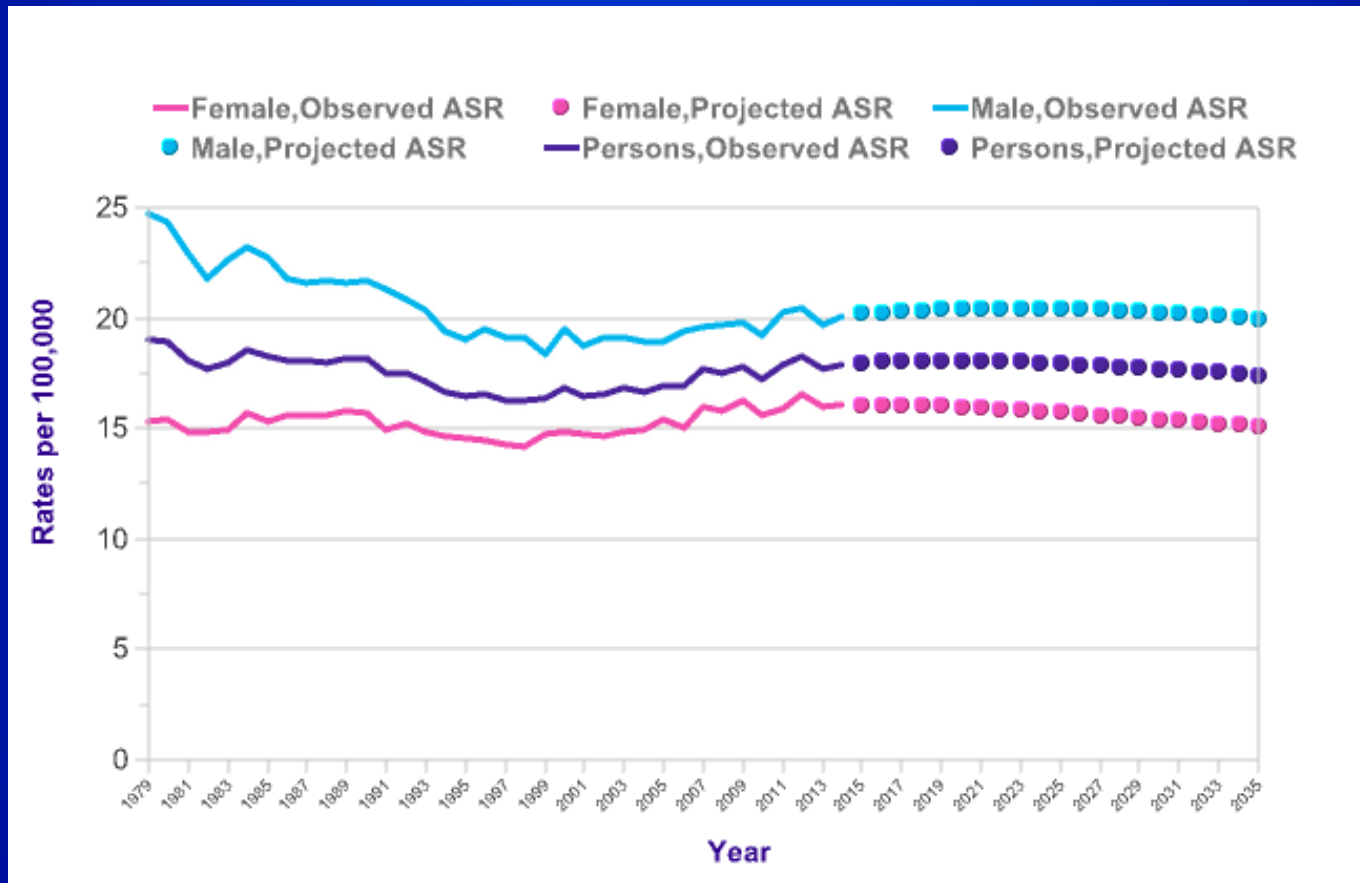
# Epidemiology

- Rare < 40 years
- > 60% cases from 60 & 80 years
- Approx 10/100,000 population/year
- Male:female ratio 1.4:1

