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Mays Cancer Center  
UT Health MD Anderson  
San Antonio Cancer Center

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for Cancer Research



**Jan Dünnebacke  
Marienhof**



# Isolierte Tumorzellen im Lymphknoten nach NCT



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The OPBC05/EUBREAST-14R/ICARO study  
**Are nodal isolated tumor cells (ITCs) after neoadjuvant  
chemotherapy an indication for axillary dissection?**

Speaker: **Giacomo Montagna, MD, MPH**  
Breast Service, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



# Positiver Sentinel nach NAC

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 9-14, 2023

## Background: Nodal Burden in Patients with Residual Nodal Disease After NAC

- Patients with a positive sentinel lymph node (SLN) after neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NAC) have a high residual nodal burden, and axillary lymph node dissection (ALND) is currently considered standard of care

	ACOSOG Z1071	SN FNAC	MSKCC
Micromets	164/273 (60.1%)	3/8 (37%)	34/61 (56%)
Macromets		28/44 (64%)	75/121 (62%)



Zeichnen

## Residual Isolated Tumor Cells

- Residual isolated tumor cells (ITCs) are found in ~1.5% of patients undergoing neoadjuvant chemotherapy
- Data on the likelihood of finding additional positive lymph nodes in patients with residual ITCs are scarce, and the benefit of ALND is unclear

	ACOSOG Z1071	SN FNAC	MSKCC	OVERALL
ITCs	4/11	4/7	1/6	<b>9/24 (37.5%)</b>

- As a consequence, surgical management of the axilla in these patients is not standardized

# Weitere pos LK, Rezidive, outcome...?

## Aims

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- To determine how often additional positive LNs are found in patients with residual ITCs
- To evaluate rates of axillary and any invasive recurrence
- To compare outcomes in patients treated with and without ALND



# Study Population

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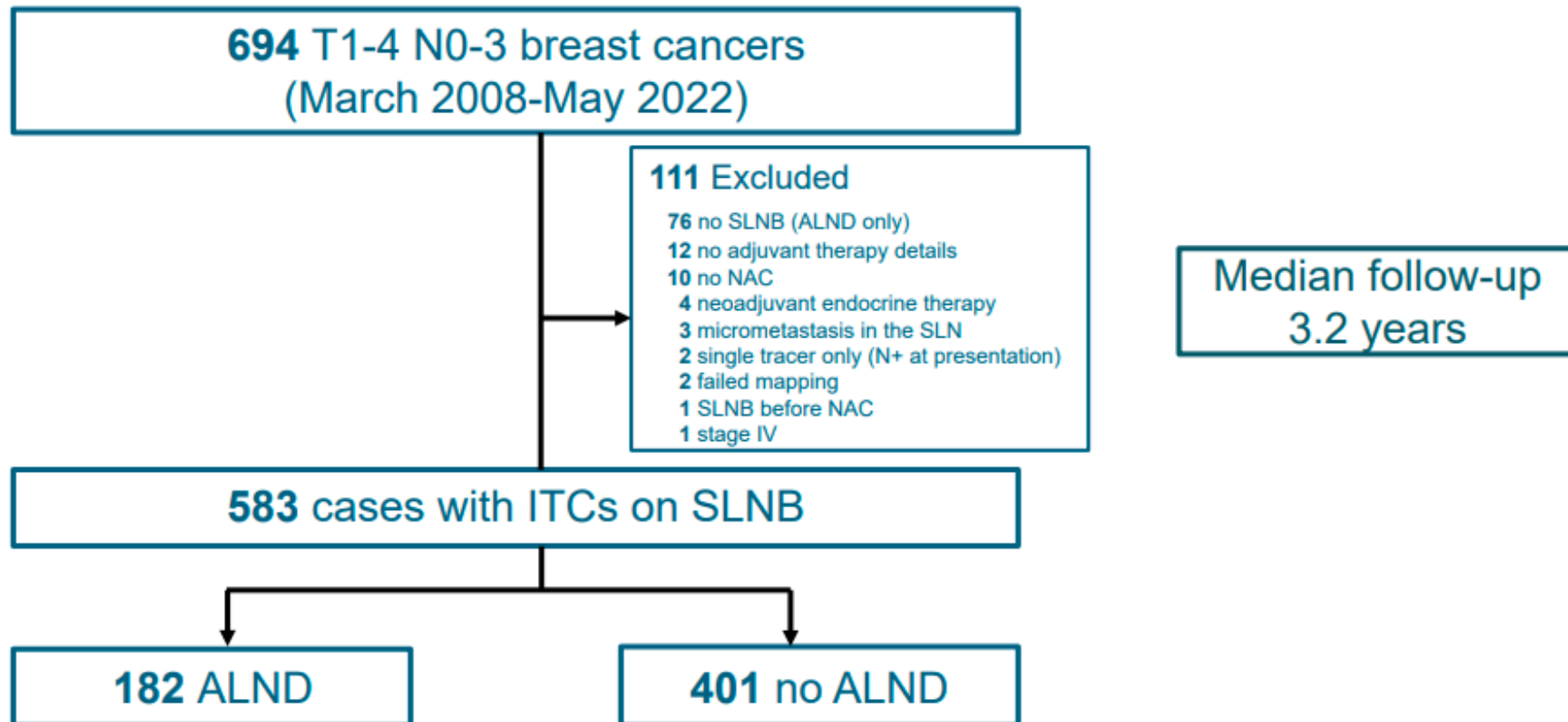
## Inclusion criteria

- T1-4 N0-3 BC patients
- Surgery after NAC with detection of ITCs [ypN0(i+)] at frozen section or final pathology
- SLNB performed with dual-tracer mapping *or* TAD *or* MARI for N+ and with single tracer for N0
- Detection of ITCs by H&E or IHC

## Exclusion criteria

- No SLNB/TAD
- Inflammatory breast cancer
- Stage IV
- NET
- Detection by OSNA (quantitative measurement of target mRNA) due to lack of standardized cut-off

# Flow Diagram





# Clinical Characteristics

	Overall n = 583	No ALND n = 401	ALND n = 182	p value
Age, years (IQR)	48 (41, 57)	48 (40, 57)	49 (43, 58)	0.11
Race/Ethnicity				0.5
Asian	11%	10%	13%	
Black	5%	6%	3%	
Hispanic	5%	6%	4%	
White	77%	76%	77%	
Other/unknown	2%	3%	2%	
Clinical T stage				0.15
1	16%	17%	15%	
2	57%	55%	62%	
3	23%	25%	19%	
4	3%	3%	4%	
X	0.2%	0%	0.5%	
Clinical N stage				<b>&lt;0.001</b>
0	26%	30%	16%	
1	64%	63%	67%	
2	8%	5%	13%	
3	2%	2%	4%	

# Axillary Staging Characteristics

	Overall n = 583	No ALND n = 401	ALND n = 182	p value
<b>Staging technique (cN+ only)</b>	<b>n = 433</b>			
SLNB with dual tracer mapping	58%	52%	69%	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
TAD	34%	37%	28%	
MARI	8%	11%	3%	
<b>Entire cohort (cN0 and cN+)</b>				
# of SLNs removed (mean, min, max)	3.3 (0, 16)	3.5 (1, 16)	2.8 (0, 10)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
# of SLNs with ITCs (mean, min, max)	1.2 (0, 6)	1.2 (0, 6)	1.2 (0, 6)	0.6
ITCs detected on frozen section				<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
Yes	25%	8%	62%	
Not performed/unknown	20	11	9	
Total # of LNs removed (mean, min, max)	7 (1,37)	4 (1, 16)	15 (4, 37)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>

