Breast Cancer: Overview
Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment

Farah Zia, MD

Center For Cancer Research
Women’s Malignancies Branch

NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

TRACO Lecture
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Breast cancer

WHAT IS BREAST CANCER?
Structure of the Breast

- The breast is composed mainly of fatty tissue, which contains a network of lobes made up of tiny, tube-like structures called lobules that contain milk glands.
- Tiny ducts connect the glands, lobules, and lobes, and carry the milk from the lobes to the nipple.
- Blood and lymph vessels run throughout the breast.
- About 90% of all breast cancers start in the ducts or lobes of the breast.
Breast Cancer

- Precise reasons why a woman develops breast cancer are difficult to specify.
- Genetic + environmental + lifestyle factors
- Hormones seem to have an important role. Research has shown a link between estrogen levels and the risk of developing HR+ breast cancers.

Known Breast Ca Risk Factors

- Age (80% of breast cancers occur after menopause)
  - 1/8 → age < 45
  - 2/3 → age ≥ 55
- History of Prior breast cancer
  - 3-4 X more likely to develop a new cancer (same or other breast)
- History of benign breast conditions with atypia (4X Risk) or without (2X Risk).
- Exposure to excess endogenous or exogenous hormones:
  - 1. Early menarche
  - 2. Late menopause
  - 3. Use of Hormone Replacement Therapy
  - 4. No pregnancies or age >35 at birth of first child
- Radiation exposure before age 40 (breast ca after xrt for Hodgkin's lymphoma)
- Dense breast tissue on mammogram
  - glands > fat
- Lifestyle factors (alcohol [↑ estrogen, DNA damage], lack of exercise [exercise consumes blood sugar and limits IGF, a hormone that can effect breast cell growth], also obesity ➤ (BMI > 25) ➤ extra fat cells = more estrogen in the body.
A 5-10% of breast cancers are likely hereditary due to gene mutations. These mutations can be of two types: germline mutations and somatic mutations.

**Germline mutations**
- Present in egg or sperm
- Are heritable
- Cause hereditary cancer syndromes

**Somatic mutations**
- Occur in nongermline tissues
- Are nonheritable
- Later onset

Somatic mutations can result from the natural aging process or exposure to environmental carcinogens.
Gene Mutations

- **ATM**: Helps repair damaged DNA
- **BRCA ½**: Helps repair damaged DNA. up to 72% lifetime risk br ca
- **TP53**: Tumor suppressor gene. Cancer risk nearly 100%
- **PALB2**: codes for protein that works with BRCA2 protein to repair damaged DNA. Mutation = 33% - 58% lifetime risk.
- **BRIP1**: codes protein that helps repair DNA.
- **CHEK2**: Codes protein that stops tumor growth. Mutation can double breast cancer risk.
- **PALB2**: Codes protein in that
2019 Predictions for the U.S.

About 1 in 8 U.S. women will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime (12.4% lifetime risk). About 1 in 1000 men will develop invasive breast cancer over their lifetime (0.1% lifetime risk).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New Cases (U.S.)</th>
<th>Deaths (U.S.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women</strong></td>
<td>• 268,600 cases (invasive)</td>
<td>• 41,760 women are expected to die in 2019 from breast cancer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 62,930 (non-invasive)</td>
<td>• Breast cancer death rates are higher than those for any other cancer, except lung cancer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Besides skin cancer, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Men</strong></td>
<td>2,670 cases (invasive)</td>
<td>• 500 men are expected to die in 2019.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
BREAST CANCER.

The breast cancer incidence rate in the U.S has been steadily increasing since the 1970’s, which can be attributed to the strong push for screening among women age 40+, resulting in better early detection. The breast cancer death (mortality) rate in the U.S. has been declining steadily since 1989, when it peaked at a rate of 33 deaths for every 100,000 women, and the survival rate has been steadily increasing. These changes are more prominent for women < 50: treatment advances, early detection, increased awareness.
Incidence & Mortality 1975 – 2010
By Race

Cancer of the Breast
Delay-Adjusted SEER Incidence & US Mortality
White Females vs Black Females
1975-2010

Rate per 100,000

Delay-Adjusted SEER Incidence

US Mortality

Source: SEER 9 areas and US Mortality Files (National Center for Health Statistics, CDC).
Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US Std Population (19 age groups - Census P25-1103).
Regression lines are calculated using the Joinpoint Regression Program Version 4.0.3, April 2013, National Cancer Institute.
Early Detection

Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Mammograms save lives

- Mammograms can be used as **screening** tools to detect early breast cancer in women experiencing no symptoms.
- Mammograms can also be used to **detect and diagnose** breast disease in women experiencing symptoms such as a lump, pain, or nipple discharge.
- Reduces mortality by:
  - 26% aged 50-74
  - 17% aged 40-49

*American Cancer Society*
American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer

Average Risk

- Age 40-44: women have the choice to begin annual mammograms. Risks and benefits should be considered.
- Age 45-54: annual mammograms are recommended.
- Age 55 and older: switch to biannual mammograms, or have the choice to continue an annual schedule based on risks/benefits.

Screening should continue as long as a woman is in good health, and life expectancy is 10 years or more.

High Risk

Annual MRI + Mammogram (as long as a woman is in good health and life expectancy is $\geq 10$ years)

- Have a lifetime risk of breast cancer of $\geq 20$-25% using risk-assessment tools based mainly on family history.
- Have a known BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 Gene Mutation.
- Have a first degree relative with BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 gene mutation, but have not had testing themselves.
- Had radiation to the chest between AGES 10-40.
American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer

Use of **MRI** For Early Detection:

- While MRI is more sensitive than mammogram, it also has a higher false positive rate. This may lead to unnecessary biopsies and other procedures.

- The American Cancer Society recommends *against* use of MRI for women whose lifetime risk of breast cancer is < 15%.

- For women who have a moderately increased lifetime risk of breast cancer (15-20%) there is not enough evidence to make a recommendation for or against use of annual MRI.

- If MRI is used, it should be in addition to, and not in place of a screening mammogram.
American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer

Clinical Breast Exam & Breast Self Exam:

- There is no solid clinical trial evidence that a physical breast exam done either by a health care professional or by the women themselves, provides any clear benefit in early detection or reducing breast cancer mortality.

- Due to this lack of evidence, regular clinical breast exams and breast self exams are not part of the ACS guidelines.

- However, all women should be familiar with how their breast look and feel, and report any changes to their physician ASAP.
Self Breast Exam

Self Breast Exam (SBE)

Size
Shape
Color
Dimpling
Puckering
Retraction
Thickening
Inverted nipple
Nipple discharge

Step 1
Shoulders straight, arms on hips

Step 2
Arms over head
Self Breast Exam

Step 3: Examine lying down

Step 4:
- Firm, smooth touch
- Fingers flat & together
- Circular Motion
- Follow a pattern
- Cover whole breast

Examine upright
Pre-operative

The Breast Cancer Journey

ABNORMALITY DETECTED
On breast self-examination, by your doctor or on breast imaging

Fine Needle Aspirate +/- Core Biopsy

Pathology Diagnosis

Surgical Consultation
Operative

**Intraoperative Pathology**
- Frozen Section
- Lymph node imprint

**Surgical Procedures**
- Breast operation
  - Lumpectomy
  - Wire localised excision
  - Mastectomy
- Lymph node operation
  - Sentinel nodes
  - Axillary nodes
Structure of the Breast: Lymph Nodes

- Supraclavicular
- Subclavicular
- Distal (upper) axillary
- Central (middle) axillary
- Proximal (lower) axillary
- Mediastinal
- Internal mammary
- Interpectoral (Rotter’s)
Cancer Cells Escape into the Lymphatics.

The circulatory system includes a network of vessels that carry lymph back to the heart. Lymph nodes are clumps of immune cells that act as filters, removing foreign particles, such as cancer cells. Malignant cells break through duct wall, gain access to the lymph system, and travel to other parts of the body.
**LN Sampling.**  

**Sentinel LN Biopsy.**

Less invasive method to determine if ax nodes contain ca with fewer complications.  
It is the current recommendation for patients with early stage breast cancer who are *clinically* node-negative.  
During surgery: isosulfan blue and/or technitium-99 is injected near the tumor or under the nipple.  
The tracer & dye mix with fluids that travel to LN  
The SN is the first node(s) that receives drainage  
The surgeon removes either the one node, or cluster of two or three. If the sentinel node(s) are clean, chances are that the others are clean too.
Post-operative

Final Tissue Pathology Report
- Breast - includes OR/PRI/HER2
- Lymph Nodes - includes full sentinel node protocol

