

Advances in the Standard of Care in TNBC: Addressing Health Disparities and Integrating ADCs Into Treatment

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Advances in the Standard of Care in TNBC: Addressing Health Disparities and Integrating ADCs Into Treatment

Kristen Whitaker, MD, MS, Ricki Fairley, BA, MBA & Sara Tolaney, MD, MPH



- **Kristen Whitaker, MD, MS:**
Hello, and welcome to this educational activity. I am Dr. Kristen Whitaker. I'm an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Genetics at Fox Chase Cancer Center where I see patients with breast cancer, as well as patients without cancer that have a high risk of breast cancer.

Introductions

Moderator

Kristen Whitaker, MD, MS
Assistant Professor
Department of Clinical Genetics and
Medical Oncology
Fox Chase Cancer Center

Faculty Panel

Ricki Fairley, BA, MBA
CEO
TOUCH, The Black Breast Cancer Alliance

Sara Tolaney, MD, MPH
Associate Director, Susan F. Smith Center
for Women's Cancers
Director of Clinical Trials, Breast Oncology Center
Director of Breast Immunotherapy Clinical Research,
Breast Oncology Center
Senior Physician
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Associate Professor of Medicine,
Harvard Medical School



- We're joined today by two faculty panelists. Ricki Fairley, CEO of TOUCH, The Black Breast Cancer Alliance. We're also joined by Dr. Sara Tolaney, who wears many titles, but she's the Associate Director of the Women's Cancer Center, and she's at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.



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Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

- **Ricki Fairley**, reported a financial interest/relationship or affiliation in the form of *Grant*: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp; Genentech, Inc; Gilead; and Eisai Inc.
- **Sara Tolaney, MD, MPH**, reported a financial interest/relationship or affiliation in the form of *Advisory board*: AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP; Lilly USA; Merck & Co, Inc; Nektar Pharmaceuticals Inc; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp; Pfizer, Inc; Genentech/Roche; Immunomedics, Inc; Bristol-Myers Squibb Co; Eisai Inc; Nanostring; PUMA Biotechnology; Sanofi; Celldex, Inc; and Paxman. *Consultant*: AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP; Lilly USA; Merck & Co, Inc; Nektar Pharmaceuticals Inc; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp; Pfizer, Inc; Bristol-Myers Squibb Co; Eisai Inc; Nanostring; Paxman; and Odonate. *Research funding*: AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP; Lilly USA; Merck & Co, Inc; Nektar Pharmaceuticals Inc; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp; Pfizer, Inc; Genentech/Roche; Immunomedics, Inc; Exelixis, Inc; Bristol-Myers Squibb Co; Eisai Inc; Nanostring; and Cyclacel. *Steering Committee*: Seattle Genetics, Inc.
- **Kristen Whitaker, MD, MS**, reported a financial interest/relationship or affiliation in the form of *Consultant*: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.



- ▶ Here's our financial disclosure information.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this activity, participants should be better able to:

- Describe how health disparities contribute to inequalities in health outcomes in women with TNBC
- Discuss the importance of adequate screening, genetic testing, and diagnosis to facilitate early identification and treatment of TNBC among black women and other medically underserved minority populations in the United States
- Identify women with TNBC who may benefit from treatment with an antibody-drug conjugate or other novel therapy to help overcome disparities in care and promote health equity



► And I hope that this will be a very valuable session for you, and to that end we hope to achieve a few objectives.



Understanding Health Disparities and Inequities in TNBC

► And now, we'll have Ricki Fairley talk to you a bit more about some of these disparities and inequities in triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC).

Black Breast Cancer



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- **Ricki Fairley:** I'm Ricki Fairley, and I am a 10-year survivor of TNBC. I'm very pleased to have this talk with you today.

Overview

- The State of Breast Cancer in Black Women
- Key Factors Affecting Mortality
- What's the Perception of Clinical Trials?
- Black Data Matters Research
- What Will Change the Game?

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- Let's talk about TNBC and, really, breast cancer overall for black women. It's really a different disease state for black women. So I'm going to cover the state of black breast cancer, some key factors affecting the mortality of black women, our perception of clinical trial research, and some research that I recently did under the title Black Data Matters and how I'm working really hard to change the game on the situation.

Breast Cancer Is One of the Most FATAL Health Issues for Black Women!

- Black women are **41%** more likely to die of breast cancer than white women
- Black women under 35 get breast cancer at **two times** the rate of white women and die at **three times the rate**
- Black breast cancer survivors have a 39% higher risk for breast cancer recurrence compared to white women
- Black women with breast cancer have a 52% higher risk for death than white women



Breast Cancer Prevention Partners, American Cancer Society, *Oncology Times* 2019;41(1):24.
Richardson et al. *Weekly*. 2016;65(40):1093-1098. Sparano et al. *JAMA Oncol*. 2020;6(3):367-374.