# Treatment Characteristics

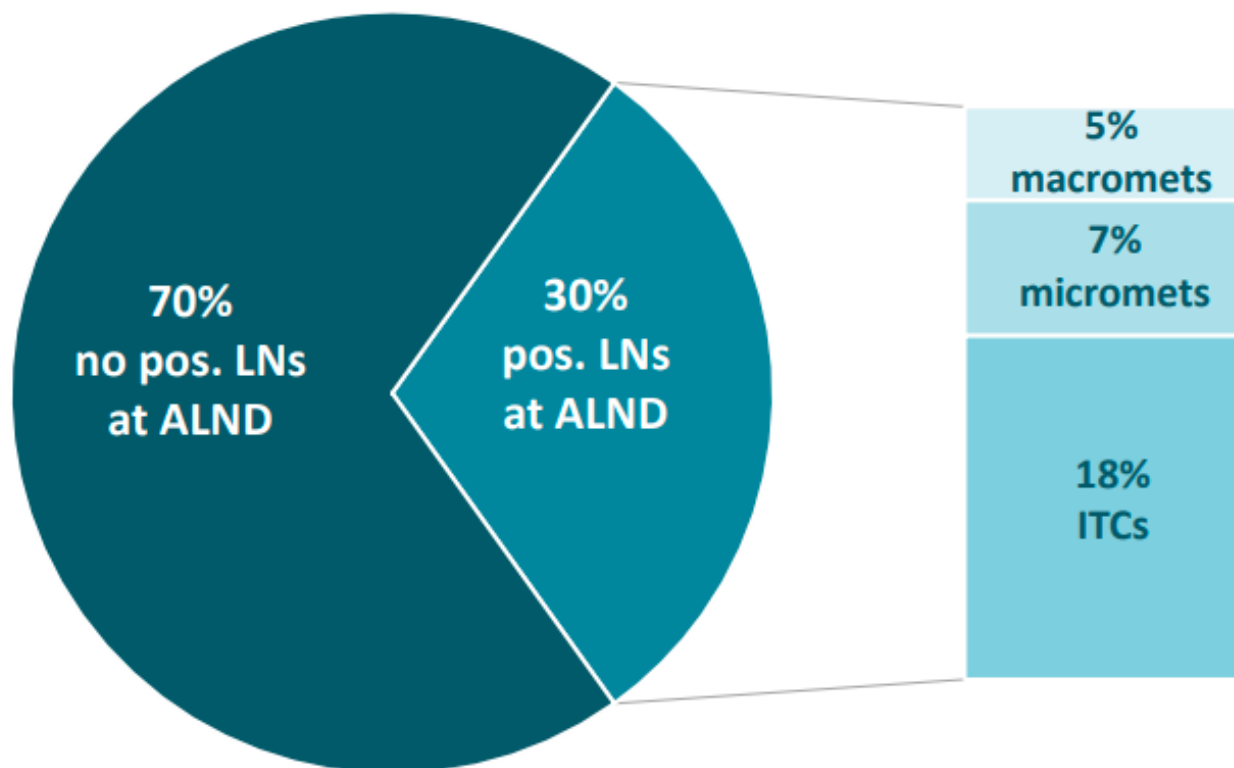
	Overall n = 583	No ALND n = 401	ALND n = 182	p value
NAC regimen				
HER2-	n = 362			0.8
AC-T	79%	78%	81%	
AC-T + Carbo	6.6%	6.0%	8.1%	
AC-T + Carbo with pembrolizumab	2.8%	2.8%	2.7%	
Anthracycline-free regimen	2.8%	3.2%	1.8%	
Other	8.6%	9.6%	6.3%	
HER2+	n = 221			0.068
AC-TH	22%	20%	27%	
AC-THP	29%	29%	31%	
TC-H	1.8%	1.3%	2.8%	
TC-HP	30%	36%	18%	
Other	16.5%	13.7%	18%	

# Radiatio

## Treatment Characteristics

	Overall n = 583	No ALND n = 401	ALND n = 182	p value
Type of breast surgery				0.13
Breast conservation	46%	48%	41%	
Mastectomy	54%	52%	59%	
Radiation therapy (RT)				
Breast (n = 267)	98%	97%	100%	0.3
Chest wall (n = 316)	82%	78%	89%	<b>0.024</b>
Nodal RT				<b>0.038</b>
Yes	77%	75%	82%	

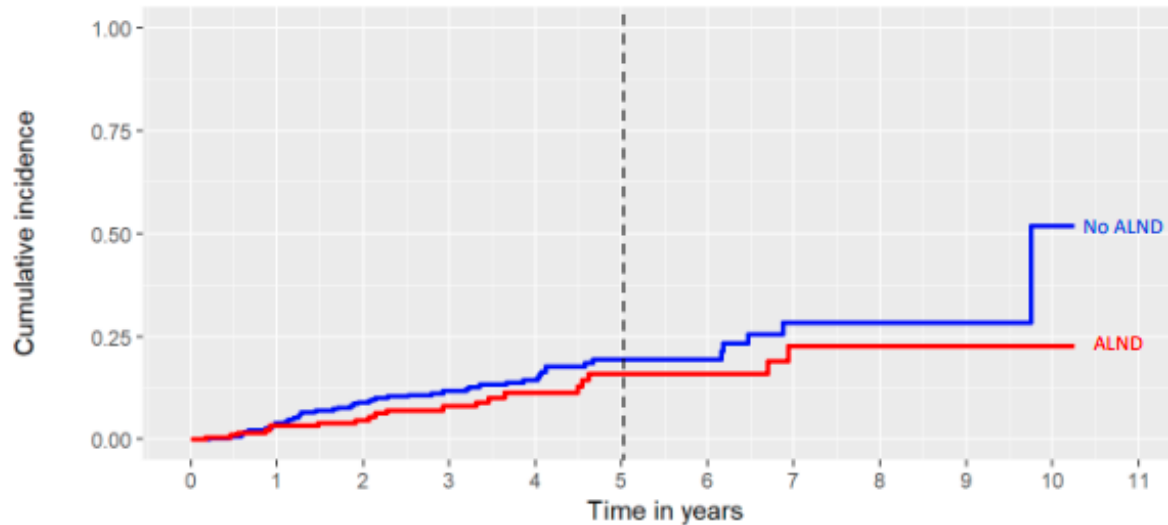
## Additional Positive Lymph Nodes in the ALND Group (n=182)





# Any Invasive Recurrence (No ALND vs ALND)

5-year rate of any invasive recurrence no ALND vs ALND  
19% vs 16%,  $p = 0.13$



Number at risk

Strata	No ALND	401	349	266	185	129	71	43	20	9	5	2	2
ALND	182	165	127	95	68	50	37	19	13	10	5	3	

# Outcome nicht abhängig von ALND

## Conclusions

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- The likelihood of finding additional positive lymph nodes in patients with residual ITCs is lower than in patients with residual micro- and macrometastases
  - macrometastases were found at ALND in 5% of cases
  - no impact of nodal status at presentation
- Detection of ITCs on frozen section was strongly associated with ALND
- Rates of axillary and invasive recurrence did not statistically differ based on the use of ALND

## Conclusions

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- These results do not support routine ALND in patients with residual ITCs after NAC
- Randomized trials (NASBP-B51) will provide further insight to whether nodal RT is needed in this setting

# Diskussion...



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## **SLN ITCs after Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy: To Dissect or Not To Dissect, That is The Question**

Elizabeth A. Mittendorf, MD PhD MHCM

Rob and Karen Hale Distinguished Chair in Surgical Oncology

Vice Chair, Research, Department of Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital

Co-Leader, Breast Program, Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center

Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Boston, MA

# Evolution of Axillary Surgery

1960-1980s

ALND



1990s

SLNB for  
cN0



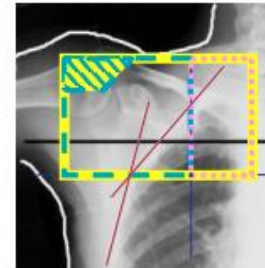
2000s

SLNB ± RT  
for pN+



2010s

SLNB for cN1  
after NAC





# Keine Axilla-Dissektion bei ITC

## Conclusions

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- Rad Onc
  - Interpretation of the data pending results of NSABP-B51
- Pathology
  - Routine use of IHC not required
- Surgery
  - Routine ALND not indicated
- Multidisciplinary care is critical for treating breast cancer patients



# DCIS

**(PS01-10) Surgical margins in breast conserving surgery (BCS) for ductal carcinoma in-situ (DCIS) and clinical outcomes: significant associations with increased recurrence and overall survival.**

# DCIS

**(PS01-10) Surgical margins in breast conserving surgery (BCS) for ductal carcinoma in-situ (DCIS) and clinical outcomes: significant associations with increased recurrence and overall survival.**

## **Conclusion:**

Patients with DCIS with histological margins of  $< 2\text{mm}$ , adjusted for other clinical factors, have significantly worse TTR and OS rates compared to margins  $\geq 2\text{mm}$ ; the increased annual event rate is consistent out to 15 years.

More than 1 BCS is also associated with an increased risk of recurrence.

These findings are important for the treatment of patients with DCIS.

**(PS01-10) Surgical margins in breast conserving surgery (BCS) for ductal carcinoma in-situ (DCIS) and clinical outcomes: significant associations with increased recurrence and overall survival.**

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These findings are important for the treatment of patients with DCIS.

**DCIS  $> 2\text{mm}$**





# BRCA 1....Mastektomie bds?

## Surgical Treatment of Women with Breast Cancer and a *BRCA1* Pathogenic Variant: An International Analysis of the Impact of Bilateral Mastectomy on Survival

Kelly A. Metcalfe, RN, PhD, FAAN, FCAHS, FCAN

Senior Scientist, Women's College Research Institute, Toronto, ON

Professor, Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON



UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

**WCH**

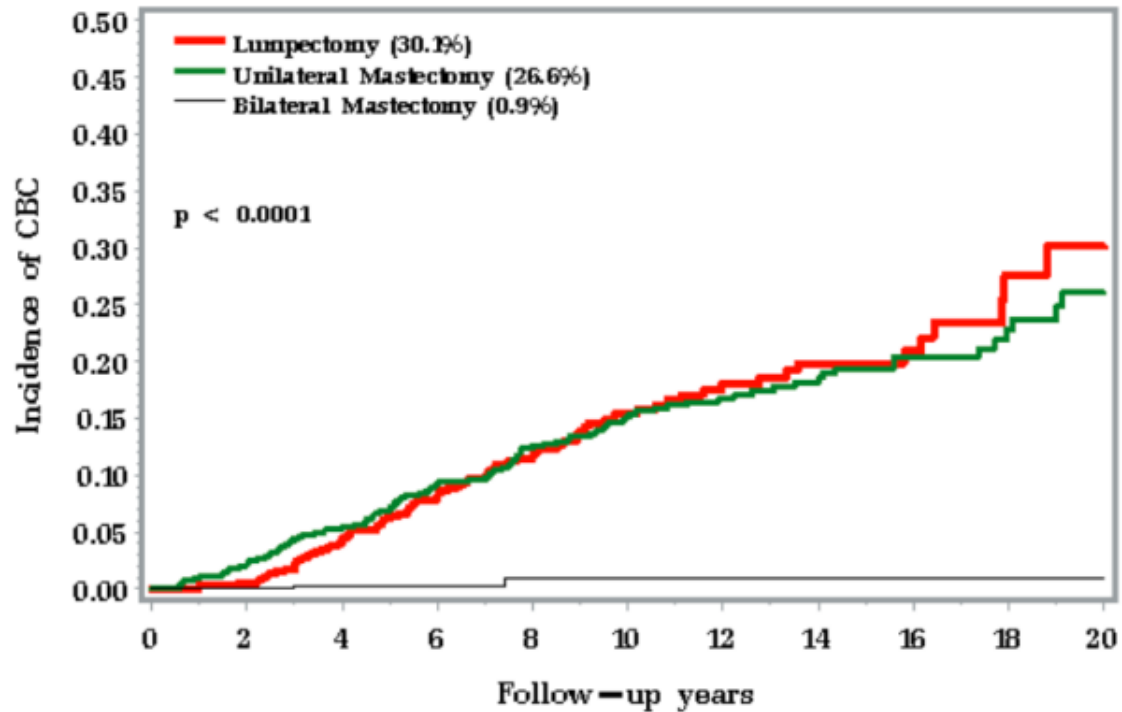
WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL  
Health care for women | REVOLUTIONIZED