Possible Genetic Workup

Pathology Monitoring Tests
- FBC
- LFT

Surgeon

Medical Oncologist

Radiation Oncologist
- Decisions about radiation, chemotherapy, further surgery and monitoring.
Stage 0, I and II

T = Size
N = Node
M = Mets

Stage 0
- Known as “Cancer in situ"
- Has not gone past ducts or lobules

Stage 1
- Tumor is (≤ 2 cm)
- Tumor has not spread to the LN

Stage IIA
- ≤ 2 cm and has spread to 1-3 LN
- >2 but < 5 cm and has not spread to LN
- Tumor in 1-3 axillary LN, but NED in breast

Stage IIB
- >2 cm < 5 cm and has spread to 1-3 LN
- > 5 cm and has not spread to LN
Stage III

**Stage IIIa**
- NED in breast, or any size tumor and 4-9 LN
- Tumor > than 5 cm + small clusters of cancer cells in LN
- Tumor > than 5 cm and 1-3 LN

**Stage IIIb**
- Tumor may be any size, but has spread to the chest wall and/or skin of the breast causing swelling or ulceration.
- May involve up to 9 LN

**Stage IIIc**
- NED in breast or tumor may be of any size. Cancer may have spread to skin or chest wall, causing ulceration.
- 10 or more axillary LN or LN above or below the collar bone
Stage IV

- Any T, any N, M1
- (metastatic) breast cancer can be any size and has spread to distant sites in the body, usually the bones, lungs, liver, chest wall, or brain.
Inflammatory Breast Cancer

**Definition**
- A rare form of breast cancer
- Incidence in US ~ 1-5%
- Difficult to track because of variation in diagnostic criteria.
- Malignant cells infiltrate and clog the dermal lymphatics; However, this is NOT a diagnostic criteria for IBC
- The diagnosis is mainly clinical along with confirmed invasive cancer.

**Clinical Presentation**
- Confirmed biopsy of invasive breast cancer.
- Rapid onset 3-6 months
- Erythema over ≥ 1/3 of the breast
- Edema (peau d’orange)
- Breast enlargement, often w/o a mass.
IBC

Clinical Presentations of IBC
# Prognostic and Predictive Factors influencing Treatment Decisions

**Treatment**

- Breast Cancer is commonly treated with various combinations of:
  - surgery
  - radiation therapy
  - chemotherapy
  - hormone therapy
  - targeted therapies

**Prognosis and Selection of Therapy Influenced By:**

- Menopausal status
- Stage of disease
- Grade of the tumor
- ER/PR status
- HER2/neu amplification
- Histologic type
  - favorable histologies:
    - mucinous
    - medullary
    - tubular
- Patient’s age and general health
- Presence of known mutations

**Molecular Profiling**
Risk reductions

Absolute Risk Reductions of Relapse and Mortality with Polychemotherapy

Though both age groups do benefit from polychemotherapy, the greatest reduction in recurrence and mortality is in those <50.

EBCTCG, Lancet 2005
Some examples of the many chemotherapies that may be used to treat invasive ductal carcinoma....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical Name</th>
<th>Trade Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doxorubicin</td>
<td>Adriamycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epirubicin</td>
<td>Ellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyclophosphamide</td>
<td>Cytoxan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Docetaxel</td>
<td>Taxotere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paclitaxel</td>
<td>Taxol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capecitabine</td>
<td>Xeloda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ixabepilone</td>
<td>Ixempra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methotrexate</td>
<td>Methotrexate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-Flourouracil (5-FU)</td>
<td>Flourouracil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example of the many hormonal therapies approved for early stage and locally advanced breast cancer:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Brand Name</th>
<th>Menopausal Status</th>
<th>IM/Pill</th>
<th>Class or Mechanism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tamoxifen</td>
<td>Nolvadex</td>
<td>Pre &amp; Post</td>
<td>Pill</td>
<td>SERM: antagonist (breast) partial agonist (endometrium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anastrozole</td>
<td>Arimidex</td>
<td>Post</td>
<td>Pill</td>
<td>Aromatase Inhibitor (AI) Blocks Aromatase, enzyme that converts other hormones to estrogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letrozole</td>
<td>Femara</td>
<td>Post</td>
<td>Pill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exemestane</td>
<td>Aromasin</td>
<td>Post</td>
<td>Pill</td>
<td>AI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulvestrant</td>
<td>Faslodex</td>
<td>Post</td>
<td>IM</td>
<td>Pure Anti-estrogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goserelin</td>
<td>Zoladex</td>
<td>Pre</td>
<td>IM</td>
<td>Ovarian Suppression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leuprolide</td>
<td>Lupron</td>
<td>Pre</td>
<td>IM</td>
<td>Ovarian Suppression</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EBCTCG: Benefit of Tamoxifen as Adjuvant Treatment

Most of the effect on recurrence comes in the first 5 years, but the 15 year gain is 11.8% as compared to the control group.

