Advances in Systemic Treatment of Early-Stage Breast Cancer

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Breast Cancer is a Family of Diseases, Not One Disease.



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Uncontrolled Growth is the Philosophy of Cancer Cells: How Do We Stop Cancer Cell Division?



Inhibition of Estrogen-Dependent Growth



Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy: A Very Brief History

	5 years of tamoxifen vs none: EBCTCG previous meta-analysis ¹ (n=10 645)		5 years of aromatase inhibitor vs 5 years of tamoxifen: present meta-analyses* (n=34 882)		5 years of aromatase inhibitor vs none: estimated effects (product of two RRs†)		
	RR (95% CI)	p value	RR (95% CI)	p value	RR (95% CI)	p value	
Breast cancer recurrence							
During years 0-4	0.53 (0.48-0.57)	2p<0-0001	0.70 (0.64-0.77)	2p<0.0001	0-37 (0-33-0-42)	2p<0.0001	
During years 5–9	0.68 (0.60-0.78)	2p<0-0001	0.92 (0.83-1.01)	2p=0-082	0.63 (0.53-0.74)	2p<0.0001	
Breast cancer mortality							
During years 0-4	0.71 (0.62-0.80)	2p<0-0001	0.79 (0.67-0.92)	2p=0.002	0.56 (0.46-0.68)	2p≪0·0001	
During years 5-9	0-66 (0-58-0-75)	2p=0-0001	0.91 (0.80–1.02)	2p=0.12	0.60 (0.50-0.72)	2p<0.0001	

"5 years of an aromatase inhibitor reduces 10-year breast cancer mortality rates by about 15% compared with 5 years of tamoxifen, hence by about 40% (proportionally) compared with no endocrine treatment."

Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group, Lancet 2015; 386: 1341-52

CDK 4/6 Inhibition: Basic Biology



Is There a Role for CDK4/6 Inhibition in Early-Stage HR+ Disease?

Risk of First Recurrence After Primary Treatment





Adjuvant Ribociclib: NATALEE



ctDNA/RNA, circulating tumor DNA/RNA; EBC, early breast cancer; ET, endocrine therapy; iDFS, invasive disease–free survival; N, node; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor; OS, overall survival; PK, pharmacokinetics; PRO, patient-reported outcome; R, randomized; RIB, ribociclib; STEEP, Standardized Definitions for Efficacy End Points in Adjuvant Breast Cancer Trials.

* Enrollment of patients with stage II disease was capped at 40%. b 5101 patients were randomized from 10 Jan 2019 to 20 April 2021. Copen-label design. d Per investigator choice

1. ClinicalTrials.gov. Accessed March 15, 2024. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03701334. 2. Slamon DJ, et al. Poster presented at: ASCO 2019. Poster TPS597. 3. Slamon DJ, et al. Ther Adv Med Oncol. 2023;15:1-16. 4. Hortobagyi, G, et al. Oral presentation at: SABCS 2023. Oral GS03-03.

Peter A. Fasching

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Adjuvant Ribociclib: NATALEE

iDFS in ITT Population





iDFS, invasive disease-free survival; ITT, intent to treat; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor; RIB, ribociclib * An additional 10.9 months of follow-up compared with the protocol-specified final iDFS analysis.

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monarchE and NATALEE: Invasive Disease-Free Survival (IDFS)

monarchE: 5-Year IDFS (n=5,607)



Johnston SRD, et al. (2023) Lancet Oncol 24, 77-90. NCT03155997.

NATALEE: 3-Year IDFS (n=5,101)



DRFS = Distant Relapse-Free Survival

monarchE and NATALEE: Tolerability

≥ Grade 3 AE	monarchE		NATALEE	
	Abema	No Abema	Ribo	No Ribo
Neutropenia	19.7%	0.8%	43.8%	0.8%
Liver-Related AE	1.8-2.6%	0.5-0.7%	8.3%	1.5%
QTC interval Prolongation	N/A	N/A	1.0%	0.5%
Diarrhea	7.8%	0.2%	0.6%	0.1%
Fatigue	2.9%	0.1%	0.7%	0.2%
VTE	1.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%

Discontinued due to AE:	Abemaciclib: 18.5%	Ribociclib: 19%				
Similar discontinuation rate due to AEs…but for different AEs.						
QOL tools did not capture any significant difference in QOL compared to ET alone.						