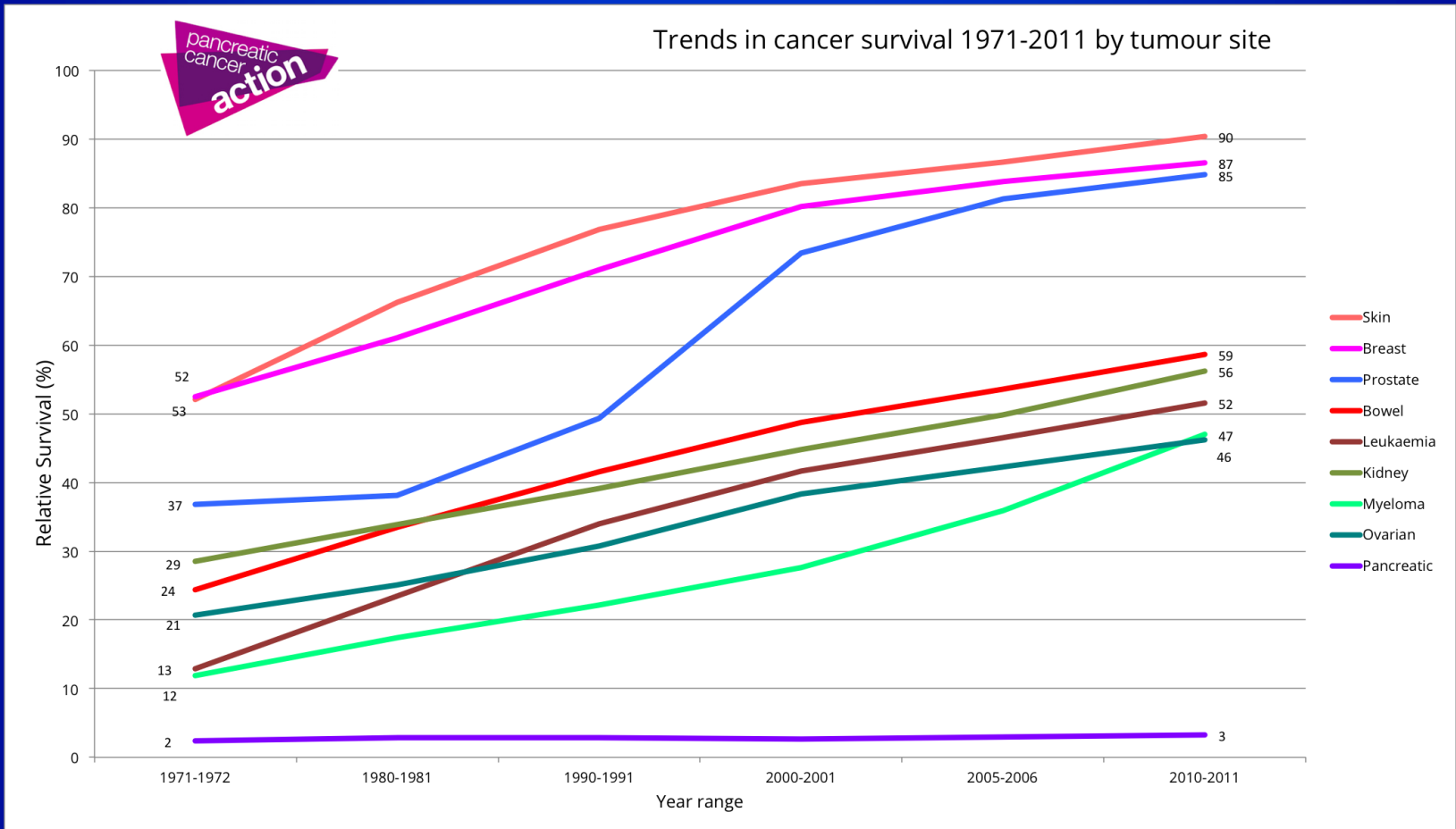


# Mortality

Age standardised Mortality Rates per 100, 000 persons, UK, 1971-2019



# Mortality

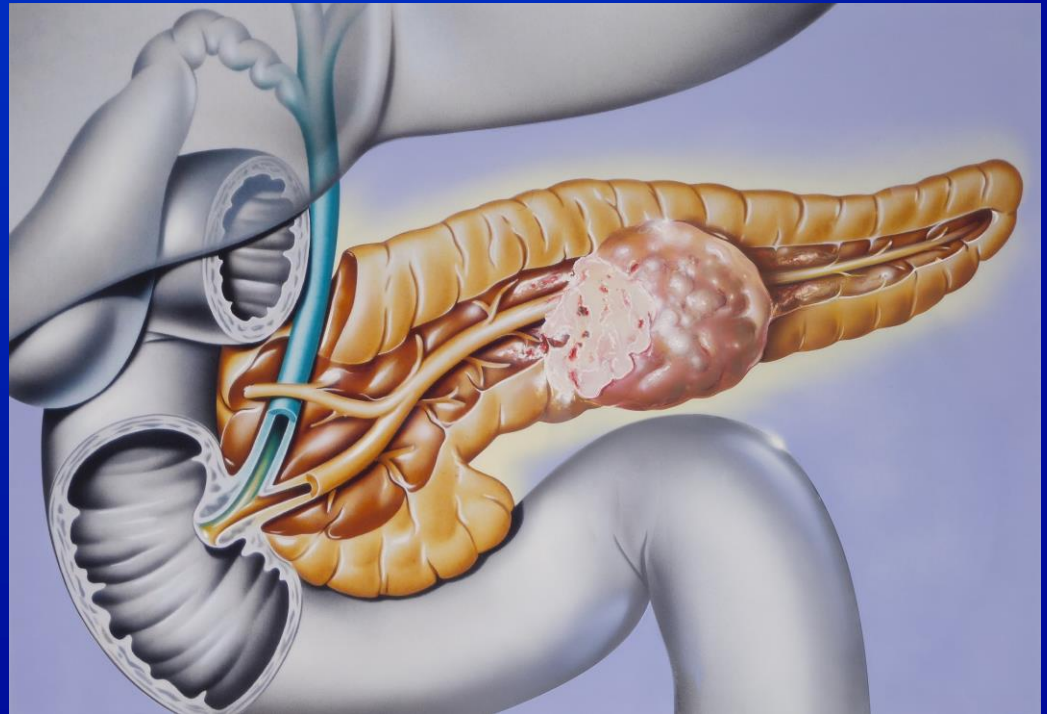


# Aetiology

- Cause unknown
- Smoking & alcohol?
- Chronic pancreatitis
- Diabetes? (5 years greater than 2x increase)
- Hereditary pancreatic cancer — susceptibility locus has been found in relation to chromosome 4q32-34.
- Familial breast cancer gene (BRCA2)

# Clinical presentation

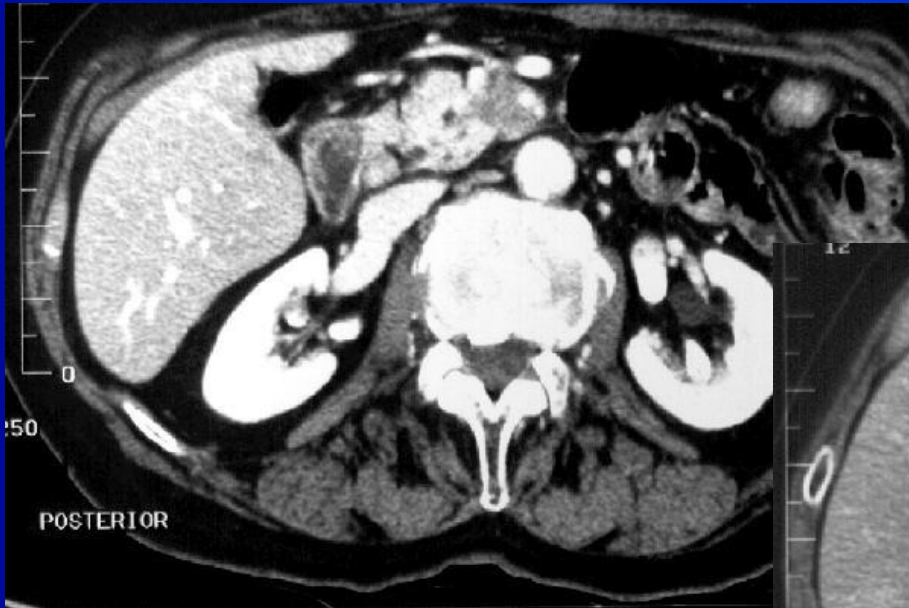
- Very difficult to diagnose in early stage
- Weight ↓
  - Malabsorption
  - Steatorrhoea
- N+V
- Anorexia
- Cachexia
- Jaundice
- Pain
- Diabetes



# Diagnosis

- Ultrasound
- CT scan

# CT

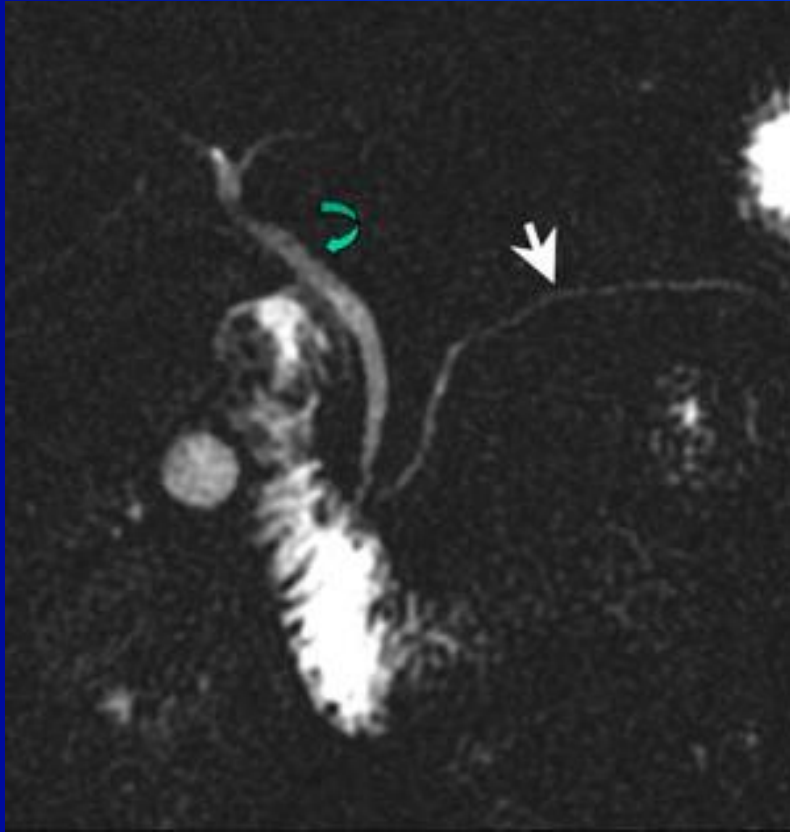


# Diagnosis

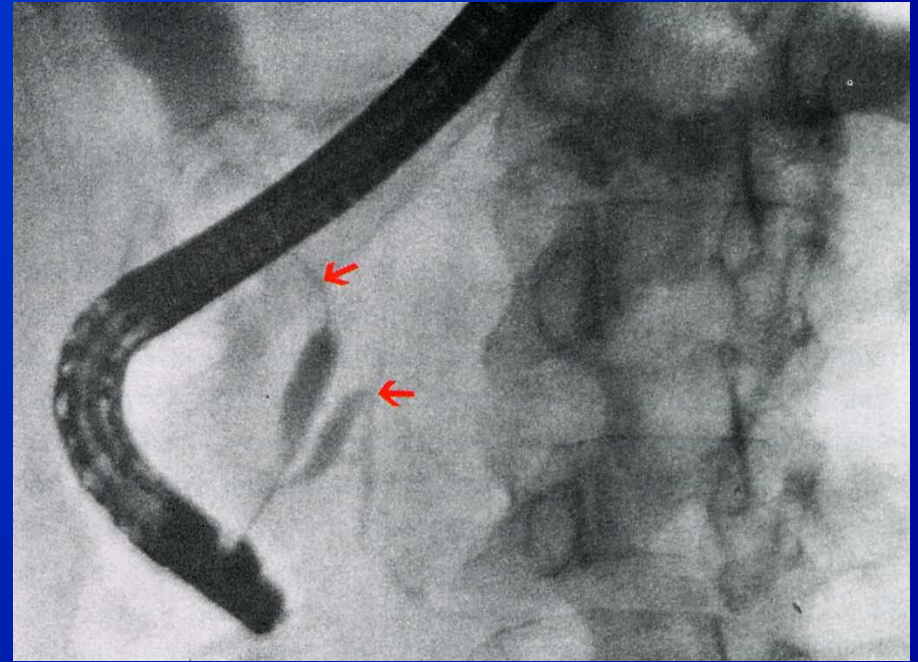
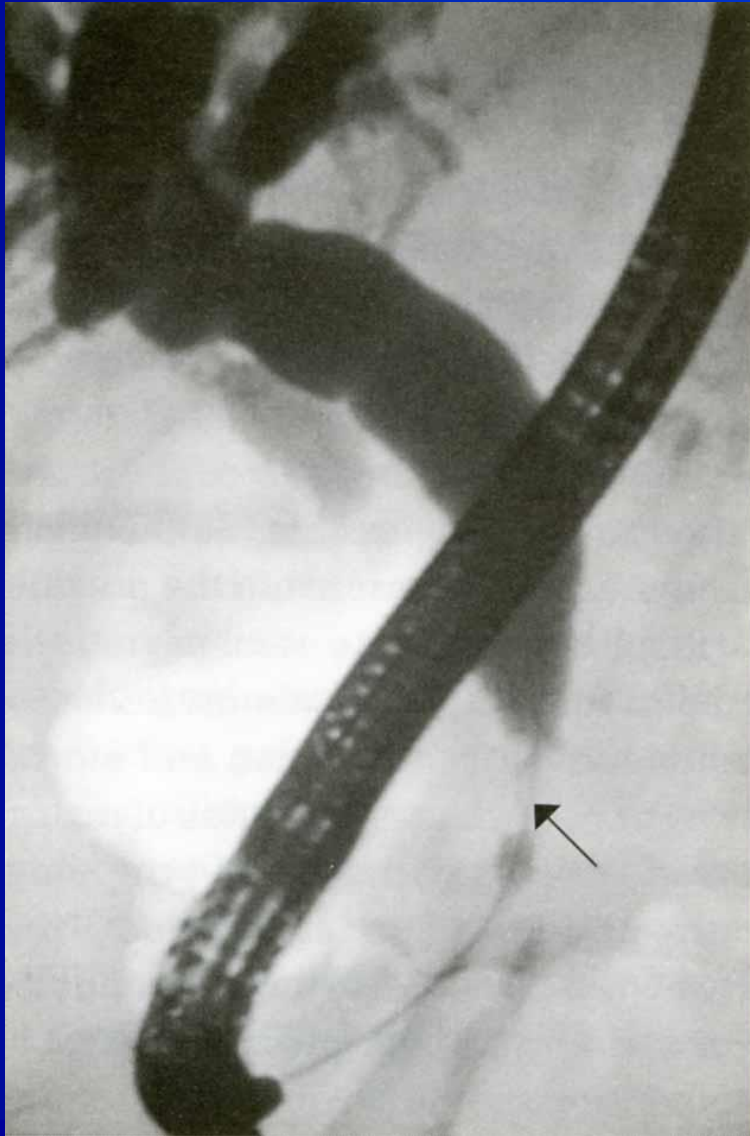
- Ultrasound
- CT scan
- MRI & MRCP
- ERCP