## Study Cohort

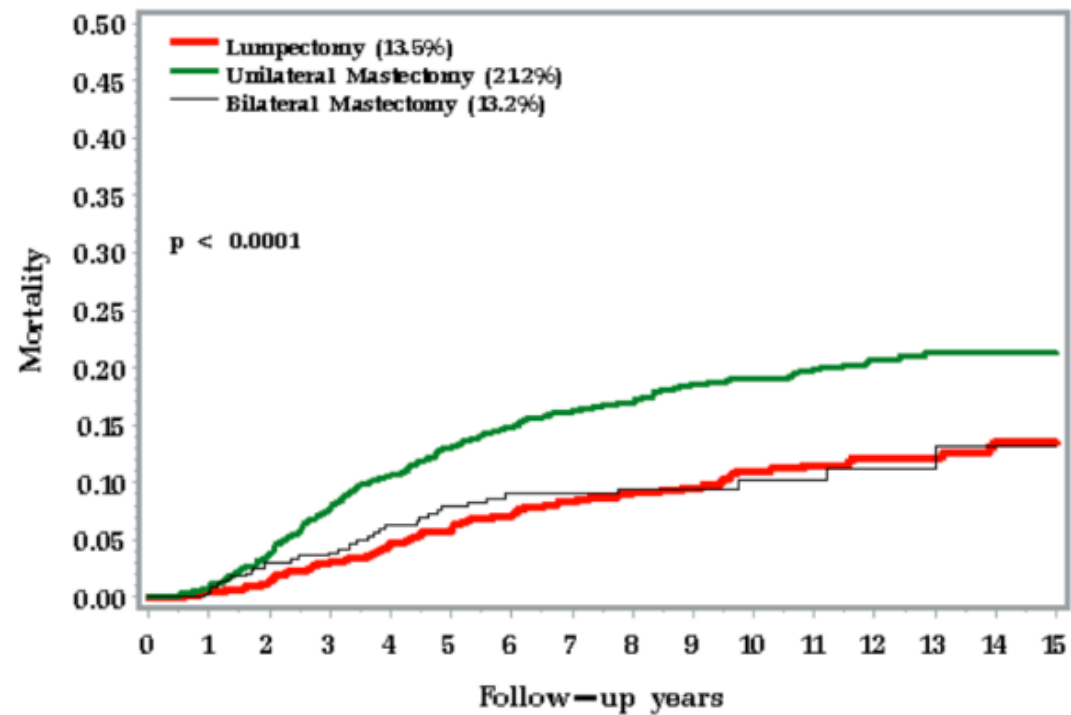
- 2482 eligible participants
- 26 centers
- 11 countries

Variable	Mean (range) / frequency (%)
<b>Date of diagnosis</b>	2011.1(1995-2021)
<b>Follow up (years)</b>	8.9 (0.0-26.0)
<b>Age at Diagnosis (years)</b>	
Mean	43.1 (18-70)
<=40	1049 (42.3)
40-50	833(33.6)
50+	600(24.2)
<b>Surgery</b>	
BCT	852 (34.3)
Mastectomy	1141 (46.0)
Bilateral Mastectomy	489(19.7)

## Contralateral Breast Cancer by Surgery



## Breast Cancer Mortality by Surgery



## Results: Clinical Characteristics

Variable	BCT N=852	Unilateral mastectomy N=1141	Bilateral Mastectomy N=489	P-value
<b>Size (cm)</b>	2.1 (0-20)	3.0 (0-40)	2.2 (0-27)	<0.0001
<=2	506 (59.4)	451 (39.5)	263 (53.8)	
2-5	277 (32.5)	508 (44.5)	188 (38.4)	<0.0001
5+	24 (2.8)	101 (8.9)	21 (4.3)	
<b>Nodes</b>				
Neg	647 (78.1)	683 (62.4)	354 (75.6)	
Pos	182 (21.9)	412 (37.6)	114 (24.4)	0.03
<b>Grade</b>				
I	20 (2.5)	22 (2.2)	23 (2.6)	
II	173 (22.1)	243 (24.1)	75 (16.1)	0.05
III	591 (75.4)	744 (73.7)	380 (81.4)	
<b>ER</b>				
Neg	614 (72.2)	826 (73.4)	360 (74.2)	
Pos	233 (27.4)	300 (26.6)	124 (25.6)	0.52

## Breast Cancer Mortality

- 285 (11.5%) died of breast cancer

Variable	BCT N=852	Unilateral mastectomy N=1141	Bilateral Mastectomy N=489	P-value
<b>Died of BC</b>				
No	667 (78.3)	968 (84.8)	453 (92.6)	<0.0001
Yes	76 (6.9)	173 (15.2)	36 (7.4)	

## Conclusions

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- Women with *BRCA1* PV and bilateral mastectomy
  - Significantly less likely to develop contralateral breast cancer ( $p < 0.0001$ )
- Women with *BRCA1* PV and contralateral breast cancer
  - Twice as likely to die of breast cancer (HR 2.22,  $p < 0.0001$ )
- Bilateral mastectomy not significantly associated with reduction in mortality compared to BCT (HR 0.83,  $p = 0.52$ )





# Strahlentherapie

# Strahlentherapie

- ...nach neoadjuvanter Chemotherapie

cN+, nach NACT ypn0

**Loco-regional Irradiation in Patients with Biopsy-proven Axillary Node Involvement at Presentation**

**Who Become Pathologically Node-negative After Neoadjuvant  
Chemotherapy: Primary Outcomes of  
NRG Oncology/NSABP B-51/RTOG 1304**

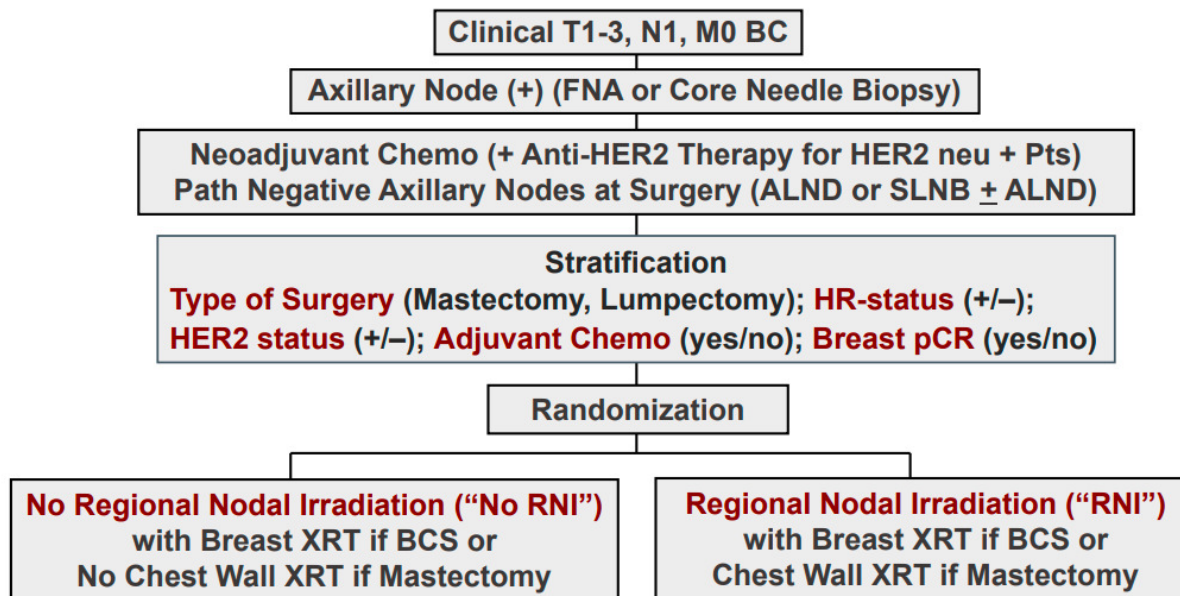
# ypN0, Radio LAW...?