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► Breast cancer is one of the most fatal health issues for black women, especially relative to white women. We are dying at a 41% higher rate than white women. Black women under 35 get breast cancer at twice the rate and die at three times the rate, well before they would have their first mammogram at age 40. Black breast cancer survivors like me have a 39% higher risk for breast cancer recurrence, compared to white women. That's really true for TNBC because we don't have a drug to prevent recurrence. TNBC is the only breast cancer subtype that doesn't have a drug to prevent recurrence, which makes us special and different and more deserving of attention from the science. Black women with breast cancer have a 52% higher risk of death than white women. These numbers are devastating and really need to be addressed.

Metastatic Breast Cancer

- The odds of advanced (stage III/IV) disease versus stage I disease among black women were almost four times those of white women
- Black women are 61% more likely to develop metastatic breast cancer than white women
- Black women are diagnosed with de novo metastatic breast cancer at a 58% higher rate than white women

Source: NIH, National Institutes of Health.

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► So let's talk about metastatic breast cancer. The odds of getting stage III or IV disease versus Stage I disease among black women is almost four times that of white women. Black women are 61% more likely to develop metastatic breast cancer than a white woman. And black women are diagnosed with de novo metastatic breast cancer at a 58% higher rate than white women. This means their breast cancer diagnosis was metastatic from the beginning. And again, these numbers are astounding.

Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Is Wreaking Havoc

- The risk of developing TNBC is nearly 3-fold higher in black women vs non-black women, which may predict a worse prognosis
- 20% to 30% of breast cancers diagnosed in black women are triple negative
- Women under age 40 have a 2-fold higher risk of being diagnosed with TNBC than women age 50-64
- Women diagnosed with late-stage breast cancer are 69% more likely to have triple-negative disease than other breast cancer subtypes



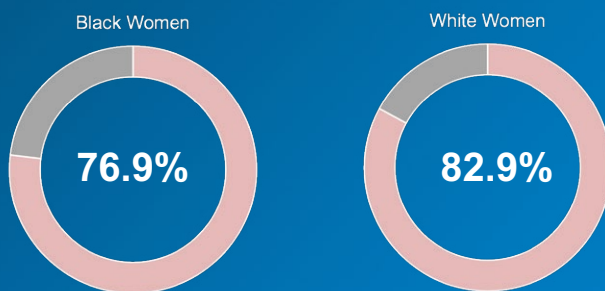
TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.
Pann Medicine, Siddharth and Sharma. *Cancers (Basel)* 2018;10(12):514. Sleat et al. *Breast Cancer Res* 2009; 11(2):R18. Scott et al. *Cancer* 2019;125(19):3412-3417.

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- ▶ The risk of developing TNBC is nearly threefold higher in black women versus non-black women, and we know that it has a worse prognosis. 20 to 30% of breast cancers diagnosed in black women are triple negative. And women under the age of 40 have a twofold higher risk of being diagnosed with TNBC than women ages 50 to 64. Women diagnosed with late-stage breast cancer are 69% more likely to have triple-negative disease than other breast cancer subtypes.

Black Women Are Less Likely to Survive 5 Years

Cumulative breast cancer-specific survival at 5 years



Cho et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2021;7(7):1016-1023.

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- ▶ Black women are less likely to survive 5 years: 76.9% versus 82.9% for white women.

Black Women Are at Higher Risk for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Mortality

- A greater proportion of black women have (vs. white women):
 - Stage III tumors (20.3% vs 15.2%)
 - Tumors exceeding 5 cm in size (14.3% vs 9.6%)
 - Positive lymph nodes (39% vs 31.6%)
 - Poorly-differentiated or undifferentiated histology (81.5% vs 76%)

Black Women Have an 18% Higher Risk for Death Due To Non-Metastatic TNBC Than White Women

Cho et al. JAMA Oncol. 2021;7(7):1016-1023.

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- ▶ We don't really know why the mortality numbers are so devastating. But there are a lot of contributing factors that indicate that our bodies are different. Black bodies are different and warrant different treatment options. So let me go into those a little bit. And it really will dictate kind of the risk of breast cancer for black women.

So black women are at higher risk for TNBC mortality. We have more stage III tumors, more positive lymph nodes, bigger tumors, and black women have an 18% higher risk of death due to nonmetastatic TNBC.

Physiologic Factors Increase Incidence of Obesity in Black Women

- CDC age-adjusted prevalence of obesity among US adults (2017-2018): 42.4%
 - 41% for black men
 - 57% for black women
- Prevalence among non-Hispanic black women was higher than all other groups
- Researcher Barbara Gower, PhD investigating reasons for these differences
- Preliminary conclusions suggest that black women are more prone to obesity because:
 - They secrete more insulin and clear less of it
 - High amounts of insulin in bloodstream after meals signals body to store more fat
 - Factor in diets high in sugar that cause insulin levels to spike, and these women already prone to higher levels of circulating insulin will store more fat, compared to women with lower insulin secretion and higher insulin clearance

Hales et al. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db360.htm>. Gower et al. Eur J Clin Nutr. 2021;75(4):628-635.

