



AHNS 12th International Conference on

HEAD AND NECK CANCER



AVTA-30-01 PHASE III STUDY

APG-157 in Resectable and Unresected Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC)

*** Jonathan D. Schoenfeld, MD**

Presenting Author

* Sid Puram, MD, PhD | * John B.A.G. Haanen, MD | * Kevin Harrington, MD

The authors indicated by an asterisk () contributed equally.*

• AVTA-30-01 INVESTIGATORS BY COUNTRY •

UNITED STATES

- Jonathan D. Schoenfeld
- Sid Puram
- Marilene B. Wang
- Elizabeth J. Franzmann
- Maie A. St. John
- Deborah J. Wong
- Trisha Wise-Draper
- Aditya Shreenivas
- Sagus Sampath
- Krupal Patel
- Jessica R. Bauman
- Anshu Giri
- Yarah Haidar
- Francis Worden
- Michelle Mierzwa
- Kedar S. Kirtane
- David M. Neskey
- Winston Wong
- Ray Y. Wang
- Uttam K. Sinha
- Apar Kishor Ganti
- Doru M. Paul
- Vlad C. Sandulache
- David J. Hernandez
- Daniel Sanghoon Shin
- Haythem Ali
- Tjason Tjoa

NETHERLANDS

- John B.A.G. Haanen

GERMANY

- Susanne Flach

UNITED KINGDOM

- Kevin Harrington

ITALY

- Lisa Licitra
- Paolo Bossi
- Carlo Restéghini

SPAIN

- Sandra Llop Serna
- Zara Viñales Sepulveda
- José López López

TURKEY

- Şahin Laçın
- Fatih Selcukbiricik
- Osman Kostek

KENYA

- Mansoor Saleh

JAPAN

- Makoto Tahara

AUSTRALIA

- Vanessa Chin
- Jia Liu
- Daniel Brungs
- Udit Nindra

APG-157 biology supports development in the neoadjuvant and induction settings for LA-HNSCC patients

Modulates NF- κ B and STAT3 signaling

to reduce tumor-promoting inflammation

Repolarizes macrophages (M2→M1)

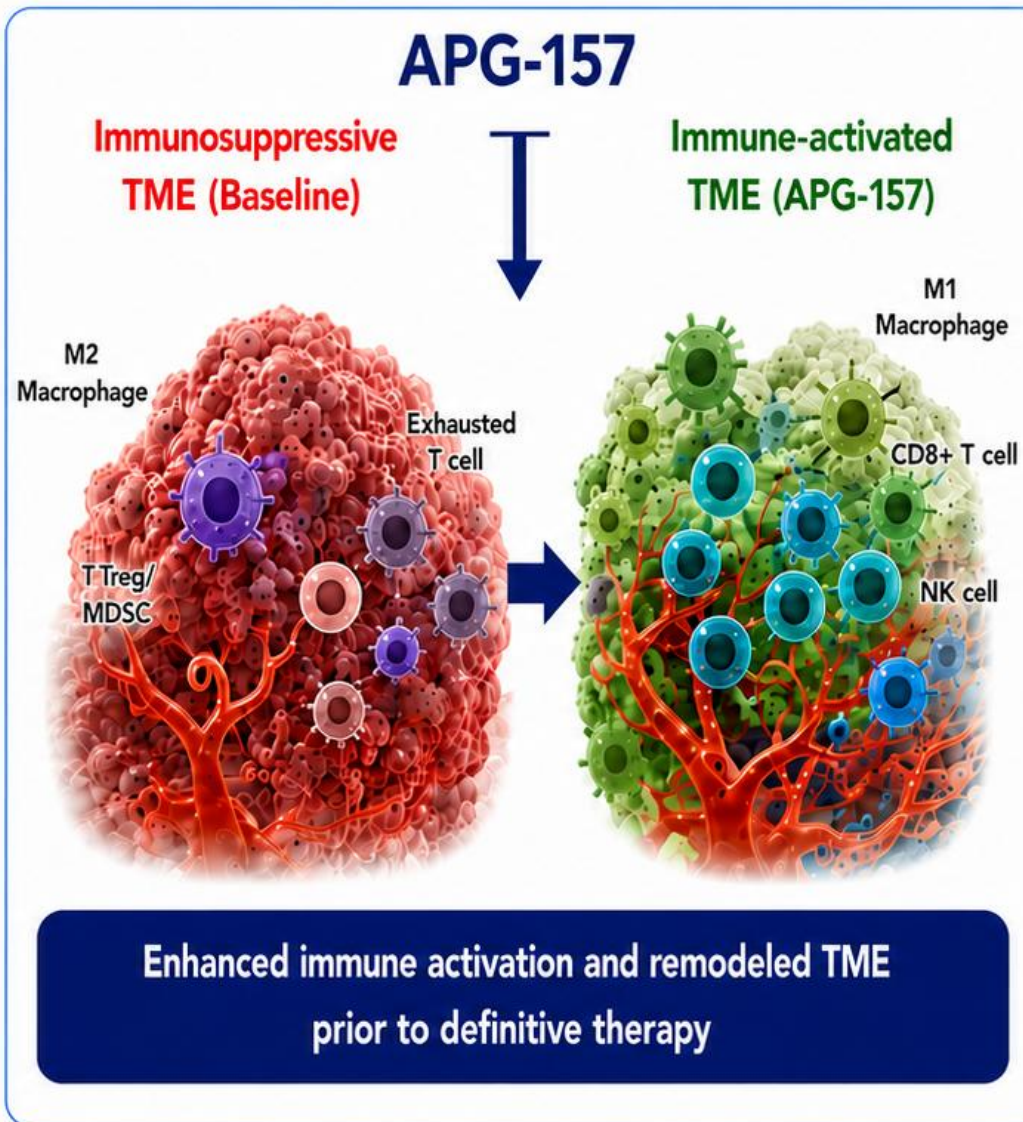
and enhances CD8+ T-cell and NK-cell activity