## Background/Rationale



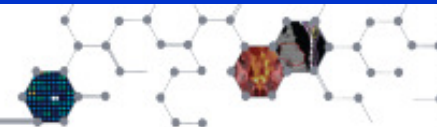
- For patients who undergo upfront surgery, the benefit of adjuvant regional nodal irradiation including the chest wall after mastectomy (CWI+RNI) or when added to whole breast irradiation after lumpectomy (WBI+RNI) is well established in patients with pathologically positive axillary lymph nodes.<sup>1</sup>
- Patients who present with axillary node involvement, receive neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NAC), and are found to be pathologically node-negative at surgery (ypN0), have lower loco-regional recurrence rates compared to those who remain pathologically node-positive (ypN+).<sup>2</sup>
- In this phase III, randomized trial we evaluated whether CWI+RNI after mastectomy or WBI+RNI after lumpectomy significantly improves invasive breast cancer recurrence-free interval in clinically node (+) patients who are found to be ypN0 after NAC.

# Study Schema



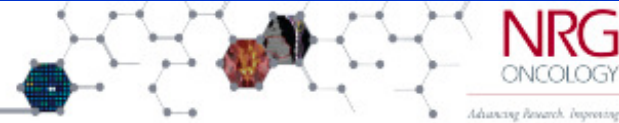
FNA: Fine Needle Aspiration; ALND: Axillary Lymph Node Dissection; SLNB: Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy; XRT: Radiation

## Baseline Characteristics (2)

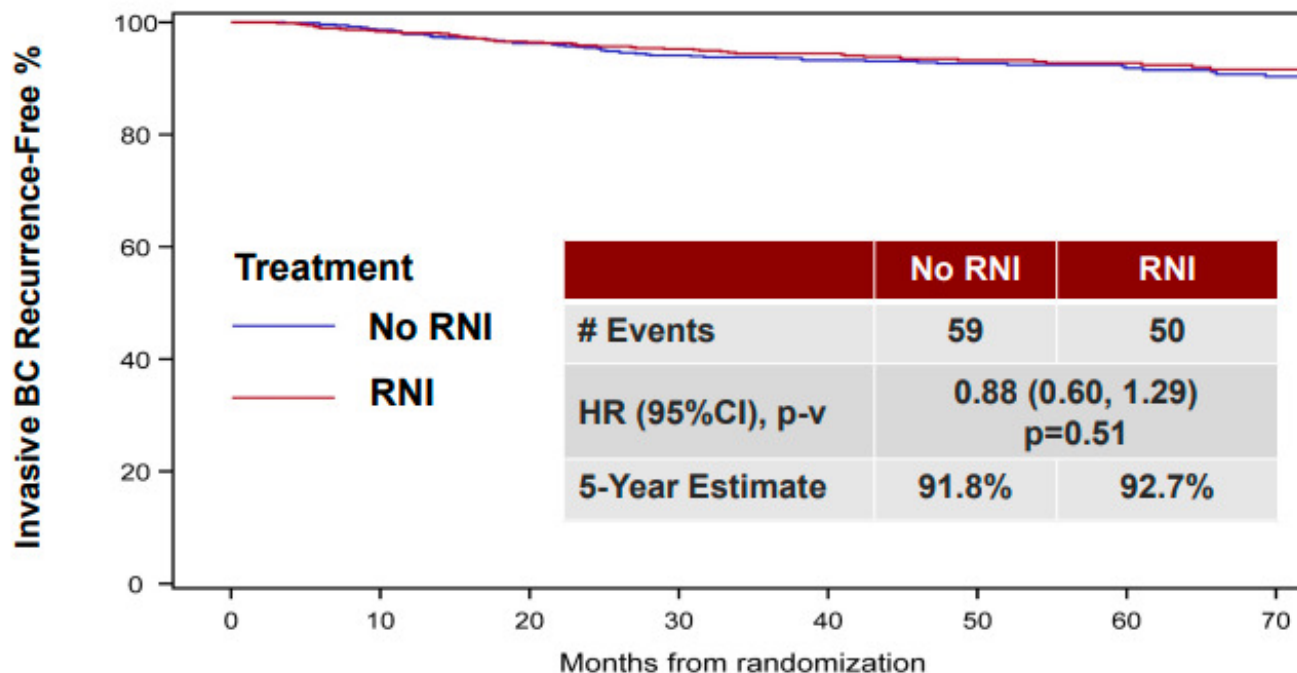


Characteristic		No RNI (%) n=821	RNI (%) n=820
Tumor Subtype	Triple-negative	21	23
	ER+ and/or PR+/HER2-	22	20
	ER- and PR-/HER2+	25	24
	ER+ and/or PR+/HER2+	31	33
Breast Surgery	Lumpectomy	58	58
	Mastectomy	42	42
Axillary Surgery	SLNB	55	56
	ALND (+/-SLNB)	45	44
pCR in Breast	No	22	21
	Yes	78	79
Adjuvant Chemotherapy	No	100	99
	Yes	<1	1

# Primary Endpoint

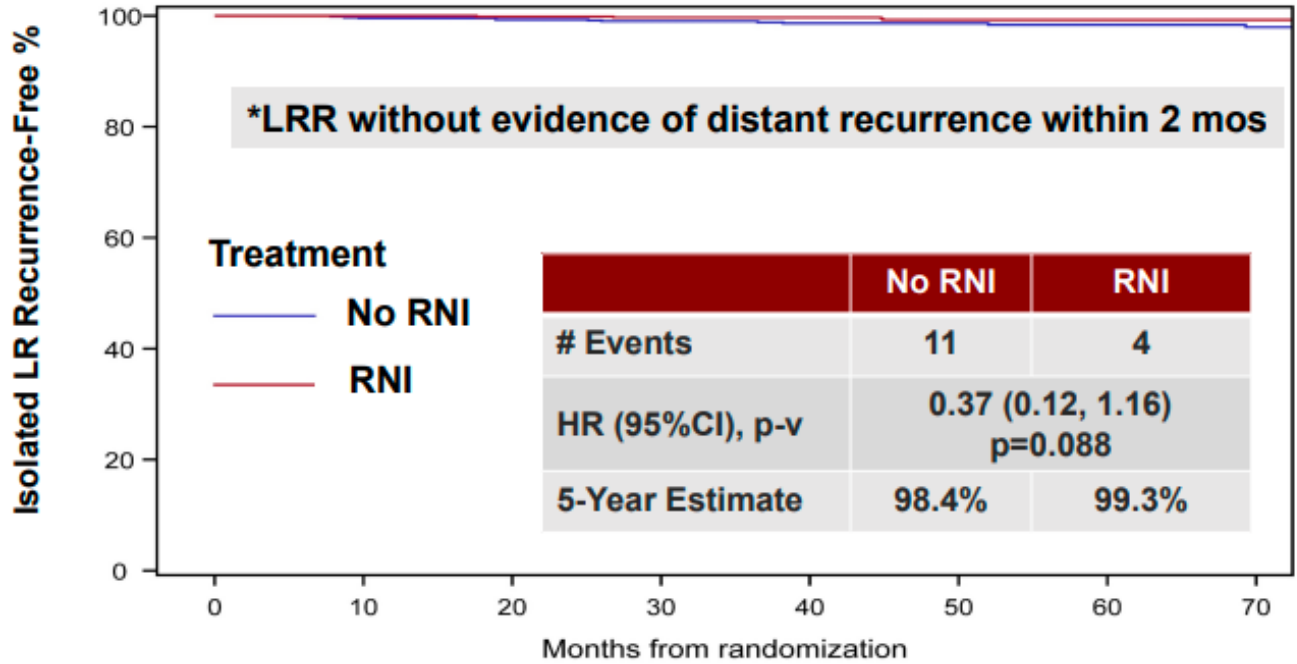


## Invasive Breast Cancer Recurrence-free Interval (IBCRFI)





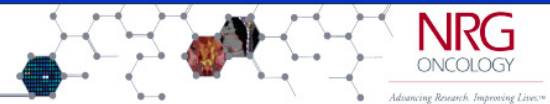
# Isolated Loco-Regional Recurrence-free Interval (ILRRFI)\*



# cN+, nach NACT ypn0

## Radiatio der LAW?

### Conclusions



- In patients who present with biopsy-proven axillary node involvement (cN+) and convert their axillary nodes to ypN0 after NAC, CWI+RNI after mastectomy, or WBI+RNI after lumpectomy, did not improve the 5-year IBCRFI, LRRFI, DRFI, DFS, or OS
- These findings suggest that downstaging involved axillary nodes with neoadjuvant chemotherapy can optimize adjuvant radiotherapy use without adversely affecting oncologic outcomes
- Follow-up of patients for long-term outcomes continues



# Strahlentherapie

# Strahlentherapie

- ...oder einfach mal nicht?