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- ▶ Some other factors increase our incidence of getting breast cancer. Obesity is really a problem in black women, and this is a risk factor for breast cancer.

Obesity Is a Breast Cancer Risk Factor for Black Women

- Black women have a significantly higher mean BMI (23%) compared with white women (32 kg/m² vs 26 kg/m²)
- Having a BMI >30 kg/m² is associated with an increased risk (HR 2.77) for TNBC and an increased risk for ER+/PR+/HER2– breast cancer in postmenopausal women

BMI, body mass index; ER, estrogen receptor; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; PR, progesterone receptor; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer. Fribel-Klingner et al. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2021;189(3):827-835. McCarthy et al. *Cancer Med*. 2021;10(18):6456-6467.

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- ▶ Black women have a significantly higher BMI compared with white women. Having a BMI of greater than 30 is associated with an increased risk for TNBC and an increased risk for other breast cancers, as well, in postmenopausal women.

Most Black Mothers Are Single Parents



- 67.9% of all black working women are single moms, making them the primary, if not sole, economic providers for their families
- Add breast cancer to those dynamics!
- What choice will a single mom make between missing work to receive treatment versus going to work to feed her kids?

Wilson V. 2017. <https://www.epi.org/blog/african-american-women-stand-out-as-working-moms-play-a-larger-economic-role-in-families/>

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- ▶ Another factor that could impact this is that most black mothers are single parents. Almost 70% of all black working women are single moms, making them the primary, if not sole, economic providers for their households. So what does that mean? That means without disease, we are working hard to take care of our kids. They're the priority. Add breast cancer to those dynamics and what choice will a single mom make between missing work and not feeding her kids and maybe not going to treatment or not getting a mammogram? So her focus is on her kids.

Black Women May Miss a Risk-Reducing Opportunity Because Breastfeeding May Not Be an Option

- 85% of white mothers say they breastfed versus 76% of black mothers
- Black moms are less likely to breastfeed because:
 - Hospital maternity wards that serve larger black populations are less likely to help black women initiate breastfeeding after giving birth or offer lactation support following delivery, according to the CDC study. Often, staff in these facilities instead offer black babies formula
 - Black women are more likely than others to need to return to work earlier than 12 weeks, and tend to be confronted with “inflexible work hours” that make consistent nursing and expression of milk difficult
- Parous women who breastfed for at least 1 year had a 31% lower risk for TNBC than women who had never breastfed
- Parous black women aged 20-44 years who breastfed for 6 months or longer had an 82% lower risk for TNBC than their counterparts who had never breastfed

Ma et al. *Breast Cancer Res.* 2017;19(1):6. CDC. 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/data/facts.html>.

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► Black women may miss a risk-reducing opportunity because breastfeeding may not be an option for them. So breastfeeding is shown as a way to potentially prevent TNBC; 85% of white mothers say they’ve breastfed their babies versus 76% of black mothers.

By the Numbers

92% of black women agree breast health is important

25% of women have recently discussed breast health

17% have taken steps to better understand their risk

This Ad Council survey was conducted by Ipsos Public Affairs in February-April 2018. The nationally representative online survey included 810 black women ages 30-55.

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► A study was done by the Ad Council a couple of years ago, and clearly, blacks don’t talk about health at the kitchen table. This study identified that 92% of black women agree that breast health is important. Only 25% of black women have recently discussed it with their friends and family, but a mere 17% have taken steps to better understand their risk. So we’re not talking about it. It’s not top of mind.

Screening Protocols Are Not Clear to Black Women

- 54% of all women ages 21 to 39 and 26% of women ages 40 to 60 say they don't know how often they should be screened for breast cancer
- 47% of black women of all ages say they don't know how often they should be screened for breast cancer
- 28% of all women have not scheduled any breast cancer screening during the COVID-19 pandemic
- That percentage drastically increases when looking specifically at black women



Prevent Cancer Foundation. 2021. <https://www.preventcancer.org/2021/09/survey-says-women-are-skipping-cancer-screenings-during-pandemic-but-they-plan-to-get-back-on-the-books/>

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- ▶ A recent study also showed that screening protocols are not clear to black women. 47% of black women of all ages say they don't even know how often they should be screened for breast cancer.

28% of all women have not scheduled any breast cancer screening during the COVID-19 pandemic that's really wreaking havoc on our community. That percentage drastically increases when you look specifically at black women. So the pandemic has had a very negative impact on screening.

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How Racial & Ethnic Disparities Contribute to Care Variations in TNBC

- ▶ So let's talk about some of these ethnic disparities.