Impact in EBC of Incrementally Improved Endocrine Therapy



- ET duration is 5-10y (2y for abemaciclib, 3y for ribociclib)
- Toxicity an issue, e.g. abemaciclib low white cells, diarrhea, ET – musculoskeletal, menopausal

<u>Beyond ER, we do not have a predictive</u> <u>biomarker for tam, AI, or CDK4/6i.</u>

We escalate on clinical features, and have little opportunity to de-escalate ET.

T Cell Attacking a Cancer Cell



Why Doesn't the Immune System do it's Job?

What Cancer Cells Do To T Cells: These aren't the droids you're looking for



Checkpoint Inhibition: These ARE the droids you're looking for



Neoadjuvant Checkpoint Inhibition in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

KEYNOTE-522 Study Design (NCT03036488)



Adjuvant phase: starts from the first adjuvant treatment and includes radiation therapy as indicated (post-treatment included)

^aMust consist of at least 2 separate tumor cores from the primary tumor. ^bCarboplatin dose was AUC 5 Q3W or AUC 1.5 QW. ^cPaclitaxel dose was 80 mg/m² QW. ^dDoxorubicin dose was 60 mg/m² Q3W. ^eEpirubicin dose was 90 mg/m² Q3W. ^fCyclophosphamide dose was 600 mg/m² Q3W.



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Neoadjuvant Checkpoint Inhibition in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer



Hazard ratio (CI) analyzed based on a Cox regression model with treatment as a covariate stratified by the randomization stratification factors. Data cutoff date: March 22, 2024.



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Neoadjuvant Checkpoint Inhibition in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

Key Secondary Endpoint: Overall Survival



^aThe unstratified piecewise HR was 0.87 (95% CI, 0.57-1.32) before the 2-year follow-up and 0.51 (95% CI, 0.35-0.75) afterwards. The weighted average HR with weights of number of events before and after 2-year follow-up was 0.66. With 200 events (67.3% information fraction), the observed *P*-value crossed the prespecified nominal boundary of 0.00503 (1-sided) at this interim analysis. Data cutoff date: March 22, 2024.



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Neoadjuvant Checkpoint Inhibition in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

Overall Survival by Pathologic Complete Response (yp T0/Tis ypN0)



This is a non-randomized subgroup analysis based on the post-treatment outcome of pCR and HRs should therefore be interpreted with caution. Data cutoff date: March 22, 2024.

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PARP Inhibition for BRCA-mutant cancers





OlympiA: Adjuvant Olaparib Trial Schema



 Germline pathogenic or likely pathogenic BRCA1/2 mutation

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• HER2–negative
(hormone receptor-positive
or TNBC)
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 Stage II-III Breast Cancer or lack of PathCR to NACT



Hormone receptor +ve defined as ER and/or PgR positive (IHC staining \geq 1%) Triple Negative defined as ER and PgR negative (IHC staining < 1%) ¹Hudis CA, J Clin Oncol 2007

- Neoadjuvant vs. adjuvant
- Prior platinum-based chemotherapy (yes vs. no)

No 2nd Adjuvant Chemotherapy

OlympiA: Distant Disease-Free Survival



OlympiA: Overall Survival



Impact of EBC Therapy in TNBC



- Serial chemotherapy addition now 4 drugs given to nearly all TNBC
- Immune checkpoint inhibitor (ICI) for 1 year
- PARP inhibition if germline BRCA+
- Toxicity is a major issue both short and longterm

Beyond BRCA, we do not have biomarkers for less chemotherapy, nor for ICI.

EBCTCG, Lancet 2005; Hayes DF, NEJM 2007; Metzger O, Ann Oncol 2022; Schmid P, NEJM 2022



Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization Test Measures HER2 Gene Amplification



• FISH tests are designed to detect amplification of the HER2 gene

PathVysion[®] PI. Revised May 2004.

Harnessing the Immune System: Monoclonal Antibodies



Antibody Drug Conjugates: Selective Delivery of Toxic Payload and Bystander Effect



Impact of anti-HER2 Therapy in EBC (beginning in 2005)



Conclusions

- Targeting cell division has significantly improved outcomes in early-stage breast cancer:
 - Endocrine therapy for ER-positive breast cancer
 - CDK 4/6 inhibition for ER-positive breast cancer
 - PARP inhibition for BRCA-mutant breast cancer
 - HER2-targeted therapy for HER-2 positive breast cancer
- Mobilizing the immune system is improving outcomes in earlystage triple negative breast cancer
 - Checkpoint inhibitor therapy for triple-negative breast cancer

THANK YOU