# IDEA

I ndividuell D ecision E ndocrine A lone

**Five-year outcomes of the IDEA trial of endocrine therapy without radiotherapy after breast-conserving surgery for postmenopausal patients aged 50-69 with genomically-selected favorable Stage I breast cancer**

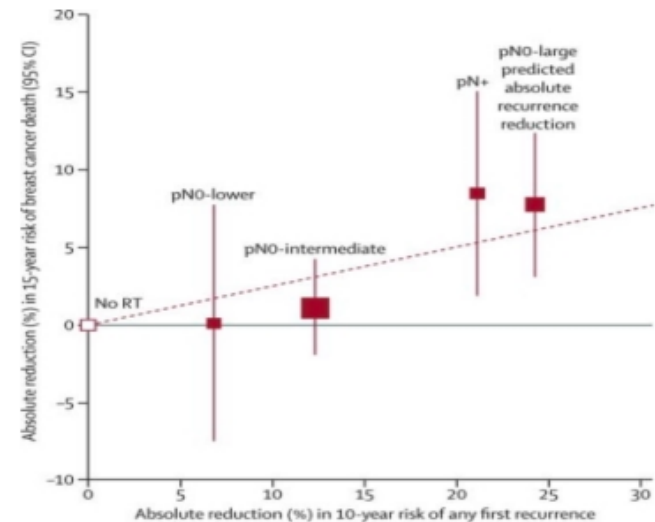
Speaker: Reshma Jaggi, MD, DPhil

Emory University School of Medicine, Winship Cancer Institute, Atlanta, GA

# Lokale Kontrolle, Survival...

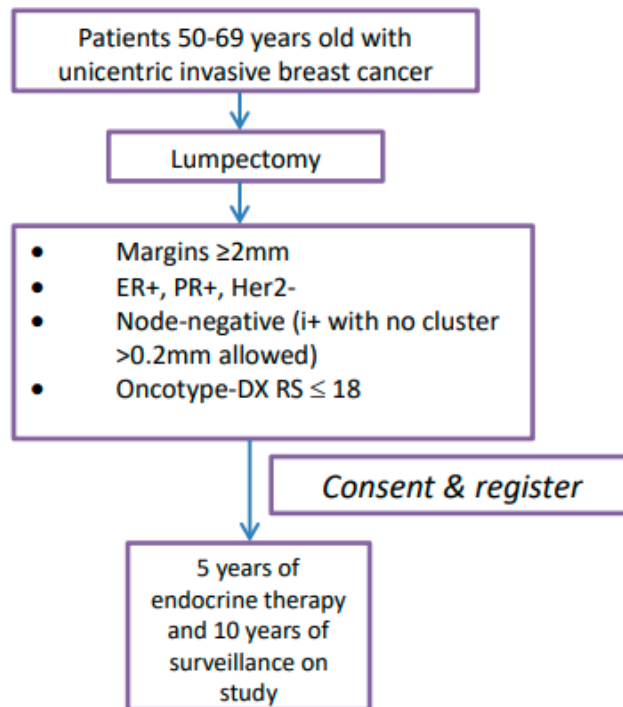
## Background

- Multiple randomized trials have demonstrated that RT after breast conserving surgery (BCS) substantially improves the local control of invasive breast cancer
  - EBCTCG meta-analysis suggests modest survival benefit
- Not all subgroups attain the same absolute benefit from RT, and survival benefit appears restricted to those with a larger absolute reduction in recurrence risk from RT
  - Motivates further research



# Strenge Kriterien...

## IDEA: Individualized Decisions for Endocrine therapy Alone



- Prospective multicenter cohort trial, first to use genomic assay and consider younger post-menopausal patients (NCT02400190)
- 200 patients enrolled over 3.3 years (June 2015-October 2018) at 13 collaborating sites:
  - University of Michigan, MSKCC, Hopkins, Harvard (MGH/BIDMC), Penn, Stanford, Yale, Loyola, MCW, ECU, UTSW, CINJ/Rutgers, Northwell
- Primary analysis to be conducted 5 years after last patient enrolled completed surgery



## Patient Characteristics

- Mean age 62 years
- Mean tumor size 10 mm
- Mean 21-gene RS = 11
- MRI obtained in 33%

- Estrogen receptor+ 100%
- Progesterone receptor+ 100%
- Her2 negative 100%
- pN0 100%
  
- Histology
  - Ductal 85%
  - Lobular 10%
  - Mixed 2%
- Grade 1 42.5%
- Grade 2 54.5%
- Grade 3 3%
- No LVI 85.5%

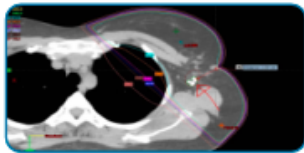
## Results

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- Median f/u 5.2 years
- Among the 186 patients with clinical follow-up of at least 56 months
  - overall and breast cancer-specific survival rates at 5 years were both 100%
  - 5-year freedom from any recurrence was 99% (95% CI, 96%-100%)



# Should Tumor Biology Be Incorporated Into Decisions for RT After Lumpectomy?

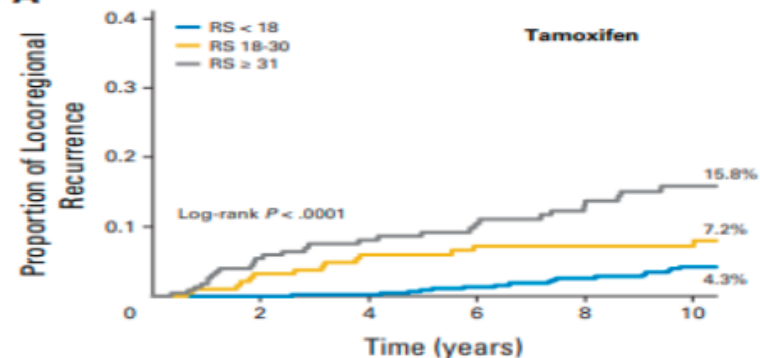


*Systemic therapy recommendations altered by tumor biology*

*Radiotherapy standardly recommended after lumpectomy in women age < 70 years, irrespective of tumor subtype*

## LRR is associated with RS and Age

**A**



	HR	95% CI	P
Age (≥ 50y vs < 50y)	0.4	0.25-0.65	0.0002
RS	2.16	1.26-3.68	.005

## IDEA vs LUMINA: How Should We Select Patients for Omission of RT?

	<b>IDEA n = 200</b>	<b>LUMINA n = 500</b>
Age	62 (mean)	67 (median)
Tumor size	1 cm (mean)	1 cm (median)
Histology	12% lobular or mixed	Lobular or mixed excluded
Grade	3% grade 3	Grade 3 excluded
LVI	14.5%	LVI excluded
EIC	allowed	EIC excluded
Margins	2 mm	1 mm
Low-risk assay	RS ≤18	Ki-67 ≤ 13.25%
ET adherence	85%	83%

# IDEA vs LUMINA: How Should We Select Patients for Omission of RT?

	<b>IDEA n = 200</b>	<b>LUMINA n = 500</b>
Age	62 (mean)	67 (median)
Tumor size	1 cm (mean)	1 cm (median)
Histology	12% lobular or mixed	Lobular or mixed excluded
Grade	2% grade 2	Grade 2 excluded
<b>5-year LR</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
Low-risk assay	RS $\leq$ 18	Ki-67 $\leq$ 13.25%
ET adherence	85%	83%

# RS low, gute Biologie...

## Conclusions

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- IDEA shows a very low 5-year risk of recurrence using a genomic assay in combination with classic clinical and biologic features for treatment selection, including postmenopausal patients younger than age 60
- Long-term follow-up of this trial and others will help determine whether the option of avoiding initial radiotherapy can be offered to a broader group of women than current guidelines recommend
- Such efforts strive to empower patients with choices and return to them a sense of agency that can be deeply meaningful in the context of a recent cancer diagnosis

# Exakte Kriterien, hohe Compliance

## Cautionary Notes

- Absent other evidence, the findings should not be generalized to patients who have less extensive surgery than the pathologic nodal evaluation and margin requirements of the study, and caution is necessary if compliance with endocrine therapy is not expected, given that compliance was high in this sample of women who enrolled on trial
- Must recognize that advances in RT have substantially reduced toxicity and short-term burden of treatment since this trial was initiated, with implications for the risk-benefit ratio of receiving RT, particularly among women with long life expectancies
  - The patients eligible for IDEA are now also candidates for emerging regimens treating the whole breast or partial breast in 5 fractions or less
  - Regardless, some women will wish to avoid the burden and potential toxicity of radiotherapy altogether





Schwangerschaft...

# Young pregnant BRCA carriers

retrospective Studie



DECEMBER 5-9, 2023 | @SABCSSanAntonio



**GS02-13: Pregnancy after Breast Cancer in Young Women with Germline BRCA Pathogenic Variants: Results from an International Cohort Study**

# Background

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- A substantial proportion of young women with newly diagnosed breast cancer are interested in future fertility<sup>1</sup>
- More than 12% of young women with breast cancer carry a germline pathogenic variant in the *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* genes<sup>2</sup>
- Additional challenges should be considered in the reproductive counseling of *BRCA* carriers:
  - The psychological fear of transmitting the pathogenic variant to their offspring<sup>3</sup>
  - The possible negative impact of deficient *BRCA* function on ovarian reserve and fertility potential<sup>4</sup>
  - The indication to undergo risk-reducing bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy at a young age<sup>5</sup>
- While several studies have demonstrated the safety of conceiving following breast cancer diagnosis and treatment, the evidence in *BRCA* carriers is very limited<sup>6</sup>

# Background

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- We previously reported preliminary results from a study including 1252 *BRCA* carriers from 30 centers showing no apparent negative consequences in maternal prognosis or fetal outcomes in patients with a pregnancy after breast cancer<sup>1</sup>
- Main limitations of this study included:<sup>1</sup>
  - The relatively limited number of patients with a pregnancy after breast cancer (n=195)
  - The smaller number than expected of patients with no pregnancy (n=1057)
  - The few subgroup analyses performed (only based on specific *BRCA* gene and hormone receptor status)
- Concerns remain regarding feasibility and safety of pregnancy in this population<sup>2,3</sup>
- To provide more solid evidence in the field, additional centers and patients have been included in this larger international study, which also includes the 1252 *BRCA* carriers in the first report<sup>1</sup>