Most of the effect on mortality comes after the first 5 years, and there is a 15 year gain of 9.2% as compared to the control group.

Figure 8: About 5 years of tamoxifen versus not in ER-positive (or ER-unknown) disease: 15-year probabilities of recurrence and of breast cancer mortality. 10 385 women: 20% ER-unknown, 30% node-positive. Error bars are ±1SE.
When an AI is sequenced with tamoxifen, there is a further 2% 10-year gain in recurrence.

There is a 1.5% 10-year gain in mortality.

EBCTCG Tamoxifen followed by AI in Adjuvant Setting
Lancet, 2014
Benefit of Sequencing Hormonal Therapies
# Examples of Targeted Therapies

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<tr>
<th>Chemical Name</th>
<th>Trade Name</th>
<th>Mechanism</th>
<th>Indication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trastuzumab</td>
<td>Herceptin</td>
<td>Humanized MoAb that binds selectively to the HER2 protein, and suppresses activity that would lead to cell proliferation</td>
<td>Adjuvant therapy along with chemo in HER2+ breast cancer; Neoadjuvant therapy in large HER2+, also used in metastatic HER2+ breast cancers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pertuzumab</td>
<td>Perjeta</td>
<td>Humanized MoAb that binds to the extracellular domain II of HER2. It inhibits ligand dependent HER2 – HER3 Dimerization, reduced signalling through PI3K/AKT</td>
<td>Indicated for use in combination with trastuzumab and docetaxel for the neoadjuvant treatment of patients with HER2+ locally advanced inflammatory or early stage breast cancer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ado-trastuzumab</td>
<td>Kadcyla</td>
<td>Herceptin + Emantitase. Delivers Emantitase to cancer cells in a targeted way.</td>
<td>Approved to treat HER2 positive metastatic breast cancer, previously treated with Herceptin and Taxane</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enzyme inhibitors

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<th>Mechanism</th>
<th>Indication</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lapatinib</td>
<td>Tykerb</td>
<td>Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor</td>
<td>Lapatinib + Xeloda to treat advanced stage HER2+ breast cancer that has stopped responding to anthracyclines, taxanes, and Herceptin. Tykerb + Letrozole for the treatment of postmenopausal HR+ HER2+ metastatic breast cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everolimus</td>
<td>Affinitor</td>
<td>mTOR inhibitor</td>
<td>Postmenopausal advanced HR+ HER2- breast cancer in combination with exemestane after progression on letrozole and anastrozole.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# CDK4/6 inhibitor

<table>
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<th>Trade Name</th>
<th>Mechanism</th>
<th>Indication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palbociclib</td>
<td>Ibrance</td>
<td>Aberrations in the CDK-RB pathway are common in breast cancer. Consequently, inhibition of this pathway is an attractive therapeutic strategy.</td>
<td>HR+ HER2- advanced or metastatic breast cancer in combination with an aromatase inhibitor. Or With fulvestrant in women with disease progression following endocrine therapy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ribociclib</td>
<td>Kisqali</td>
<td>CDK4/6 inhibitor</td>
<td>Ribociclib + AI for initial endocrine therapy in postmenopausal HR+ HER2- advanced/metastatic breast cancer. Ribociclib + Fulvestrant in HR+ HER2- advanced/metastatic breast cancer as initial Rx, or following progression on endocrine Rx.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## PARP inhibitor

<table>
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<th>Indication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olaparib</td>
<td>Lynparza</td>
<td>PARP inhibitor</td>
<td>Since BRCA mutated cells are incapable of homologous repair of DS DNA breaks, additional PARP inhibition causes genomic instability and cell death. 1\textsuperscript{st} targeted therapy approved for gBRCAm breast ca (HER2 – and metastatic breast cancer. Approved Jan. 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talazoparib</td>
<td>Talzenna</td>
<td>PARP inhibitor</td>
<td>germline-BRCAm, HER2 – locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer. (Based on germline testing by Myriad Genetic Laboratories)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# PI3K inhibitor