Black Women Experience Treatment Delays

- Black women are much more likely to delay following up with a doctor after an abnormal mammogram
- Only 69% of black women start treatment within 30 days of diagnosis compared with 83% of white women
- 20% wait more than 60 days to follow up compared with 12% of white women
- Young black women have the longest and most significant delays in care

Richardson et al. *Am J Public Health* 2010;100(9):1769-1778. Lund et al. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2008;109(3):545-557.

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► Black women also experience treatment delays. We are much more likely to delay following up with a doctor after an abnormal mammogram, and sometimes that's based on insurance, but 20% of black women wait more than 60 days to follow up with their doctor compared to 12% of white women. And only 69% of black women start treatment within 30 days of diagnosis, compared with 83% of white women. Young black women have the longest and most significant delays in care. And why is that? They could be single moms, they may have religious reasons, they may not trust their doctors. A lot of reasons for this. But these delays can cost them their life.

The Hard Truth About Clinical Research

- The unique physiology of black women has not been factored into clinical trial research
- To address the skewed mortality statistics among black women, they must be included in current and future breast cancer research

"[Inadequate minority representation in drug trials means that] we aren't doing good science... If we aren't doing good science and releasing these drugs out into the public, then we are at best being inefficient, at worst being irresponsible."

— Dr. Johnathan Jackson
Founder of Community Access
Recruitment and Engagement Center
Massachusetts General Hospital



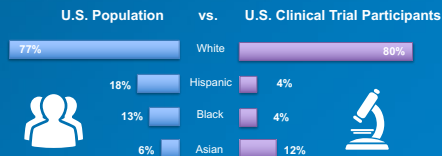
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► Now let's talk about clinical research. The unique physiology of black women, which we've identified as different, now, has not been factored into clinical trial research. And there's a quote that I'd like to read you from Dr. Jonathan Jackson, Founder of Community Access from Massachusetts General Hospital: "Inadequate minority representation in drug trials means that we are not doing good science. And if we're not doing good science and releasing these drugs out into the public, then we're at best being inefficient and at worst being irresponsible." So we must figure out how to get more black women included in research.

Blacks Are Significantly Underrepresented in Clinical Research

- Blacks represent 13.4% of the US population, but only 7% of clinical trial participants
- Since 2016, the FDA has approved four novel drugs for breast cancer. However, none of those clinical trials had more than 3% black participants

Race and Ethnicity of U.S. Population and Participants in Clinical Trials

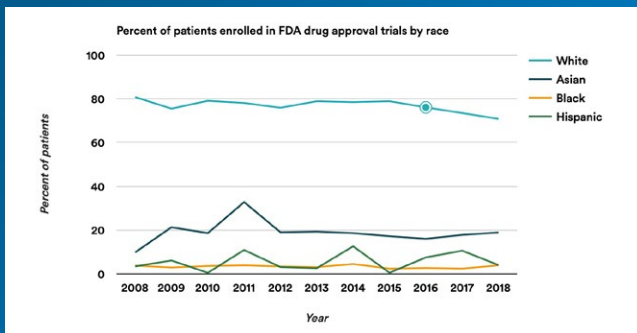


- Blacks represent 13.4% of the US population but only 7% of clinical trial participants overall. And since 2016, the FDA has approved four novel drugs for breast cancer; however, none of those clinical trials had more than 3% black participants.

US Census Bureau. Camidge et al. *Future Oncol.* 2021;17(24):3271-3280.

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Disparity of Race Reporting and Representation in Clinical Trials Leading to Cancer Drug Approvals from 2008 to 2018



- The disparities are really significant in representation in clinical trials, and it's been that way for a while, and it's getting worse over time.

Loree et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2019;5(10):e191870.

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Black Breast Cancer and Barriers to Clinical Research



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- ▶ So what are the barriers to clinical research?

Black Data Matters

- The mission of Black Data Matters is to empower black patients to directly change a research and medical system that often fails them



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- ▶ Last year and earlier this year, I went out on a mission to establish a program called Black Data Matters. And I really wanted to dig into how we are different and what's driving the emotional barriers to keeping black women from participating in research.

► So I embarked upon this study, and I partnered with some partners—I knew that I couldn't do this alone.



Black Data Matters Goals

- Increase participation of black women in clinical trials to advance science and save lives
- Disrupt how the breast cancer ecosystem engages black women in clinical trial research
- Strive towards health equity for black women diagnosed with or at risk for breast cancer
- Help black women get the best breast cancer care



► And together we did a study with the following goals: We wanted to really focus on increasing the participation of black women in clinical trials. What would it take so we can advance the science and save lives?

We also want to disrupt how the breast cancer ecosystem engages black women in clinical trial research. With 3% participation, something is wrong. And this will all strive for better health equity for black women that have diagnosed with or at risk for breast cancer and help us get the best breast care possible.