# Study Design and Participants

- International, multicenter, hospital-based, retrospective cohort study

## Key inclusion criteria

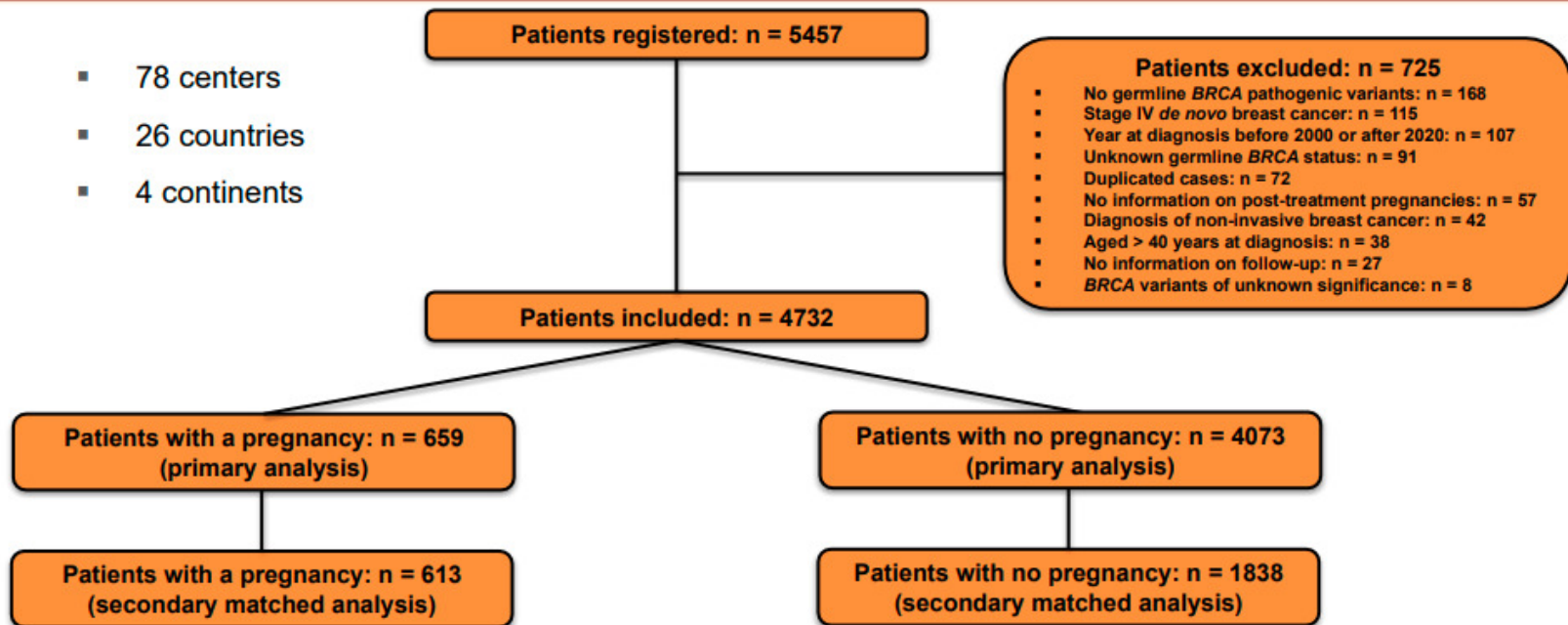
- Stage I - III invasive breast cancer
- Diagnosis between January 2000 and December 2020
- Age  $\leq$  40 years at diagnosis
- Known germline likely pathogenic or pathogenic variants in *BRCA1* and/or *BRCA2* genes

## Key exclusion criteria

- Stage IV *de novo* breast cancer
- Lack of data on follow-up or post-treatment pregnancies
- History of ovarian cancer or other malignancies without prior breast cancer
- *BRCA* VUS or *BRCA* healthy carriers

# Participant Flow

- 78 centers
- 26 countries
- 4 continents



**Median follow-up: 7.8 years (IQR 4.5 – 12.6 years)**

# Participant and Treatment Characteristics

## Key participant characteristics at breast cancer diagnosis

	Patients with a pregnancy n = 659, N (%)	Patients with no pregnancy n = 4073, N (%)
<b>Region:</b>		
Southern Europe	303 (46.0)	1777 (43.6)
Asia	130 (19.7)	650 (16.0)
Northern Europe	110 (16.7)	599 (14.7)
North America	59 (9.0)	460 (11.3)
Eastern Europe	22 (3.3)	282 (6.9)
Australia/Oceania	26 (3.9)	167 (4.1)
Latin/South America	9 (1.4)	138 (3.4)
<b>Year at diagnosis:</b>		
2000 – 2004	106 (16.1)	498 (12.2)
2005 – 2008	141 (21.4)	647 (15.9)
2009 – 2012	170 (25.8)	835 (20.5)
2013 – 2016	159 (24.1)	999 (24.5)
2017 – 2020	83 (12.6)	1094 (26.9)
<b>Age at diagnosis, median (IQR) years</b>	30 (28 – 33)	35 (32 – 38)
<b>Specific BRCA gene</b>		
BRCA1	483 (73.3)	2550 (62.6)
BRCA2	170 (25.8)	1493 (36.7)
BRCA1 and BRCA2	3 (0.5)	23 (0.6)
BRCA, unknown if 1 or 2	3 (0.5)	7 (0.2)
<b>Tumor size:</b>		
T1 (≤ 2 cm)	282 (44.8)	1529 (39.5)
T2 (>2 – ≤ 5 cm)	270 (42.9)	1780 (46.0)
T3 (> 5 cm) – T4	77 (12.2)	562 (14.5)
Unknown	30	202
<b>Nodal status:</b>		
N0	399 (62.5)	2035 (52.1)
N1	180 (28.2)	1376 (35.2)
N2 – N3	59 (9.3)	497 (12.7)
Unknown	21	165
<b>Hormone receptor status:</b>		
ER and/or PR positive	216 (33.3)	1910 (47.7)
ER and PR negative	432 (66.7)	2097 (52.3)
Unknown	11	68
<b>HER2 status:</b>		
HER2 negative	589 (94.2)	3562 (92.2)
HER2 positive	36 (5.8)	303 (7.8)
Unknown	34	208

## Treatment patterns

	Patients with a pregnancy n = 659, N (%)	Patients with no pregnancy n = 4073, N (%)
<b>Breast surgery:</b>		
None	2 (0.3)	13 (0.3)
Breast-conserving surgery	315 (48.8)	1511 (37.9)
Mastectomy	329 (50.9)	2465 (61.8)
Unknown	13	84
<b>Received chemotherapy:</b>		
No	47 (7.1)	334 (8.2)
Yes	611 (92.7)	3780 (91.0)
Unknown	1	31
<b>Type of chemotherapy:</b>		
Anthracycline- and taxane-based	414 (69.2)	2637 (73.8)
Anthracycline-based	143 (23.9)	655 (18.3)
Taxane-based	19 (3.2)	169 (4.7)
Other	22 (3.7)	110 (3.1)
Unknown	13	137
<b>Received endocrine therapy:</b>		
No	18 (8.3)	93 (4.9)
Yes	197 (91.6)	1790 (93.7)
Unknown	1	27
<b>Type of endocrine therapy:</b>		
Tamoxifen alone	64 (32.7)	638 (36.0)
Tamoxifen + LHRHa	81 (41.3)	469 (26.5)
LHRHa alone	7 (3.6)	36 (2.0)
AI ± LHRHa	21 (10.7)	334 (18.8)
Tamoxifen and AI (± LHRHa)	19 (9.7)	274 (15.5)
Other	4 (2.0)	22 (1.2)
Unknown	1	17
<b>Duration of endocrine therapy, median (IQR) months</b>	48 (24 – 60)	60 (28 – 60)
Unknown	40	467
<b>Risk-reducing salpingo-oophorectomy:</b>		
No	379 (57.6)	1844 (46.0)
Yes	279 (42.4)	2164 (54.0)
Unknown	1	65