# MRCP



# ERCP



- Therapeutic - stent
- Diagnostic – brushing
- Post ERCP pancreatitis – 5%

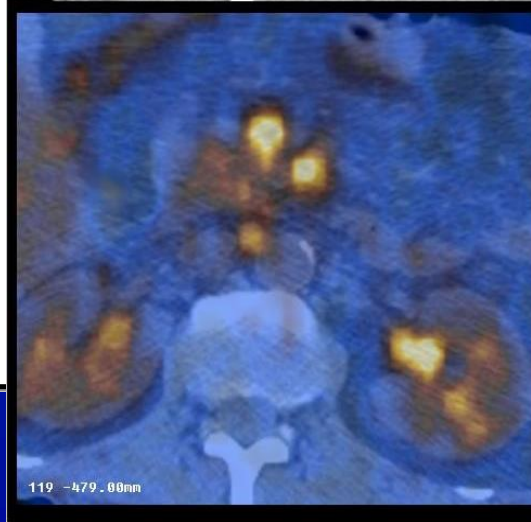
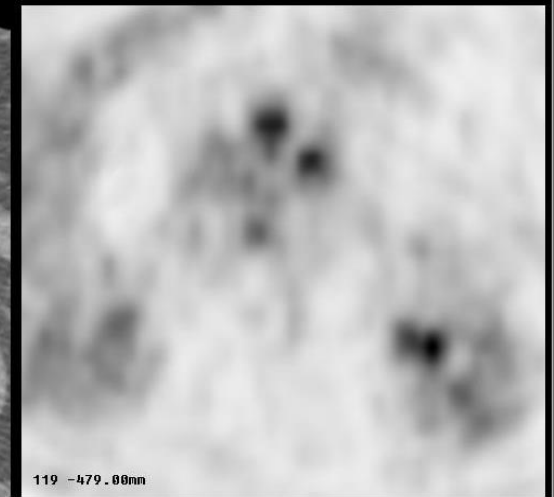
# EUS



# Diagnosis

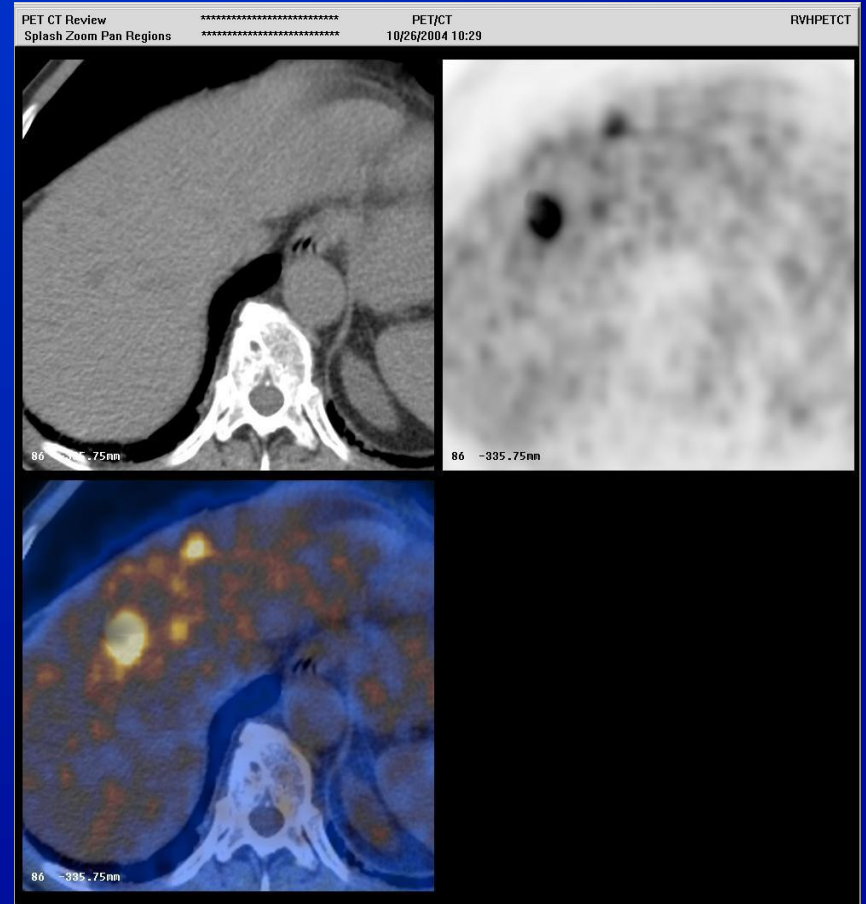
- Ultrasound
- CT scan
- MRI & MRCP
- ERCP
- EUS
- CT-PET