Improves immune accessibility

by reducing VEGF and HIF-1 α signaling and remodeling the tumor microenvironment

Distinct mechanism from PD-1 blockade

with strong immune activation prior to definitive therapy



Preliminary Clinical Evidence (Phase 2a)

Single agent anti-tumor activity

No Grade ≥ 3 TEAEs

No immune AEs

No delays to surgery

Clinical to pathological downstaging

Rapid ctDNA clearance within weeks

Encouraging long-term EFS observed

Addressing the Unmet Need in LA-HNSCC

Patients eligible for surgery

Based on KEYNOTE-689 and real-world clinical experience, substantial unmet need remains among surgical candidates:

Don't qualify / can't receive pembrolizumab

due to contraindications, comorbidities, autoimmune disease, or other clinical factors

Need for more rapid response

In patients with large T3/T4 or rapidly progressing disease

Perioperative pembrolizumab not currently approved

Patients with PD-L1 CPS<1

Patients Receiving Definitive Chemoradiotherapy (CRT)

JAVELIN Head and Neck 100, KEYNOTE-412, Trilynx Phase III, RTOG 1016, De-ESCALaTE HPV and RTOG 0522 studies

have failed to improve outcomes in definitive CRT to establish a new global standard in surgery-ineligible / definitive CRT-eligible LA-HNSCC

Only option is definitive CRT

Standard of care remains CRT with limited long-term disease control

There is a clear and urgent need for a safe and effective therapy that can improve long-term outcomes in both surgical and non-surgical pathways.

Key Inclusion Criteria in Cohorts A and B in AVTA-30-01

COHORT A

POPULATION

- Resectable oral cavity or oropharyngeal LA-HNSCC
- Eligible for curative-intent surgery and risk-adapted adjuvant therapy
- Protocol-defined medical ineligibility for perioperative pembrolizumab

TUMOR STAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Oropharynx (p16-positive):
Stage III (T4, N0–N3, M0)
- Oropharynx (p16-negative):
Stage III–IVa (T3–T4a, N0–N2, M0)
- Oral cavity (any p16 status):
Stage III–IVa (T3–T4, N0–N2, M0)

PERFORMANCE STATUS

- ECOG 0–2

LA-HNSCC: locally advanced head and neck squamous cell carcinoma

SCC: squamous cell carcinoma

COHORT B

POPULATION

- Oropharyngeal LA-HNSCC
- Definitive CRT candidates due to surgical ineligibility or organ preservation

TUMOR STAGE REQUIREMENTS

- High-risk p16-positive oropharyngeal cancer:
Stage III (T4, N0–N3, M0) – Smoking history >10 pack-years
- p16 negative oropharyngeal cancer:
Stage III–IVa (T3–T4a, N0–N2, M0)