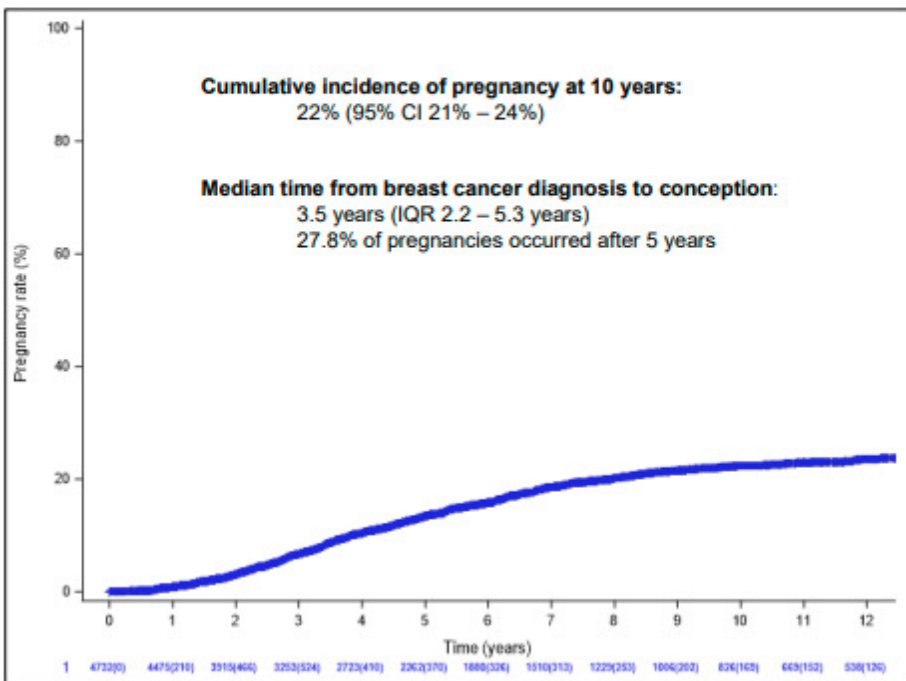


# Study Results – Cumulative Incidence of Pregnancy

## Overall cohort

**Cumulative incidence of pregnancy at 10 years:**  
22% (95% CI 21% – 24%)

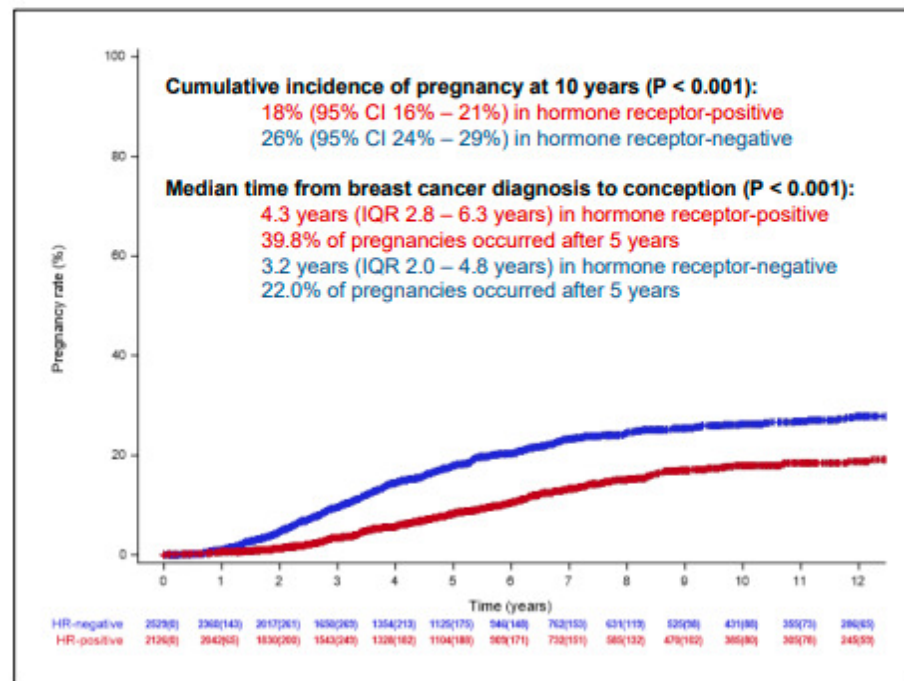
**Median time from breast cancer diagnosis to conception:**  
3.5 years (IQR 2.2 – 5.3 years)  
27.8% of pregnancies occurred after 5 years



## According to hormone receptor status

**Cumulative incidence of pregnancy at 10 years (P < 0.001):**  
18% (95% CI 16% – 21%) in hormone receptor-positive  
26% (95% CI 24% – 29%) in hormone receptor-negative

**Median time from breast cancer diagnosis to conception (P < 0.001):**  
4.3 years (IQR 2.8 – 6.3 years) in hormone receptor-positive  
39.8% of pregnancies occurred after 5 years  
3.2 years (IQR 2.0 – 4.8 years) in hormone receptor-negative  
22.0% of pregnancies occurred after 5 years



# Study Results – Reproductive Outcomes

	Patients with a pregnancy n = 659, N (%)
Age at pregnancy, median (IQR) years	34.7 (31.8-37.3)
Type of conception	
Spontaneous pregnancy	461 (79.2)
Use of assisted reproductive technology	121 (20.8)
Unknown	77
Pregnancy outcome	
Delivered a child	517 (79.7)
Ongoing pregnancy	24 (3.7)
Miscarriage	63 (9.7)
Induced abortion	45 (6.9)
Unknown	10
Number of live births at the first pregnancy after breast cancer	
1	463 (89.6)
2	54 (10.4)
Timing of delivery	
At term ( $\geq 37$ weeks)	406 (91.0)
Preterm ( $< 37$ weeks)	40 (9.0)
Unknown	71
Pregnancy complications	
None	365 (86.3)
Pregnancy complications	27 (6.4)
Delivery complications	22 (5.2)
Congenital abnormalities	4 (0.9)
Fetal complications	3 (0.6)
Other complications	2 (0.5)
Unknown	94
Breastfeeding	
No	270 (67.0)
Yes	133 (33.0)
Unknown	114
Duration of breastfeeding, median (IQR), months	5 (2 – 6)
Unknown duration of breastfeeding	50



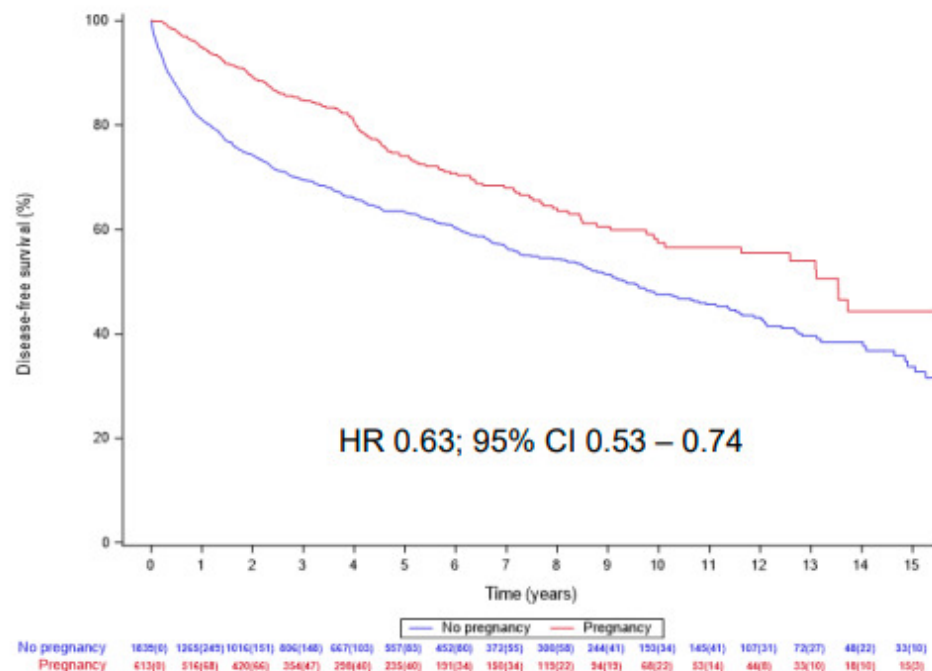
# Study Results – Disease-free Survival

Primary analysis – Extended Cox model with occurrence of pregnancy as a time-varying covariate

Unadjusted HR 0.97; 95% CI 0.82 – 1.15  
Adjusted HR\* 0.99; 95% CI 0.81 – 1.20

Subgroup analyses	Multivariate HR* (95% CI)	P value for interaction
Specific <i>BRCA</i> gene		
<i>BRCA1</i>	0.80 (0.63 – 1.01)	0.007
<i>BRCA2</i>	1.55 (1.12 – 2.16)	
<i>BRCA1</i> and <i>BRCA2</i>	4.49 (0.28 – 72.17)	
<i>BRCA</i> , unknown if 1 or 2	Not evaluable	
Hormone receptor status:		
ER and/or PR positive	1.30 (0.95 – 1.76)	0.009
ER and PR negative	0.76 (0.60 – 0.95)	
Unknown	0.28 (0.04 – 2.21)	
HER2 status:		
HER2 negative	0.61 (0.22 – 1.71)	0.08
HER2 positive	1.07 (0.87 – 1.31)	
Unknown	0.42 (0.17 – 1.02)	
Received chemotherapy:		
No	0.77 (0.39 – 1.52)	0.47
Yes	1.00 (0.82 – 1.23)	
Unknown	0.77 (0.39 – 1.52)	
Received endocrine therapy:		
No	0.85 (0.67 – 1.08)	0.01
Yes	1.55 (1.08 – 2.21)	
Unknown	0.13 (0.01 – 2.95)	

Secondary matched analysis



\*Adjusted for: region, age, nodal status, hormone receptor status and type of breast surgery

# Keine nennenswerten Unterschiede oder Risiken bei BRCA - Trägern

## Conclusions

- This global study including 4732 young *BRCA* carriers from 78 centers worldwide provides reassuring evidence for the oncofertility counseling of young *BRCA* carriers interested in conceiving following diagnosis and treatment for breast cancer
- More than one out of five (22%) young *BRCA* carriers became pregnant within 10 years after a breast cancer diagnosis
- The rate of pregnancy, fetal and obstetric complications was low and in line with the expectations in a population of women with similar age and no history of breast cancer
- **No detrimental prognostic effect of pregnancy after breast cancer was observed, particularly in *BRCA1* carriers**
- **Conceiving after proper treatment and follow-up for breast cancer should not be contraindicated in young *BRCA* carriers**