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</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Alpelisib</td>
<td>Piqray</td>
<td>Inhibits PIK3 in the PI3K/AKT signaling pathway, ultimately inhibiting pathway activation. This results in inhibition of cell growth and survival.</td>
<td>Approved in combination with fulvestrant for post-menopausal women with HR+, HER2 negative, PIK3CA-mutated, advanced or metastatic breast cancer. Approved May 24, 2019, based on the phase 3 Solar-1 study.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chemotherapy.
How do clinicians make well-informed decisions about which patients to treat with chemotherapy and what to choose?
# Treating Breast Cancer in the Genomics Era

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection of Chemotherapy Regimens for Patients</th>
<th>Selection of Patients for Chemotherapy Regimens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tumor size, molecular subtype, histology, pathological grade, nodal status, hormone receptor expression, patient’s age, co-morbidities, and performance status.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use Gene Expression Profiling of the primary tumor to predict response to particular agents.</td>
<td>Use Gene Expression Profiling of the primary tumor to predict and treat only those patients who are most likely to recur and who, will therefore, benefit most from the addition of chemotherapy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are Genomic Tests?

- The difference between genomic and genetic testing:
  - **Genetic testing involves sequencing a person’s DNA**
    - *using blood or saliva*
  - **Genomic testing analyzes the tumor tissue itself**

Emergence of **genomic profiling assays** of tumor tissue

- risk prognostication (recurrence)
- predictive benefit of adjuvant chemotherapies
- information on the likelihood of a cancer rapidly growing and metastasizing
- identifying actionable mutations.
• Gene expression patterns of 85 samples were analyzed by clustering using the 476 intrinsic cDNA clone set.
• The tumor specimens were divided into 5 (or 6) subtypes based on differences in gene expression.
• The cluster dendogram shows the subtypes as luminal subtypes A, B, C, normal breast like, basal like, and ERB B2+
• This would provide a means for identifying expression motifs that represent important clinical phenotypes, such as:
  - resistance to specific therapies
  - sensitivity to specific therapies
  - tumor invasiveness
  - metastatic potential
Gene Expression Arrays can Categorize Breast Cancer By Molecular Subtype & Inform Prognosis & Therapeutic Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expression Pattern</th>
<th>Molecular Subtype</th>
<th>Ki67</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Prognosis</th>
<th>Standard Therapy</th>
<th>Selected Genomic Alterations</th>
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<tr>
<td>ER/PR +</td>
<td>Luminal A</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low (Grade I)</td>
<td>Favorable</td>
<td>Endocrine</td>
<td>PIK3CA variants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ER/PR+ &amp; Her2 +</td>
<td>Luminal B</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Intermediate (Grade II)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Endocrine / Her2 targeted</td>
<td>ERBB2 amplification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Her2 +</td>
<td>Her2 +</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High (Grade III)</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Her2 targeted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Negative</td>
<td>Triple Negative</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High (Grade III)</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Chemotherapy</td>
<td>TP53 variants</td>
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### Molecular subtypes

Gene Expression Arrays can Categorize Breast Cancer By Molecular Subtype & Inform Prognosis & Therapeutic Response

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*Rosenbaum and Weisman, American Journal of Pathology, 2017*
MammaPrint
FDA Approved 70 Gene Breast Cancer Recurrence Assay Used in Practice

- This 70 gene profile is validated as an independent indicator for breast cancer prognosis in patients that fulfill the following criteria:
  * Stage 1 or 2
  * Invasive/Infiltrating carcinoma
  * Tumor size ≤ 5.0 cm
  * 3 or fewer LN
  * Hormone Receptor + or –
  * HER2/neu + or –

Approved by FDA in 2007, and Covered in part or full by insurance.
MammaPrint

FDA Approved 70 Gene Breast Cancer Recurrence Assay Used in Practice

- MammaPrint uses microarray technology to analyze for 70 genes, and stratify patients into binary risk classifications of either High or Low, with a statistically significant difference in the probability of metastasis-free survival at 10 yrs:

  - **Low risk patients**: 10% chance of recurrence at 10 years w/o any adjuvant RX
  - **High risk patients**: 29% chance of recurrence at 10 years w/o any adjuvant RX

- This 70 gene profile is validated as an independent indicator for breast cancer prognosis in patients that fulfill the following criteria:
  * Stage 1 or 2
  * Invasive/Infiltrating carcinoma
  * Tumor size \( \leq 5.0 \text{ cm} \)
  * 3 or fewer LN
  * Hormone Receptor + or –
  * HER2/neu + or –

Approved by FDA in 2007, and Covered in part or full by insurance.
It is a **prognostic test** in that it provides information about how likely or unlikely the breast cancer is to come back.