Qualitative Methodology

- All digital
- 6 hour-long individual interviews
- 14 two-hour focus groups
- Participants (N = 48) included:
 - Black women with breast cancer who had never participated in a clinical trial, (n = 29)
 - Family members of black women with breast cancer (n = 10)
 - Black women at risk for breast cancer (n = 9)
- Participants ranged in age from 27-63 (mean age 42)
- Patient population included 19 patients with stage II and III breast cancer, and 10 patients with stage IV breast cancer

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► We did 6 hour-long individual interviews, and 14 two-hour focus groups for 48 participants. The age range was 27 to 63, mean age of 42. And the patient population included 19 patients with stage II and III breast cancer and 10 patients with stage IV breast cancer. So we really tried to get the gamut of people with early-stage and late-stage breast cancer.

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"Don't do a clinical trial! You will get the sugar pill and die."



- Metastatic Patient (Stage IV)

"I feel like a lot of the research is not with Black women. So if I had someone who went through it already, I trust their pain and their feedback."

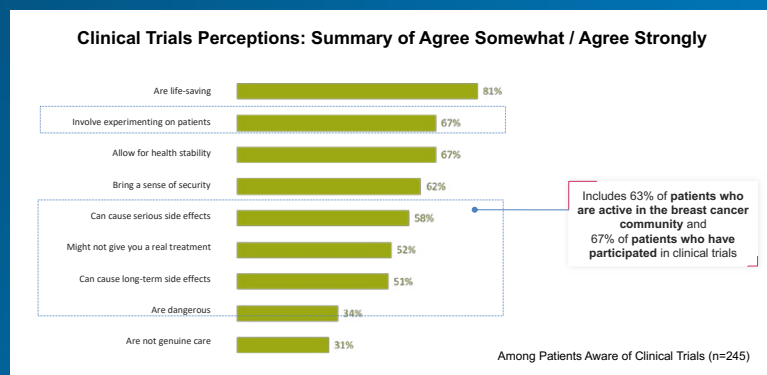
- Patient Stage II

"Whenever I would hear clinical trial, I would always think experiment because it was never really broken down to me, I never considered it, and I've never been approached personally to participate. But I know with my former oncologist, I wouldn't say that I trusted him too much... he didn't really answer a lot of my questions..."

- Patient Stage II/III

► And one of the most confounding messages was coming from a 'Breastie,' "Don't do a clinical trial, you'll get the sugar pill and die." And that was from a metastatic breast cancer patient, a black woman. So when I say as a Breastie, when a Breastie says something, it's a credible thing to another Breastie. So we what we found in the research was that our Breasties were giving incorrect information to other Breasties because of their own personal fears and biases.

Although they see benefits, many view trial participation as risky due to clinical trials' experimental nature and belief that they can cause serious and long-term side effects



A3. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding clinical trials as a treatment for breast cancer?

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- ▶ Although they see benefits, many view trial participation as risky because of the clinical trials' experimental nature, and they believe they could cause serious and long-term side effects.

Key logistical barriers to trial participation include financial expenses, living far away from healthcare facilities, and interference with work commitments



A16. If you wanted to participate in a clinical trial for breast cancer and were selected as a participant, which of the following, if any, do you think would limit your ability to participate?

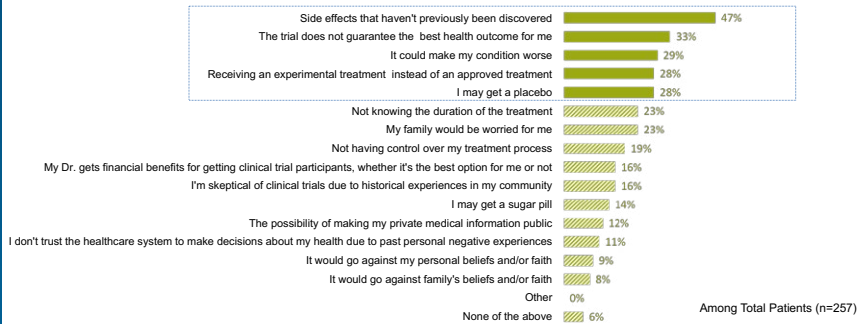
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- ▶ There are also logistical barriers to trial participation, including: Am I going to have to pay for it? Is it far away from my home? Is it going to interfere with my work?

Uncertainty shapes patients' emotional barriers to trial participation

- ▶ Also, uncertainty shapes our emotional barriers of trial participation.

Clinical Trials Emotional Barriers



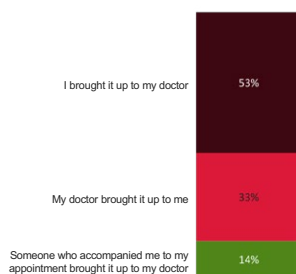
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A17. Which of the following, if any, are concerns you have about participating in clinical trials for breast cancer?