PERFORMANCE STATUS

- ECOG 0–1

CRT: chemoradiotherapy

ECOG: Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group

Key Exclusion Criteria in Cohorts A and B in AVTA-30-01

COHORT A

- Eligible for perioperative PD-1 therapy but decline due to preference, access, logistics or investigator decision without documented medical justification

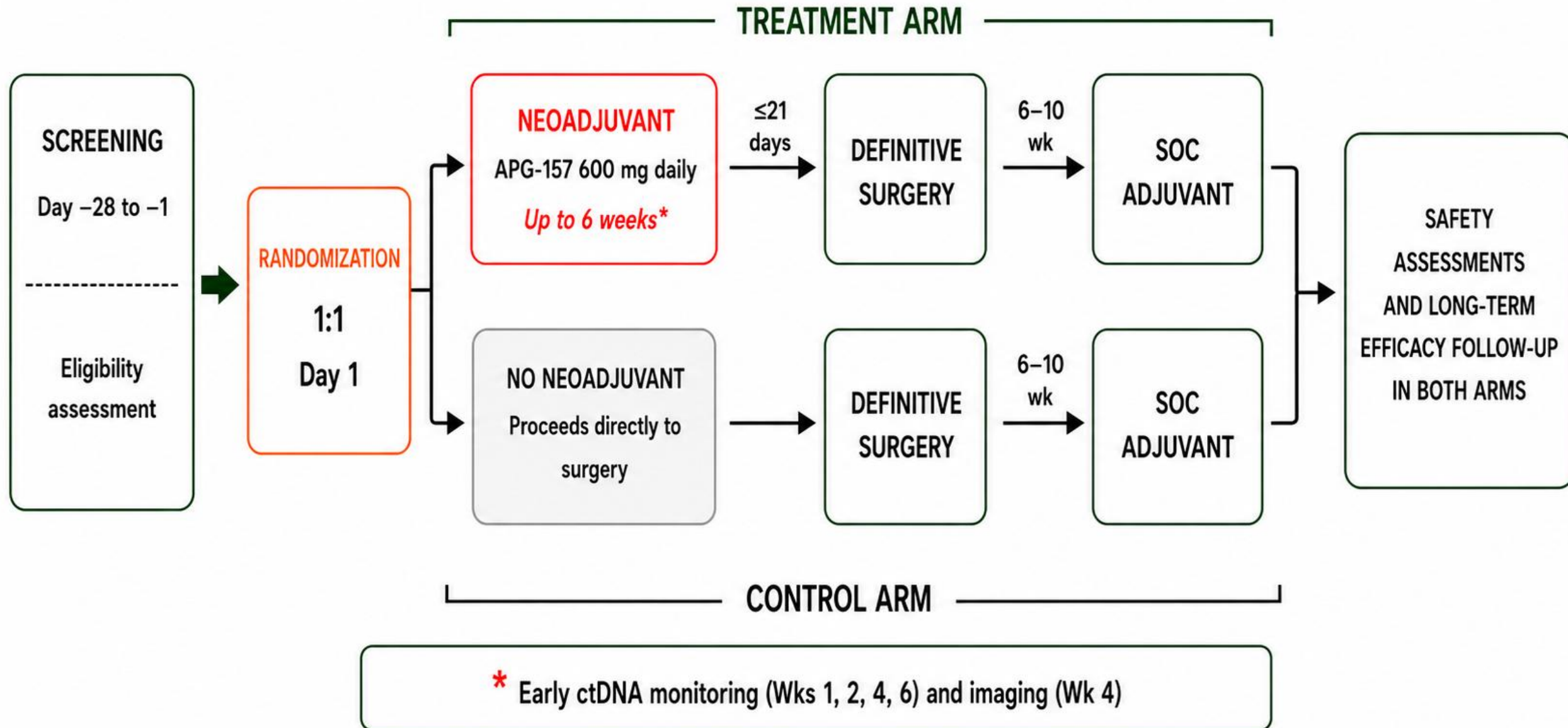
COHORT B

- Inability to tolerate protocol RT dose/fractionation
- Active autoimmune disease requiring systemic therapy within 2 years
- Ongoing systemic immunosuppression > 10 mg/day prednisone equivalent (physiologic replacement allowed)