It is a **predictive test**, in that it predicts the likelihood of benefit from chemo or radiation therapy treatment. This is the feature that makes this test stand out from the others (including MammaPrint).

1. RT-PCR method was designed to quantify gene expression and prognostication. It was initially validated for ER+ HER2- node negative invasive cancer; however, it has recently been extended to node-positive (1-3) disease as well.
Is Molecular Profiling Useful in Determining Breast Cancer Prognosis & Treatment Strategies?

YES!!

- Significantly different outcomes for the patients belonging to the various groups.
- Luminal A subtype appears to have the best prognosis, and Basal-Like, the worst prognosis.

2. Then those with prognostic significance were identified using three independent clinical studies of breast ca involving 447 patients to test the relationship between expression of the 250 candidate genes and
Gene panel

Three Breast Cancer Studies Used To Select 21 Gene Panel

16 Cancer and 5 Reference Genes

4. Sixteen Cancer Related Genes were identified falling into 3 groups:
   - proliferation group
   - ER-related group
   - invasion-related group
   - several misc. genes
   - 5 reference/housekeeping genes

An algorithm based on the levels of expression of these genes was used to compute a recurrence score for each tumor sample being tested.

PROLIFERATION
Ki-67
STK15
Survivin
Cyclin B1
MYBL2

ESTROGEN
ER
PR
Bcl2
SCUBE2

INVASION
Stromolysin 3
Cathepsin L2

REFERENCE
Beta-actin
GAPDH
RPLPO
GUS
TFRC
Oncotype DX

Prognostic for Likelihood of Recurrence Validation Study

- Assay and recurrence score were validated based on retrospective analysis of tissue samples from the NSABP-14 Study
- The tissue samples were from patients who were tamoxifen treated, node negative, ER+ and used to assess both the prognostic and predictive value of the assay.

- Low Risk Group (RS 0-20) = 2-12% DR @ 10 yrs
- Intermediate Risk Group (RS 20-30) = 12-21% DR @ 10 yrs
- High Risk Group (RS 30-50) = 20-33% DR @ 10 yrs

Paik et al. NEJM, 2004
Validation study

**Oncotype Dx: Predictive of Chemotherapy benefit Validation Study**

**RS < 18**

**RS 18-30**

**RS ≥ 31**

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Assessing **Disease Recurrence Free Survival in Years**:

- Patients with tumors that have high Recurrence Scores have a large absolute benefit of chemotherapy (similar results with CMF and MF)
- Patients with tumors that have low Recurrence Scores derive minimal, if any, benefit from chemotherapy

TAILORx

Trial Assigning Individualized Options for Treatment

- Landmark clinical Trial supporting the use of the oncotypleDX Breast Recurrence Score.
- It enrolled > 10,000 women with HR+, HER2-, node negative, early stage breast cancer, in over 1,000 trial sites in 6 different countries.
- It was a trial led by the ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group, and sponsored by the NCI.
- Goal: spare the toxicity of chemo in women who do not need it.
- It was clear that women with a high score would benefit from chemotherapy, where as those with low scores would not.
- The gray zone encompassed those women with a mid-range score.
Adjuvant chemotherapy

- 9 year FU was recently reported.
- No statistically significant difference in invasive disease-free survival among patients with RS in the “intermediate category” of 11-25, who were assigned to endocrine therapy alone vs chemotherapy.
- For RS score 26-100, there was a significantly higher event rate despite treatment with chemotherapy.
- For women with a recurrence score of \( \leq 10 \) who received only hormone therapy, the risk of distant recurrence was only 1% at 5 years, making hormone therapy alone an effective choice in those with RS scores \( \leq 10 \).