Almost two-thirds of patients have discussed clinical trials with their doctor, but it's the patient who is more likely to initiate this conversation

- ▶ Almost two-thirds of the patients in our study have actually discussed a clinical trial with their doctor, but it's the patient who was more likely to initiate the conversation.

Clinical Trial Discussions with Healthcare Providers



But Black women with breast cancer indicate clinical trials are left out of the conversation as a treatment option.

“Whenever I would hear clinical trial, I would always think experiment because it was never really broken down to me, I never considered it, and I’ve never been approached personally to participate. But I know with my former oncologist, I wouldn’t say that I trusted him too much, but he didn’t really answer a lot of my questions (...). I feel like it’s the trust thing, I don’t think a lot of times the relationship is built where you trust enough to say ‘I’ll participate.’”
— Patient Stage II-III (4/15 7PM)

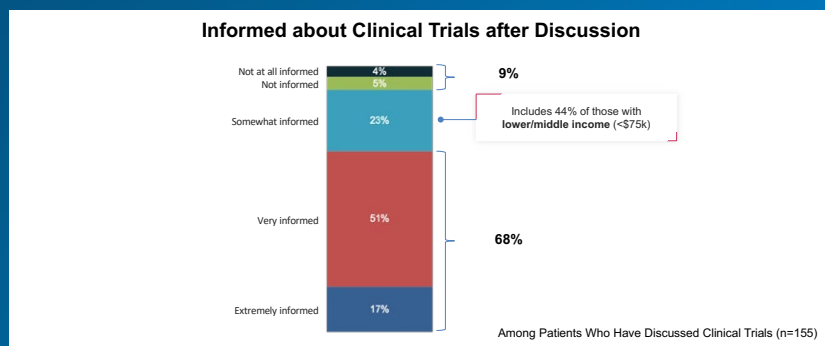
Among Patients Who Have Discussed Clinical Trials (n=155)

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A6. How many times have you talked to your doctor about possibly participating in a clinical trial for breast cancer?

A7. During the first time you talked to your doctor about possibly participating in a clinical trial for breast cancer, who brought it up?

Almost a third of patients who discussed clinical trials with their doctor felt somewhat or not informed after these conversations



A12. Overall, after all of the conversations you had with your doctor, how informed did you feel about the clinical trial?

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- ▶ Almost a third of the patients we talked to who discussed clinical trials with their doctor felt somewhat or not informed after the conversations.

Top reasons why eligible patients didn't participate include not having a well-established relationship with their HCP, feeling rushed, and a preference for their current treatment



*Small base size; directional finding only

A14. And how much did each of the following items influence your decision not to participate, after talking about it with your doctor?

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- ▶ The top reasons why eligible patients didn't participate include not having a well-established relationship with their HCP, feeling rushed in the conversation, and a preference for their current treatment just because they were somewhat comfortable with it. So those are some of the fears.

But There's Hope!

Culturally relevant, educational messaging delivered by a trusted member of the community is effective in driving a perception shift, with many respondents willing to reconsider their hesitation or skepticism

- ▶ But the good news, though, is that there's hope.

Messages That Changed Perceptions



- A clear, simple explanation of standard of care and how cancer trials work
- Think about community & family: Do it for your daughter!
- Every drug they take (ibuprofen, diphenhydramine) was once in a trial
- You get high quality of care & surveillance in a trial
- Even standard treatments are actually a trial for their body and their cancer

- ▶ And what I learned in talking to these Breasties, that if we have culturally relevant and educational messaging from a trusted member of the community, a 'Breastie,' it's effective in driving a perception shift, with many of the respondents willing to reconsider their hesitation or skepticism, once they talk to a Breastie with very simple messaging.
- But the most compelling messaging that really worked with this audience was do it for your daughter, do it for your granddaughter, think about your community, think about your family.

Community of Learning Forum Moderated Discussion

► **Whitaker:** Thank you so much, Ricki, for that really informative talk on disparities in TNBC.

Now we're going to move on to a few questions that are relevant to this topic, and our faculty panel will address these questions.

How can shared decision-making that is more inclusive and less biased be integrated into treatment planning for TNBC?

► The first question—and Ricki, I'm going to start with you: How can shared decision-making that is more inclusive and less biased be integrated into treatment planning for TNBC?

Fairley: It really is shared decision-making, because it's really a family decision. But we have to provide an outlet for black women to be able to really understand the basics of clinical trial research. We have to make sure that they are equipped with information, and that is ground zero. And right now, the literacy around this is very, very low.

So even before they can talk about making a decision about it, we need to educate them. And that should come from every place that it can—from the provider, from the health institution, from whoever they interact with, so that when they go home and talk about it, they feel good about

TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

being able to even explain it to their family. But it really is, even before they can get to making a decision, it's about education.

Whitaker: Education is so important. We see that definitely is the case with improving clinical trial enrollment.

Dr. Tolaney, what is your take on this? I know you're at the Dana-Farber Institute where you have a lot of resources and probably support for clinical trials. What has been your experience in terms of trying to improve the shared decision-making?