# CT-PET

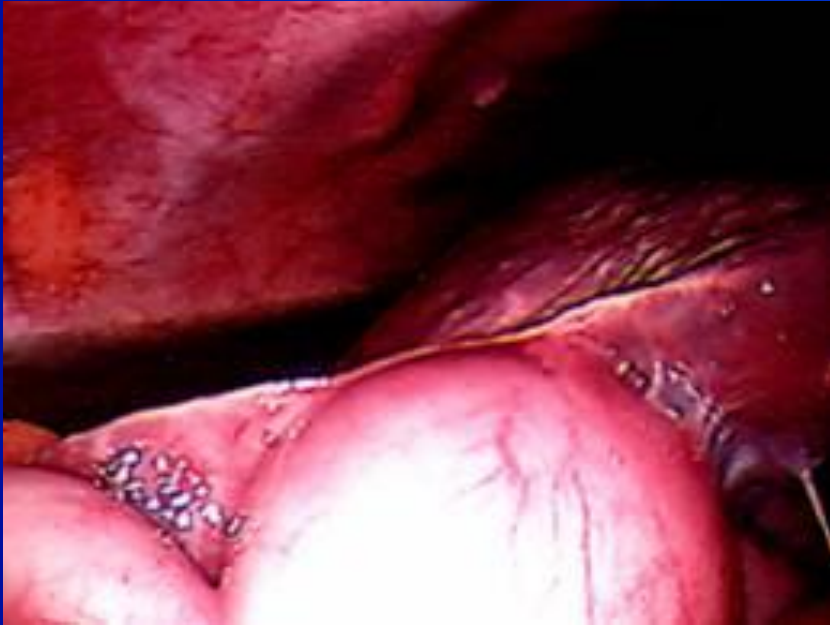




# Extrapancreatic disease



# Staging Laparoscopy



1. John et al. *Annals of Surg* 1995; 221: 156-164



# Treatment

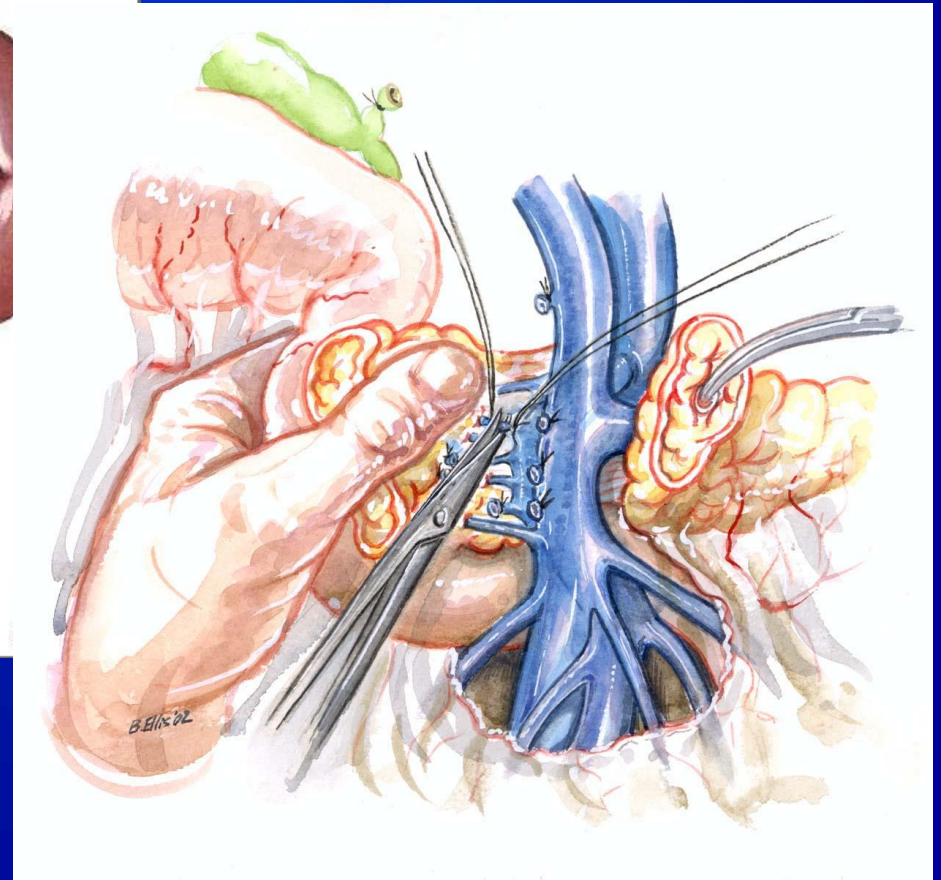
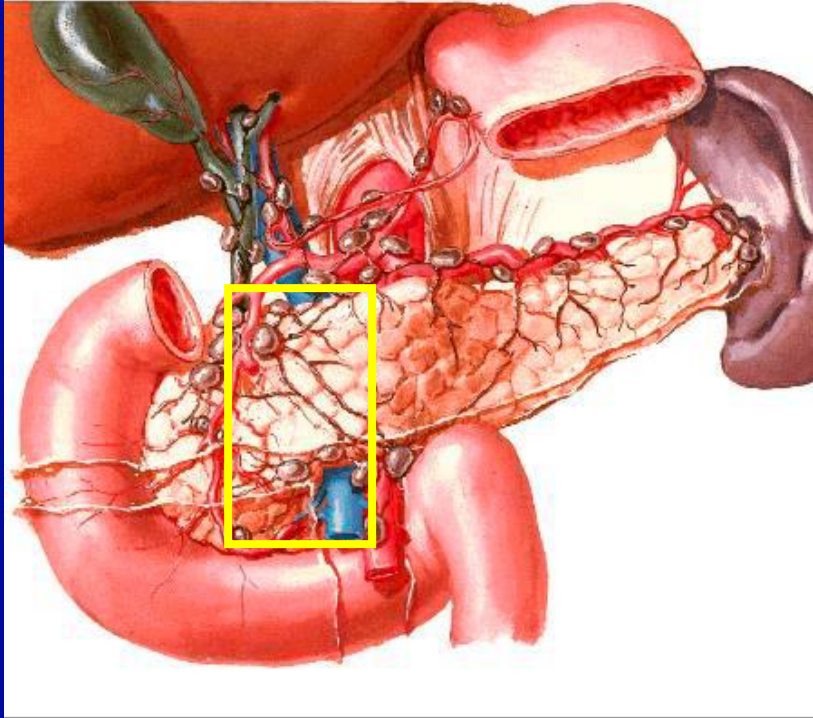
- Resection possible in only approx 20%
  - local invasion
  - metastases
  - advanced cachexia
- Resection – Whipple procedure / Distal pancreatectomy / Total pancreatectomy
- Unresectable – endoscopic vs surgical Rx  
biliary/gastric outlet obstruction

# Allen Oldfather Whipple (1881-1963)



*Original paper. Whipple AO, Parsons WB, Mullins CR.  
Treatment of Carcinoma of the Ampulla of Vater. Ann Surg  
1935; 102: 763-769.*

# Whipple pancreaticoduodenectomy



# Whipples Procedure

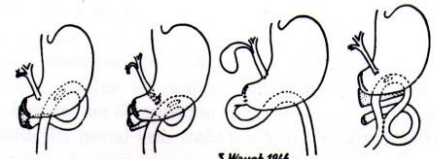


Organs removed during a Whipple

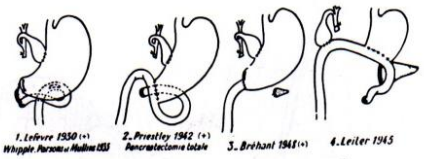


Most common anatomy after Whipple

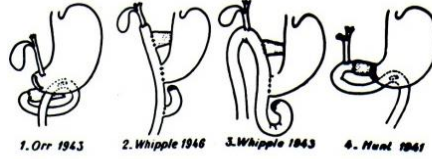




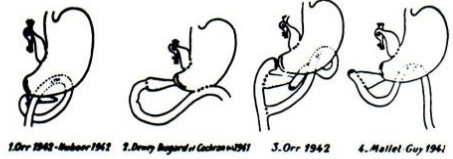
1. Cole et Reynolds 1942 2. Orr 1941 3. Waugh 1944 4. Phillips 1943



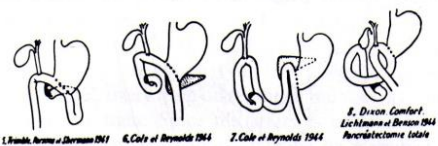
5. Lefevre 1930 6. Prestley 1942 7. Brihan 1941 8. Leifer 1945



9. Orr 1943 10. Whipple 1946 11. Whipple 1943 12. Hunt 1946



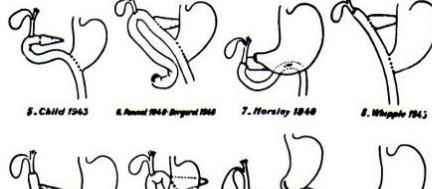
13. Orr 1942 14. Denoy Bugard et Gahraoui 1941 15. Orr 1942 16. Mallet Guy 1941



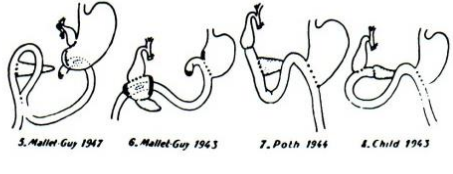
17. Hinkle, Harris et Sherman 1941 18. Cole et Reynolds 1944 19. Cole et Reynolds 1944 20. Dixon Comber, Lichstein et Brown 1944



21. Rocky 1942 22. Pearse 1942 23. Dennis 1942 24. Clagett 1944



25. Child 1943 26. Ansel 1940 27. Horstey 1948 28. Whipple 1943



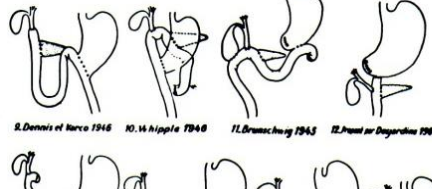
29. Mallet Guy 1947 30. Mallet Guy 1943 31. Poth 1944 32. Child 1943



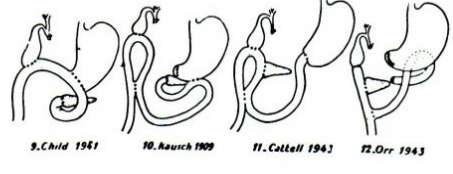
33. Delaney 1947 34. D'Orty 1943 35. Brunschwig 1943 36. Mainot 1941



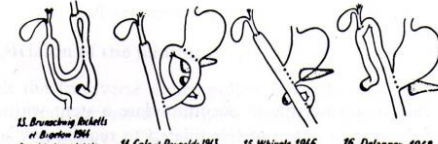
37. Erb 1943 38. Brunschwig 1951 39. Whipple 1938 40. Moreland et Frenness 1941



41. Dennis et Harco 1946 42. Whipple 1948 43. Brunschwig 1943 44. Papan et Desgardins 1947



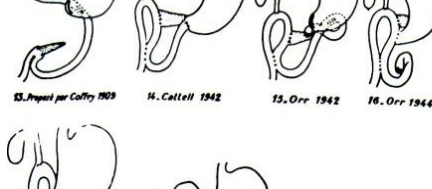
45. Child 1941 46. Rausch 1909 47. Cattell 1943 48. Orr 1943