Exploratory Analysis: chemotherapy benefit for patients age 50 or younger with RS of 16-25. This subset represents about 8% of patients.
Adjuvant therapy

No statistically significant difference between treatment groups (RS 11-25, chemo-endocrine vs endocrine alone) in the probability of distant recurrence at 9y follow up.
TAILORx

The Bottom Line
Excellence and Success in Translational Research in Clinical Oncology!!

In early stage ER+, HER2-, NO breast cancer, who benefits from chemotherapy?

- 25% of patients with a low Recurrence Score (RS) result (0-25) had high clinical risk* and would have been overtreated without the RS result.
- 43% of patients with a high Recurrence Score (RS) result (26-100) had low clinical risk** and would have been undertreated without the RS result.

*High clinical risk: Grade 1, > 3 cm; Grade 2, > 2 cm; Grade 3, > 1 cm.

**Low clinical risk: Grade 1, ≤ 3 cm; Grade 2, ≤ 2 cm; Grade 3, ≤ 1 cm.

- Adjuvant chemotherapy, in early stage breast cancer, may now be guided by the Recurrence Score (RS) result.
What are the Clinical Implications of Molecular Diagnostics in Breast Cancer?

- Treatment is becoming more personalized for patients, with tumor genomic profiling that could lead to optimal treatment.

- Clinical Next Generation Sequencing (NGS or Tumor Profiling) is increasingly being used to identify potentially actionable mutations in tumor tissue.

- What we don’t yet know is if assigning treatment based on specific gene mutations can provide clinical benefit (increasing overall survival) to patients with metastatic tumors.

- Most tumors have multiple mutations and it is often not clear which one to target to achieve maximal benefit. This is an avenue of ongoing investigation.
BREAST CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS

Center For Cancer Research
Women’s Malignancies Branch
Programmed Cell Death Ligand 1 (PD-L1) has emerged as an important cancer biomarker and target for immunotherapy. Targeted blockade of PD-L1 may help restore and/or upregulate the anti-tumor immune response. PDL-1 is frequently expressed on tumor cells & tumor infiltrating immune cells within the tumor microenvironment. When PD-L1 binds to PD-1, which is expressed on activated T-cells, it induces T-cell exhaustion or a state of ineffective T-cell activity. PD-L1 expressed on antigen presenting cells can also inhibit T-cell activity by binding to CD80 on T-cells.
Disrupting the PD-L1 Pathway

- The blockade of PD-L1 binding to PD-1 reverses T-cell exhaustion and strengthens anti-tumor activity.

- Inhibiting the PD-L1 to CD80 and PD-L1 to PD-1 interactions of the T-cell and tumor cell may restore the T cell’s cytotoxic antitumor activity.

- Durvalumab (MEDI-14736) blocks PD-L1 binding to PD-1 and CD80. It is being investigated alone and in combination in a variety of cancers.
One approach in immuno-oncology:
- combination blockade of multiple immune checkpoints with small molecule targeted therapies.

In our branch, we have a trial for triple negative breast cancer that combines Durvalumab (PD-L1 inhibitor) with a PARP inhibitor (Olaparib).

Pre-clinical justification for the combination is that studies have shown that PARPi upregulated PD-L1 expression in breast cancer cell lines and animal models.

The combination of PARPi + anti-PD-L1 therapy increased the therapeutic efficacy in vivo, compared to either agent alone.

**MEDI-O (15-C-0145)**
Durvalumab (Medi-14736) + Olaparib for Advanced or Recurrent TNBC Phase II
PARP Inhibitors in Somatic and/or Germline Mutated Breast CA

- PARP: Base Excision Repair
- BRCA1: Checkpoint Activation and DNA Repair
- BRCA2: Homologous Repair

PARP Inhibition

DNA damage happens.
- Naturally occurring
- Induced (eg, chemo, radiation)

Several repair options:
- BRCA1/2 dependent
- PARP dependent

When BRCA1 or 2 is damaged, cell becomes dependent on other repair mechanisms.
PARP inhibitors exploit this Achilles’ heel.