Sara Tolaney, MD, MPH: Ricki did a wonderful job discussing the challenges that we face with clinical trial enrollment. One of the things you highlighted so nicely is that it is really a discussion between the patient and physician. And sometimes there are patient barriers to clinical trial enrollment, but sometimes there are physician barriers to enrollment. One of the things you brought up really nicely is sometimes it's a patient who's coming to the doctor asking for the trial rather than the doctor offering the trial to the patient, which is such an important point.

Sometimes there are challenges that physicians face with getting patients into trials. And in fact, our group did a survey of physicians about what they felt were barriers to clinical trial enrollment for them, one of which was it's hard for them to keep track of all the trials that are available for patients and to figure out how to match patients to trials. There needs to be better systems in place for that. And in fact, our group created a matching system on a website

so the physician can just plug in a couple key factors, and then it spits out the trials that are available at our institution, just to make them aware, so that they can match the patient to the trial.

But again, it's getting more and more complex, as there are more nuances, like more genomic alterations you need to take into account when trying to figure out if a trial would make sense. There's just a lot of pieces of information for physicians to keep note of, and better technological systems to help with that would be important. It also takes time in clinic to have a discussion; that shared decision-making process is not a quick one and needs to be dealt with carefully, with an informed process between the physician and the patient.

I think physicians feel pressured and rushed because they have a certain number of patients they have to get to in clinic. That plays a role in terms of part of this decision-making process.

There are challenges on both ends of it. We all need to do better, because clinical trials are the path to not only allowing patients to get access to new drugs in a timely manner, but also for us to be able to make dramatic improvements in care. And so, lots of systematic changes are needed to make this process better.

Whitaker: This issue of implicit bias is a real one in terms of clinical trials. There have been studies that have demonstrated that black patients get offered clinical trials less, but when they're offered clinical trials, they tend to accept clinical trial participation similar to non-

black patients.

So, we absolutely have to make sure that all members of the research team, whether that be the physician or the research assistant, trial coordinators, have that implicit bias training so that we're not automatically writing off patients that definitely need to be in these trials and probably would be willing to participate under the right kind of informed discussion.

Is there a genetic basis for TNBC among black women?

TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

► So, we can move on to the next question, which asks: Is there a genetic basis for TNBC among black women? And because I do so much talking about genetics as part of my practice, I'll start with this question. So it's a great question, and it's an important point to make. Of all the breast cancer subtypes, we know that TNBC is the most likely type of breast cancer to have a genetic basis. As we continue to study TNBC, we're getting a better idea of how common is to have a genetic etiology for your breast cancer.

So, you know, in your kind of run-of-the-mill breast cancer, that's not TNBC; for example, hormone receptor-positive HER2-negative breast cancer, you're going to see about 5%

of patients have a genetic cause for their breast cancer. In TNBC, we have studies showing that that number could be as high as 20%; most studies show somewhere about 15% to 17% of people with TNBC will have a genetic mutation.

What is really important to emphasize is that we actually don't have good estimates in terms of the prevalence of genetic mutations in black TNBC patients, as opposed to white TNBC patients. Unfortunately, much of the genetics research we have was conducted in non-Hispanic, white patient populations. We just now are starting to see racial and ethnic diversity in our research studies in patients undergoing genetic

testing. So right now, I don't think we have the answer in terms of whether or not there's a difference in the genetic basis. But I would say certainly black women have a genetic etiology beyond their TNBC that's probably pretty similar to other races, if not more contributed to genetics.

Dr. Tolaney, did you have anything you wanted to add?

Tolaney: It's a great question, but as you point out, we don't have great data about differences between black and white women, for example, and genetic risk. But there's got to be something with genetic risk, just given the high rates of TNBC among the black community.

What tactics have you implemented to improve communication and promote awareness with black women about the importance of genetic testing, screening, and treatment?

► **Whitaker:** So we'll ask this question. Ricki, we can start with you. What tactics have you implemented to improve communication and promote awareness with black women about the importance of genetic testing, screening, and treatment?

Fairley: We have started an education campaign to really educate black women about the importance of these important things. And one of the things that we're doing is we have an HBCU internship program. They're all pre-med students, pre-health career students, and what we ask them to do is do an interview with their moms at the beginning of their internship, and then also do a poll on their Instagram accounts to see how many of their friends actually are aware of breast health. And when they start out, it's zero. None of their friends can talk about breast self-exams, about screening, about anything.

And guess what? Those conversations with their moms are really the first time that they've actually talked to their mom about breast health. And then they work for 10 weeks, they post on social media, we give them a lot of content. And by the end of the internship, they can show that, 85% of my friends now know how to do a self-exam. And so we're finding great, great, you know, insight from these young women not only being an educator of their peers, but also starting those important conversations at the kitchen table with their moms and their aunties and their grandmas.