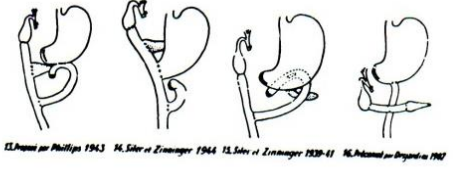
49. Brunschwig, Bickells et Burtson 1944 50. Cole et Reynolds 1943 51. Whipple 1946 52. Delaney 1948



53. Stevens 1945 54. Watson 1944 55. Codivilla 1898 56. Quenu 1944



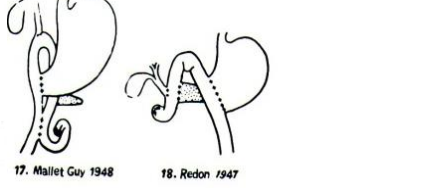
57. Papan et Coffey 1909 58. Cattell 1942 59. Orr 1942 60. Orr 1944



61. Papan et Phillips 1943 62. Siler et Zimminger 1944 63. Siler et Zimminger 1939-41 64. Moreland et Desgardins 1947

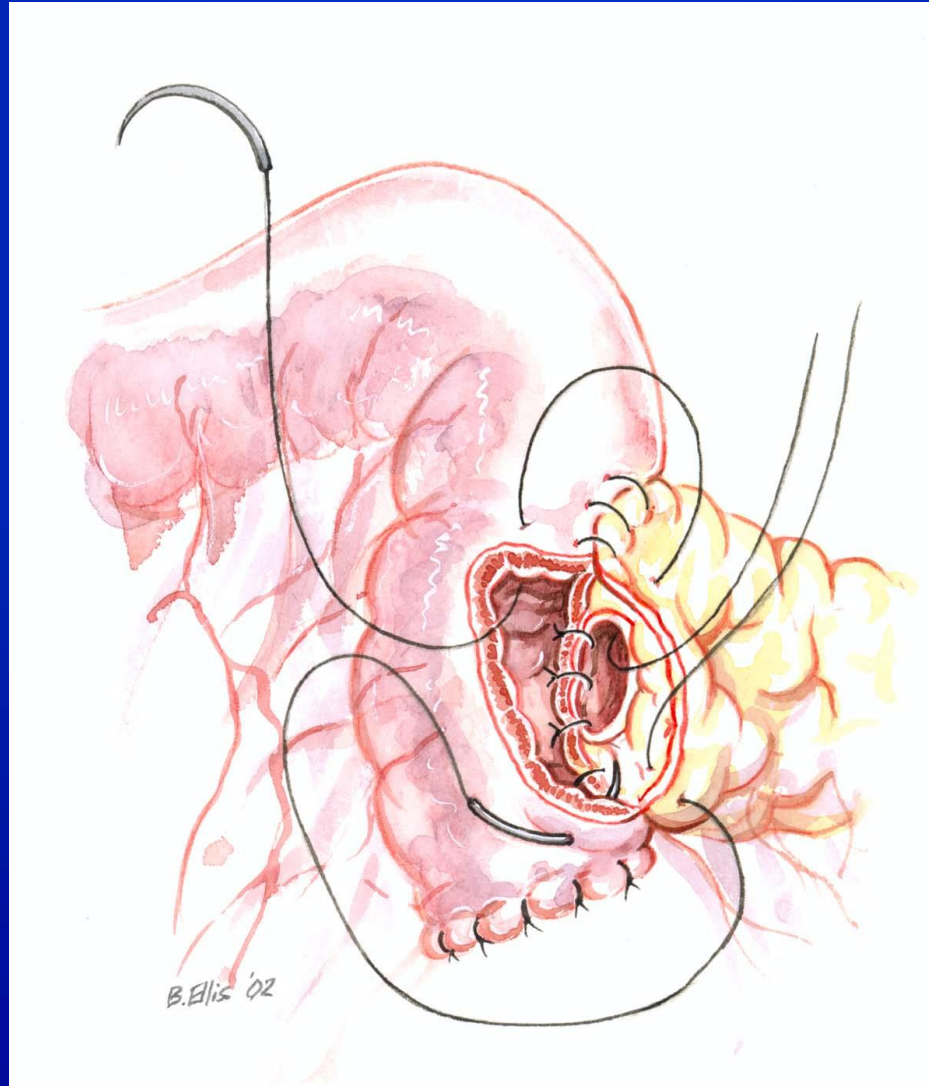


65. Inrozzi 1945 66. Ceccorelli 1943

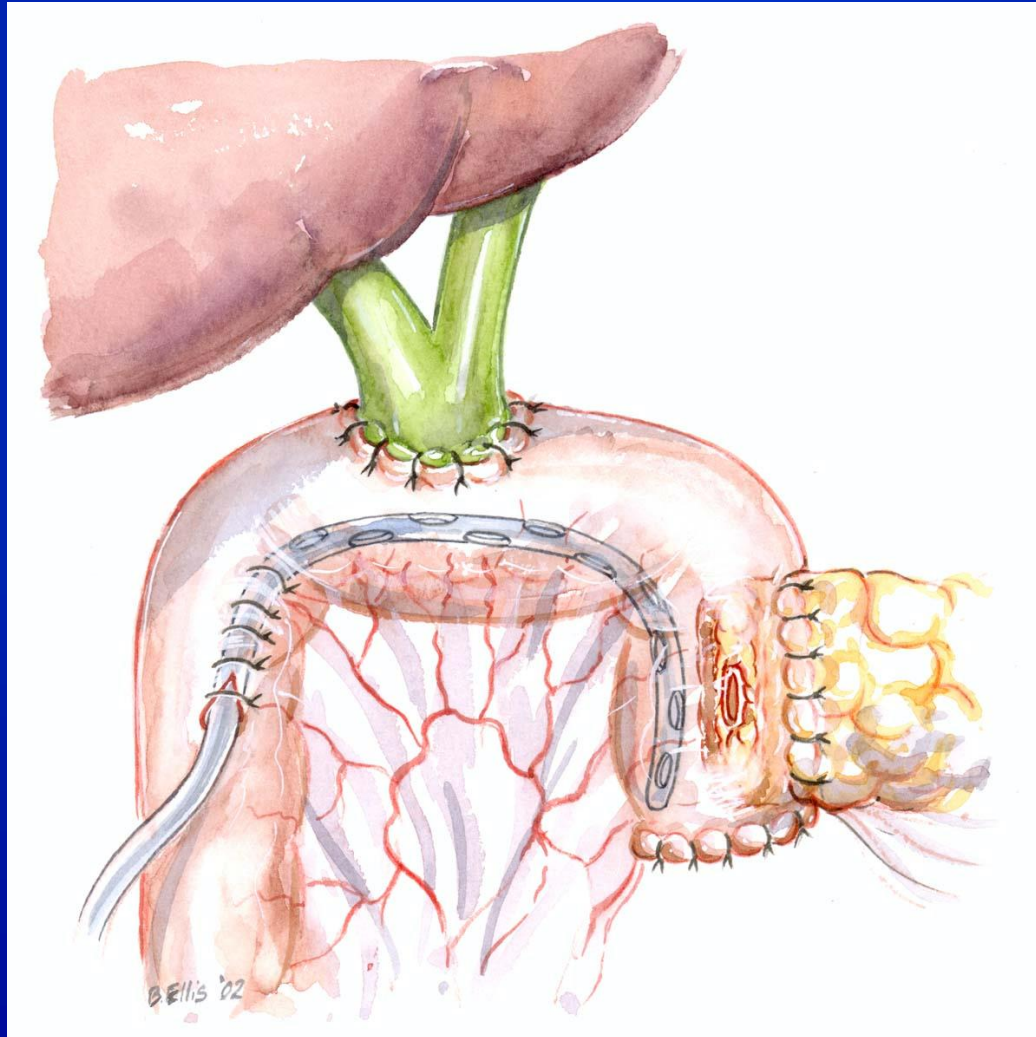


69. Mallet Guy 1948 70. Redon 1947

# Pancreatic Anastomosis

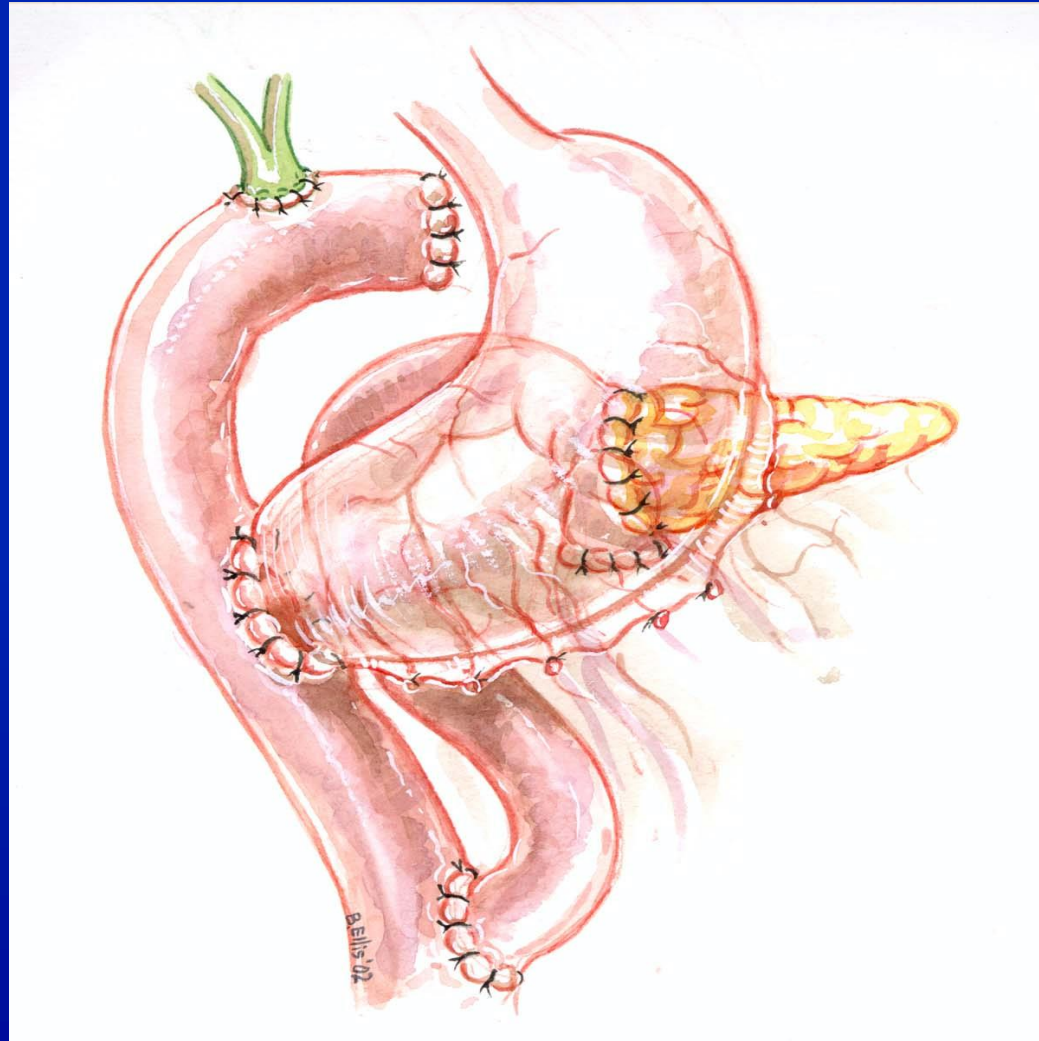


# Biliary Anastomosis

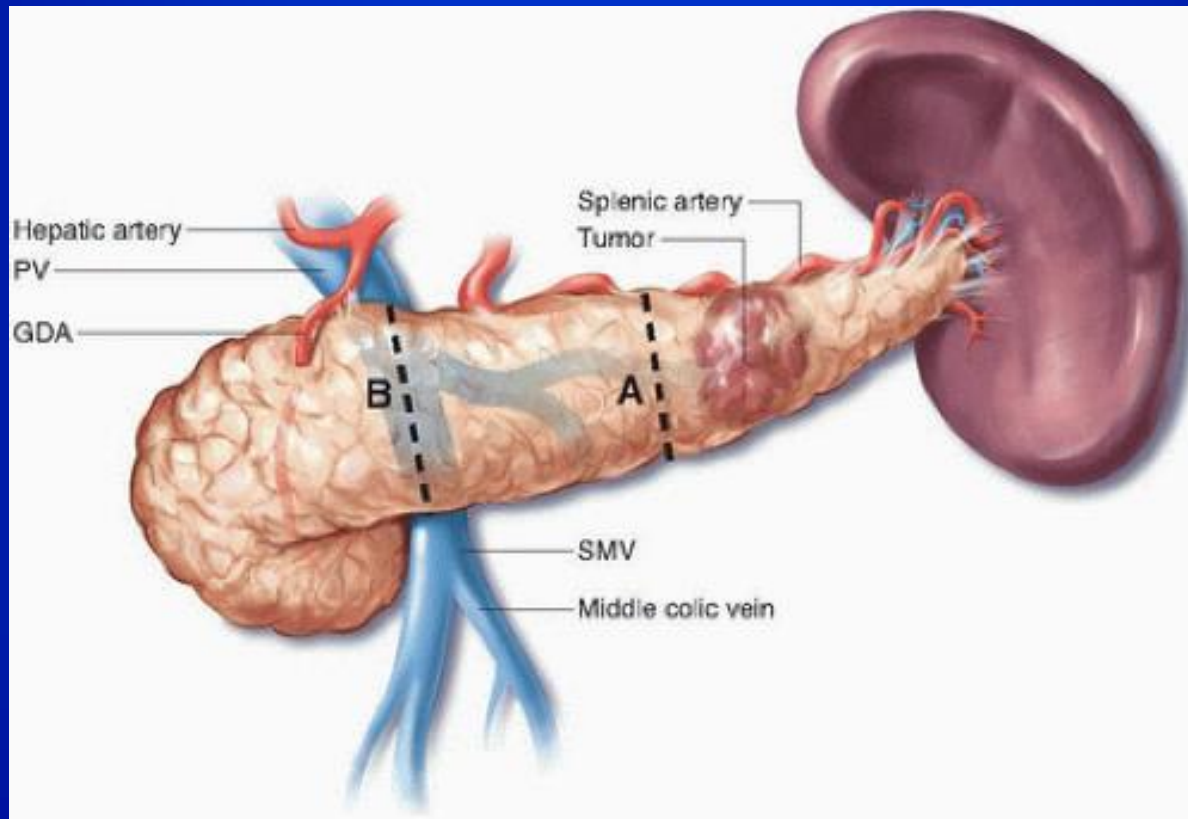




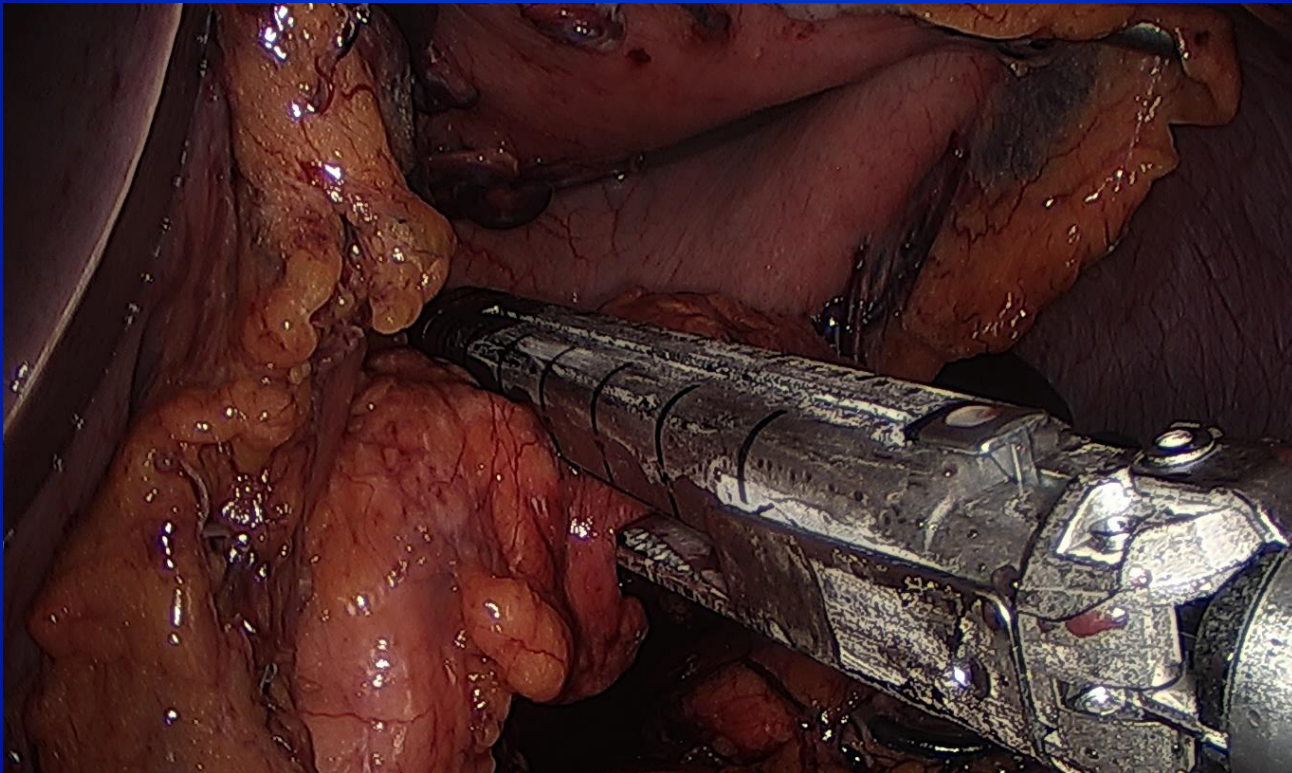
# Gastric Anastomosis



# Distal Pancreatectomy

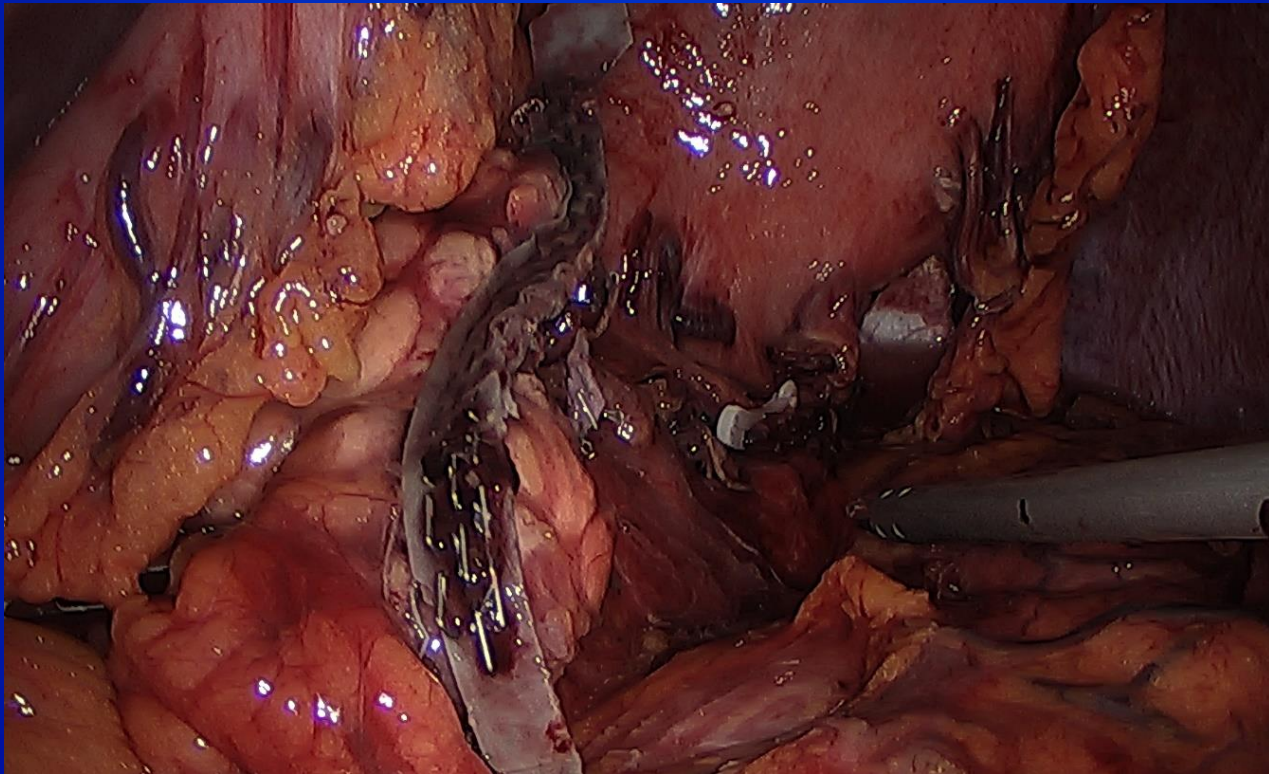