Normal Cell: Response to naturally occurring or induced DNA damage can be through either BRCA1 and 2 enzymes or PARP enzymes.
When BRCA 1 or 2 is mutated, the cell is dependent on other mechanisms (PARP).
In this instance PARP inhibitors will cause a double hit to the cells repair mechanisms.
The cells will then accumulate damage, and die.
MEDI-O

MEDI-O (15-C-0145)  
Durvalumab (Medi-14736) + Olaparib for Advanced or Recurrent TNBC  
Phase II

- Metastatic TNBC (measurable / biopsiable)

Cohort 1 BRCAwt  
If 2+/16, enroll to 25 pts

Cohort 2 BRCAm  
If 0+/5 → stop  
If 1 or more +/5 → enroll 10

Durvalumab 1500mg IV  
Q28d  
Olaparib 300mg PO BiD

Images Q2 cycles

- Primary endpoint: Response Rate
- Secondary endpoints: duration response, PFS, OS, toxicity

STATUS:  
OPEN and Accruing
History

- Patient is a 37 year old female of Dominican origin who noted a left breast mass on self-exam, Oct. 2016.
- Subsequent ultrasound showed a 2.6 x 1.6 x 2.5 cm irregular, hypoechoic mass, no pathologic lymph noted were noted.
- US guided fine needle biopsy revealed infiltrating ductal carcinoma (IDC), pathologic grade 3, IHC negative for ER/PR, HER2 negative by FISH (triple negative breast cancer, TNBC).
- Genetic testing indicated she had a germline BRCA 1 mutation.
- She was diagnosed with clinical stage IIb breast cancer (cT2N0M0).
CASE REPORT.

She began neoadjuvant chemotherapy with dose dense Adriamycin/Cytoxan (q 2 week) x 4 cycles followed by carboplatin/taxol (q 3 week) x 4 cycles. July 2017 → underwent bilateral mastectomy and left sentinel node dissection.

She did not have a pathologic CR from the neoadjuvant chemotherapy, pathology showed residual IDC, ER/PR/HER2 negative, sentinel LN negative, pathologic stage T1bN0M0

Follow up CT Sept. 2018 showed progression, with a large mass in her left subpectoral region measuring 5.5 x 2.6 cm, left axillary LN measuring 1.9 x 1.3 cm, right hilar lymphadenopathy, and innumerable bilateral pulmonary nodules, and a 1.6 x 1.2 cm left hepatic lobe nodule, and bone metastasis. PET CT showed all the lesions to be intensely FDG avid (high metabolic rate). US guided biopsy of left subpectoral mass was consistent with recurrence of her breast cancer, still triple negative.

October 2018 she screened for our protocol, Durvalumab + Olaparib

She began cycle 1 on Nov. 5th 2018:

- **Durvalumab 1500 mg IV on D1** → 28 day cycle
- **Olaparib 300 mg PO q 12, daily** → 28 day cycle

CT scan performed after 2 cycles (Jan. 7th, 2019) showed a dramatic partial response, with a 50% reduction of size of target lesions in lung and liver. After 10 cycles of treatment, she continues to have a dramatic response, with the last CT 9/16/2019 showing an 82% decrease in size of her target lesions from baseline.
Baseline 11/2/2018
Left Subpectoral/Axillary Mass
4.4 x 3.3 cm

Post 10 cycles 9/16/2019
No mass noted in left axilla/subpectoral area
Baseline: 11/2/2018
Left Lobe Liver Mass 3.7 x 2.8 cm

Post 10 cycles 9/16/2019
0.5 x 0.3 cm Left Lobe Liver
SCAN 3

Baseline 11/2/2019
Multiple Lung Nodules
Mediastinal Lymphadenopathy

Post 10 cycles 9/16/2019
Sub-centimeter lung nodules
No mediastinal LAD
Check Point Inhibitors

- Checkpoint kinases 1 and 2 are cell cycle regulators.
- They halt the cell cycle at “checkpoints” to assess for mistakes, and make repair.
- Cells with a defect in this mechanism, will accumulate damaged DNA and eventually die.
- Those tumors that already have mutations in DNA repair proteins are perhaps more susceptible to the effect of check point inhibitors.
**CDK1/2 inhibitors**

**Chk1/2 inhibitor (LY2606368)**
Phase II for TNBC

- Metastatic TNBC
  - BRCAwt or BRCAmut (measurable / biopsiable)

- **LY2606368**
  - PREXASERTIB
  - 105mg/m2 IV every 14 days

- Images Q2 cycles
  - (1 cycle = 28 days)
  - Correlatives

- **Primary endpoint**: Response Rate
- **Secondary endpoints**: Duration of response, PFS, OS, toxicity

**STATUS:**
Breast Cohort Closed
Thank You!