# POSITIVE

**Fertility preservation and assisted reproductive technologies in breast cancer patients interrupting adjuvant endocrine therapy to attempt pregnancy**

**Results from the POSITIVE Trial**  
(IBCSG 48-14 / BIG 8-13 / Alliance A221405)

**Hatem A. Azim Jr, MD, PhD**  
School of Medicine, Monterrey Institute of Technology, MX

On behalf of the POSITIVE Consortium



IBCSG

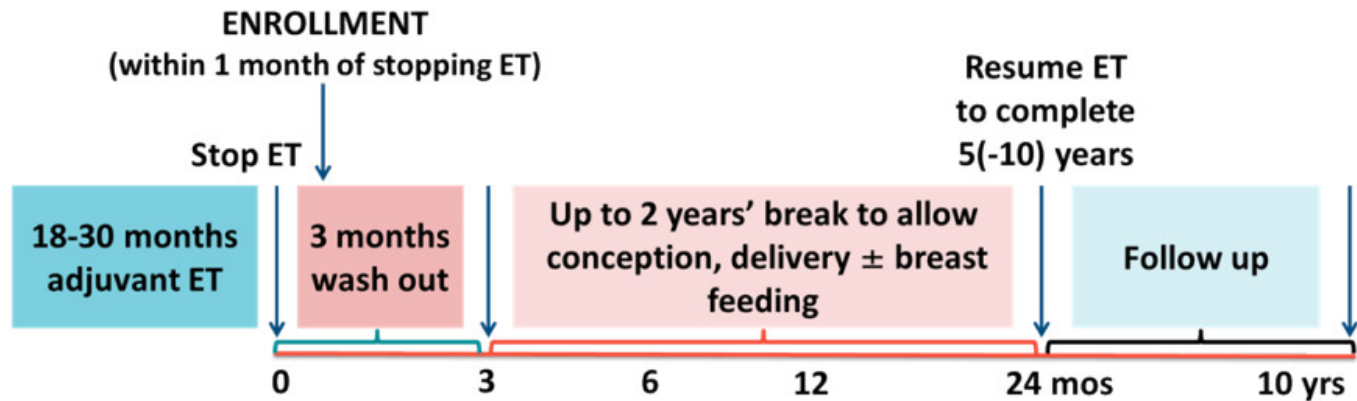
## Background

- Pregnancy after breast cancer (BC) does not worsen disease outcomes, regardless of hormone receptor (HR) status<sup>1, 2</sup>
- The 1<sup>st</sup> results of the POSITIVE trial showed that temporary interruption of endocrine therapy (ET) to attempt pregnancy does not impact disease outcomes, at a median follow-up (FU) of 41 months<sup>3</sup>
- Adjuvant therapy often affects measures of ovarian function including menses, and may compromise chances of future fertility<sup>4</sup>
- Uncertainty exists regarding the efficacy and safety of ovarian stimulation for fertility preservation and use of assisted reproductive technologies (ART) in women with early HR+ BC desiring future pregnancy



# POSITIVE trial design

- Prospective, international, multicenter, investigator-initiated, single-arm trial



## Key eligibility criteria

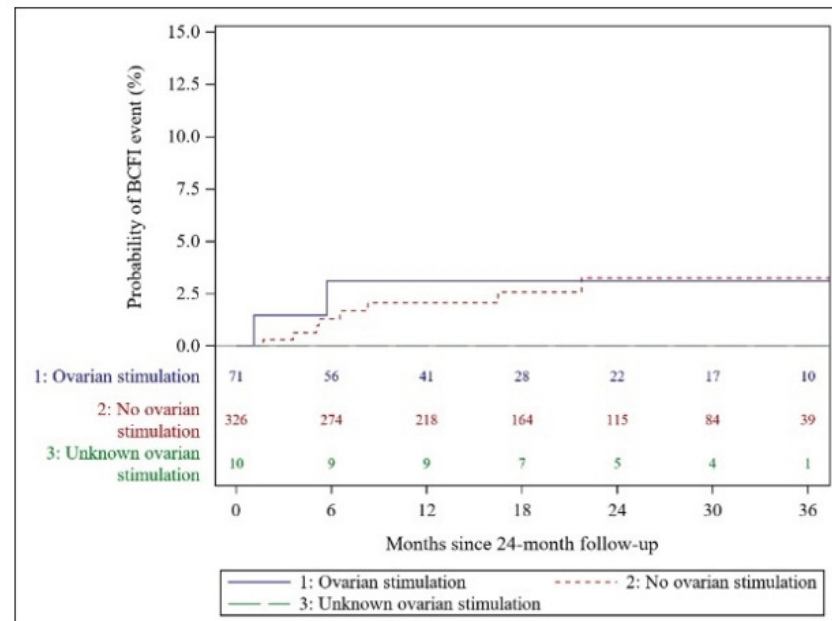
- Premenopausal women stage I-III HR+ BC
- Wishing to become pregnant
- Age  $\leq 42$  years at study entry
- At least 18 months and no more than 30 months of prior adjuvant ET for
- No clinical evidence of recurrence

# Ovarian stimulation & breast cancer outcome



2) As part of ART - after enrollment

- **397 patients alive and BC free at 24-months (landmark analysis)**
  - 2 BC events amongst 71 patients in the ovarian stimulation group
  - 8 BC events amongst 326 patients in the non-ovarian stimulation group



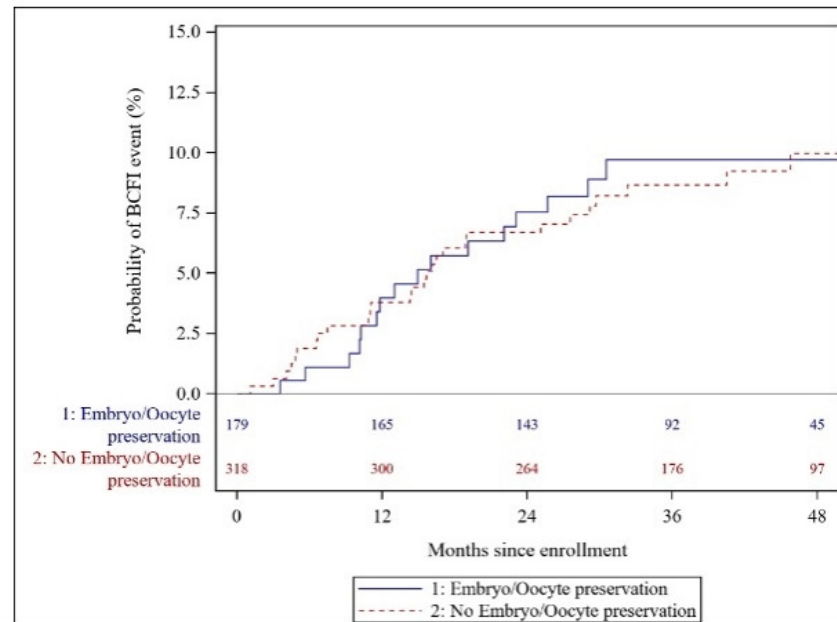
# Ovarian stimulation & breast cancer outcome



1) As part of embryo/oocyte cryopreservation - after BC diagnosis

**At 3-years, BCFI-events cumulative incidence**

- **9.7%** (95% CI: 6.0% to 15.4%) for the 179 patients who underwent ovarian stimulation
- **8.7%** (95% CI: 6.0% to 12.5%) for the 318 patients who did not





## Trial procedures

- At enrollment, all patients were asked to complete a menstrual diary for 2 years
- Information on use of fertility preservation at diagnosis, prior to enrollment was collected:
  - Ovarian stimulation for oocyte/embryo cryopreservation
  - GnRHa use during chemotherapy
  - Ovarian tissue cryopreservation
- Use of any ART modality on study was allowed (per physician/patient discretion) including:
  - Transfer of cryopreserved embryo
  - Ovarian stimulation for IVF
  - Intrauterine insemination
  - Clomiphene use

<b>Multivariate logistic regression model</b>	<b>OR (95% CI)</b>
35-39 vs <35	0.50 (0.29 - 0.86)
40-42 vs <35	0.16 (0.08 - 0.29)
Ovarian stimulation for IVF after enrollment vs No ART	0.85 (0.48 - 1.50)
Cryopreserved embryo transfer * vs No ART	2.41 (1.17 - 4.95)
Other ART vs No ART	1.80 (0.92 - 3.57)
Chemotherapy + GnRH $\alpha$ vs Chemotherapy no GnRH $\alpha$	1.41 (0.70 - 2.82)
None vs Chemotherapy without GnRH $\alpha$	1.10 (0.70 - 1.75)

\* 82% of patients reported at least 1 pregnancy

# POSITIVE

## Conclusions



- This is the **largest prospective study** to investigate fertility preservation and ART in patients with early HR+ BC who desired pregnancy
- More than **90% of women presenting with amenorrhea resumed menses**, mostly during the first 6 months
- **Young age was the main factor associated with shorter time to pregnancy**; whereas type of ET was not
- **Embryo/oocyte cryopreservation at BC diagnosis followed by embryo transfer** after ET interruption **had higher pregnancy rates but was not associated with worse prognosis**
- **No increase in breast cancer events** was observed in patients undergoing **IVF on study** albeit few events. **Longer follow-up is needed**

# POSITIVE

Prospektive Studie

Kryokonservierung...

Keine Zunahme der Rezidive

## Conclusions



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