# Distal Pancreatectomy





# Distal Pancreatectomy



# Complications

- Up to 40%
- Include: Pancreatic fistula
  - intraabdominal sepsis
  - haemorrhage

## Delayed gastric emptying

→ no difference between classical or pylorus preserving Whipples<sup>1</sup>

1. Diener et al. *Ann of Surg*; 2007;245(2);187-200

# Mortality

- Resection is only option for cure
- Mortality in high volume centres less than 5%
- Clear evidence that high volume centres have better outcome
- Yeo CJ, Cameron JL, Sohn TA, et al. Six hundred fifty consecutive pancreaticoduodenectomies in the 1990s: pathology, complications, and outcomes. *Ann Surg.* 1997;226:248–257.
- Bassi C, Falconi M, Salvia R, et al. Management of complications after pancreaticoduodenectomy in a high volume centre: results on 150 consecutive patients. *Dig Surg.* 2001;18:453–457.
- Gouma DJ, van Geenen RC, van Gulik TM, et al. Rates of complications and death after pancreaticoduodenectomy: risk factors and the impact of hospital volume. *Ann Surg.* 2000;232:786–795.
- Yuman Fong, MD, Mithat Gonen, PhD, David Rubin, MS, Mark Radzyner, MBA, JD, and Murray F. Brennan, MD. Long-Term Survival Is Superior After Resection for Cancer in High-Volume Centers *Ann Surg.* 2005 October; 242(4): 540–547.

# Pancreatic cancer – resection

## Adjuvant chemo- & radio-therapy

- ESPAC 1-3
- Adjuvant chemotherapy has a significant survival benefit
- Adjuvant chemoradiotherapy has a deleterious effect on survival

*Neoptolemos et al NEJM 2004; 350; 1200-1210*



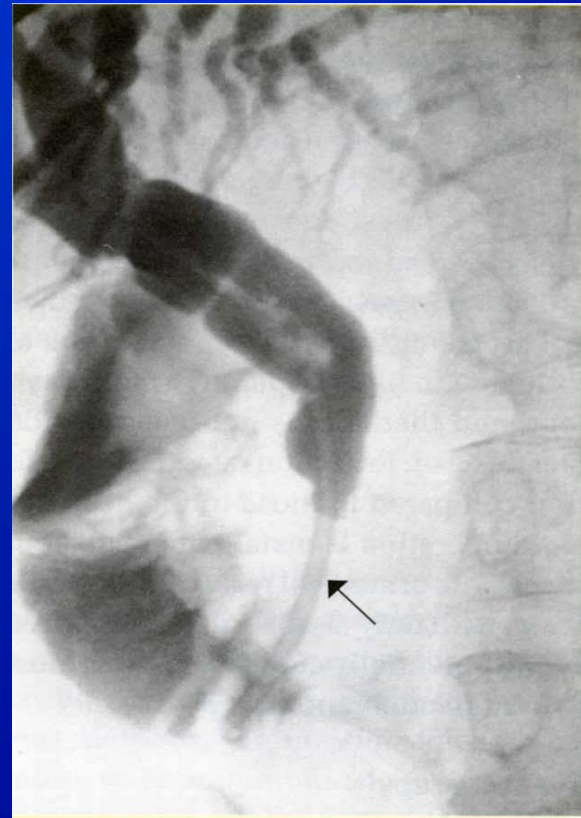
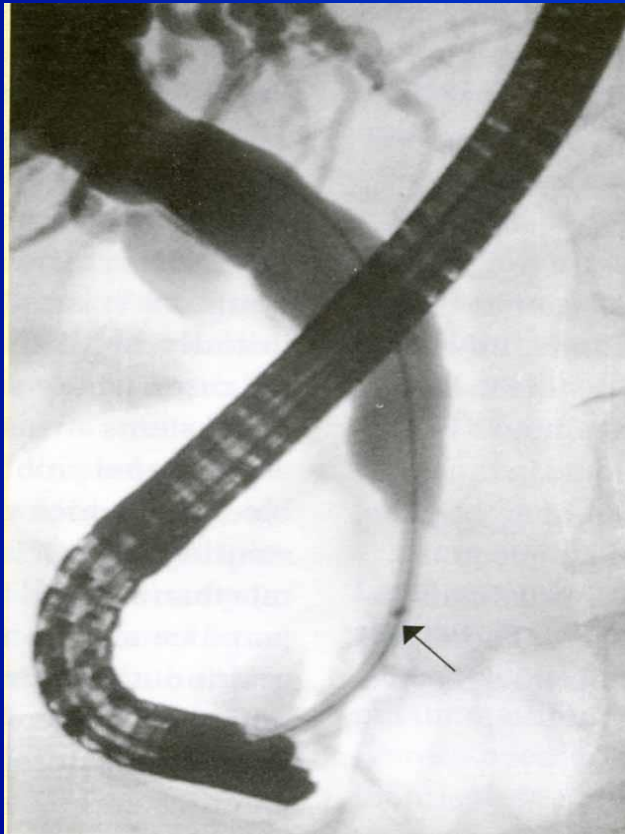
# Pancreatic cancer – neoadjuvant chemotherapy

- Borderline resectable cases
  - 20% resectable at presentation
- Downstage – resectable, ↑R0 (clear margin)
- Patient selection – tumour biology
- Control micrometastases
  - 45% do not receive adjuvant chemotherapy