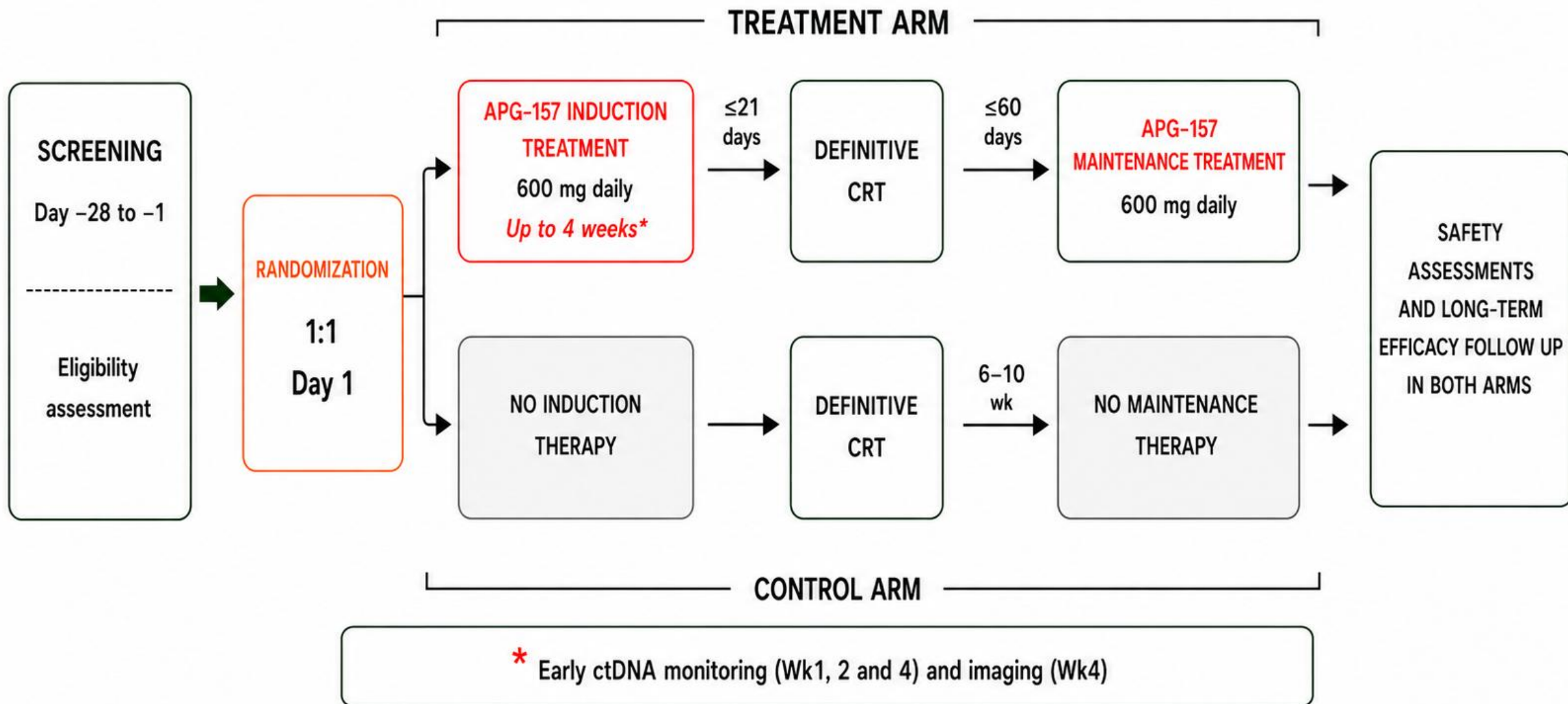
COMMON EXCLUSION CRITERIA FOR COHORTS A AND B

- Distant metastatic disease (M1), stage I–II at diagnosis, Stage IVB/IVC (including T4b) or N3 nodal disease (p16-negative oropharynx only)
- Prior therapy for current HNSCC

Cohort A Study Design: Surgically Eligible Patients with LA-HNSCC



Cohort B Study Design: Surgically Ineligible Patients with LA-HNSCC



Cohort A and B Endpoints in AVTA 30-01

ENDPOINT(S)	COHORT A (Neoadjuvant + Surgery)	COHORT B (Induction + Maintenance)
PRIMARY	Event-Free Survival (EFS)	Event-Free Survival (EFS)
KEY SECONDARY	• Overall Survival (OS) • Safety & Tolerability	• Overall Survival (OS) • Safety & Tolerability
SECONDARY	• ctDNA Activity • Pathological Response • Radiographic Response • Quality of Life • Pharmacokinetics	• ctDNA Activity • Radiographic Response • Locoregional Control (LRC) • Distant metastasis free survival (DMFS) • Quality of Life • Pharmacokinetics