# Treatment - palliation

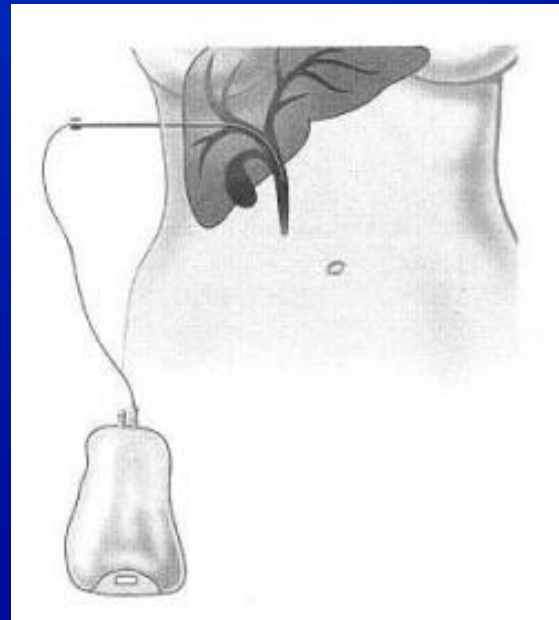
- Palliative in majority
- Vital to have Nurse Specialist / Palliative Care Team Involvement
- Relief of obstructive jaundice
  - ERCP + sphincterotomy +stent

# Endoscopic stent



# Treatment - palliation

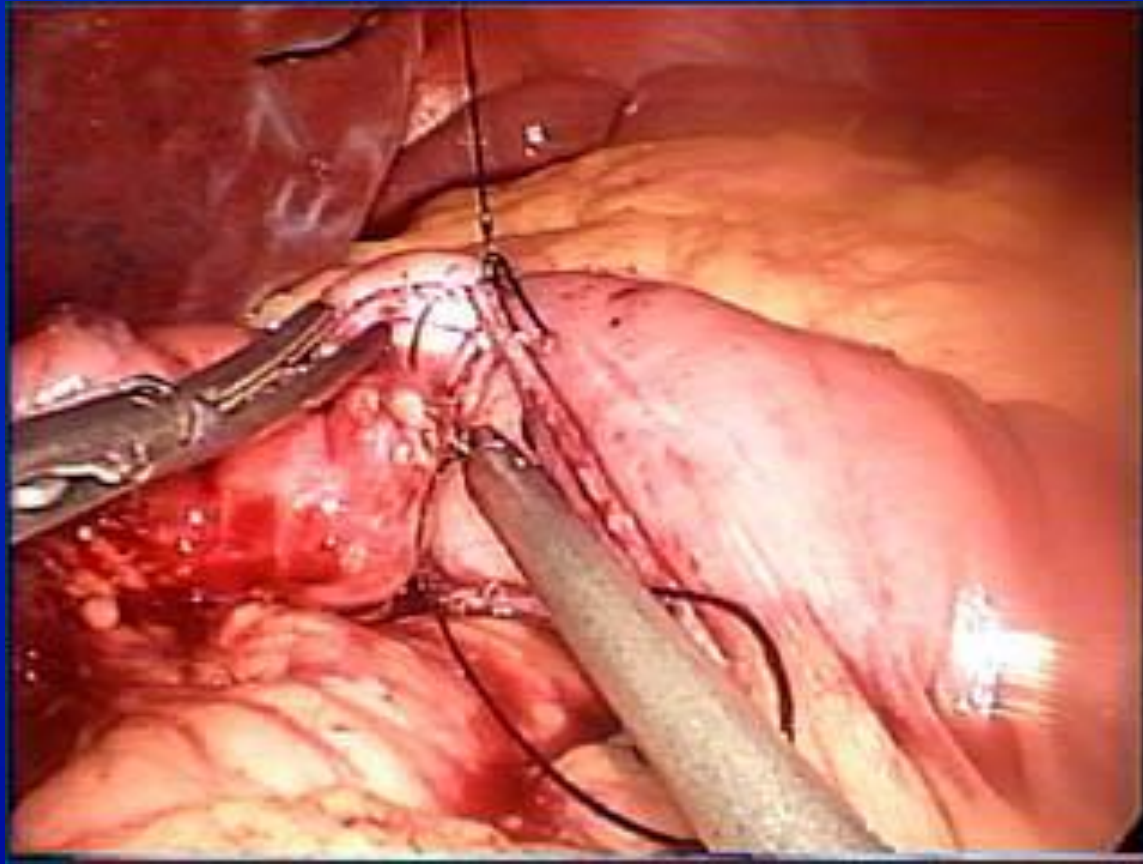
- Palliative in majority
- Vital to have Nurse Specialist / Palliative Care Team Involvement
- Relief of obstructive jaundice
  - ERCP + sphincterotomy +stent
  - Percutaneous stent



# Treatment - palliation

- Palliative in majority
- Vital to have Nurse Specialist / Palliative Care Team Involvement
- Relief of obstructive jaundice
  - ERCP + sphincterotomy +stent
  - Percutaneous stent
- Relief of gastric outlet obstruction
  - gastroenterostomy
  - stent

# Laparoscopic Gastrojejunostomy





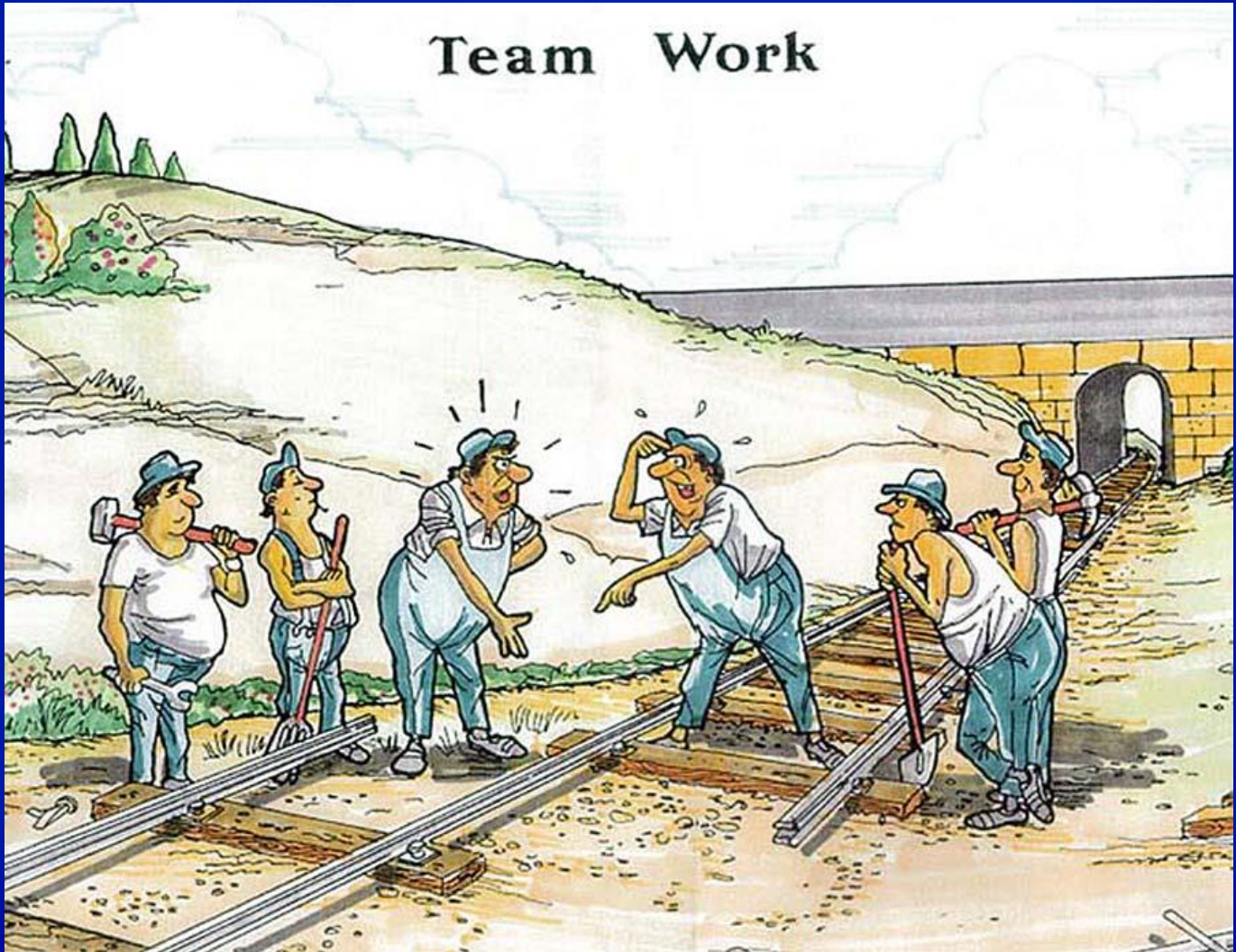
# Latest Developments.

- Neoadjuvant regimes
- Locoregional options
- Immunotherapy
- Personalised medicine



“He is fighting like a lion.  
He has not lost his heart”

# Team Work



Thank You