So it's so important to educate them when they're young, before they have risk of cancer and before they – actually, they're at risk even at that age, black women, but also before they, you know, have to even think about trying to do a clinical trial. So that's so important.

The other thing is that we do a lot of education, through what I call our Breastie Choir talking to breast cancer patients about the importance of screening, the importance of knowing your treatment options.

Whitaker: Great, Ricki.

What about you, Dr. Tolaney, is there anything that you guys are doing at Dana-Farber, initiatives to improve genetic testing or screening in minority patient populations?

Tolaney: We've learned that genetic testing is becoming more and more critical in all breast cancer patients, regardless of race, ethnicity, or even breast cancer subtype, because what we're learning is that there are drugs, actually, that can work in patients who have breast cancer, who have genetic mutations. But we won't know if they're candidates for those drugs if we don't know if they have a

mutation. And so really, there needs to be a movement toward more universal testing for patients who've developed breast cancer, and that is a movement that our group has been working toward.

One of the challenges is access to genetic counselors. So, one of the big areas of interest that our group has had is trying to get genetic counselors into the communities. Certainly we're at a very privileged institution where we have genetic counselors available, but this isn't a common thing

in many community locations. And so, you know, one of the great things about virtual technology is that you can do telehealth consult for genetics, you can send someone to swab themselves at home and mail it back. It's making genetic testing and counseling so much more accessible.

We need to really move this into the community more, and that has been an area of outreach for our group. And certainly I'm in a different position because most of my patients already have breast

cancer, right? I am a breast oncologist, so I don't get into the community from a prevention standpoint, which is also equally important.

Whitaker: Dr. Tolaney, that's great. When I think about care and improving disparities, we have to definitely adapt to this mindset of taking the care to where the patients are, and this idea of going into the community and using telegenetics and things like that, it's really a great way to try to move in that direction.

What are the barriers to including more black women in breast cancer clinical trials, and how can these barriers be overcome?

► Ricki, you talk so much about this; I'm going to direct this one at you to start with. What are the barriers to including more black women in breast cancer clinical trials, and how can these barriers be overcome?

Fairley: It's fear. It's just fear. From history, from perceptions, from, you know, I'm going to get the sugar pill, I think it's all the things that I spoke about earlier. But it's also we're taking away her power. You know, black women are these powerful, amazing women that take care of everybody at the expense of themselves.

Whitaker: Dr. Tolaney, do you have other thoughts about this question?

Tolaney: It's interesting, because education about treatment and trials is part of the critical nature to taking away that fear. Right? And it does mean that whether it's the black community, the Hispanic community, whatever ethnicity, we need to be making sure we continue to educate and continue to earn that trust, which I think is such a critical part of the shared decision-making process and coming to a good plan moving forward.

Whitaker: Yeah, that's definitely true. And, you know, I think the only thing I'll add is that in these situations with clinical trials, there is so much medical mistrust because of history. So,

it's important to emphasize to patients when we talk about clinical trials, there now are protections that are in place for clinical trial participants, because I think that's something that, your everyday person is not going to realize. Well, Tuskegee happened, and then the Tuskegee syphilis report happened, and then we designed these protections of human rights for research subjects, rules and regulations. So there are some protections. I think that's important to emphasize when you talk with black patients about clinical trials.

What tools or resources are available to combat disparities in TNBC?

TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

- ▶ Ricki, this is probably a great question for you.
What tools or resources are available to combat disparities in TNBC?

Fairley: Well, you know, I serve on the board of the Triple Negative Breast Cancer Foundation and our website, tnbcfoundation.org has incredible resources for anyone with TNBC, no matter your color. And we've worked really hard for it to be kind of a place of information, kind of the go-to place for information, support, resources, science, just even having a support group with women with TNBC. We really try to make that available.

Also within my foundation, TOUCH, we have a virtual support group about once a month. And we talk about other things besides TNBC,

but whereas the TNBC Foundation has women with only TNBC, our foundation has resources for black women with all kinds of breast cancer. So just having that platform to provide communication and, again, the voice of credibility as a Breastie. So I know I can talk about breast cancer and TNBC in a different way than a doctor can. And so providing this outlet for conversation and just giving a hug and making people feel comfortable that they could ask anything is really important.

I think the one thing that really kind of is frustrating to TNBC survivors is, normally the support groups that you go to for breast cancer are predominantly white women over 50 or 60. And we're usually younger, and we can't take tamoxifen. And they're complaining about tamoxifen

and, you know, and getting hot flashes. And so just to have a place that's relevant about TNBC for women that look like us is really, really important. So making those tools available.

We also have some tools on our website, touchbbca.org. And frankly, I answer the phone every day. I know this is my purpose. You know, my doctor gave me 2 years to live, and I'm on 10. And this is my purpose. I do it every day, I fight like a girl every day to help have these conversations and provide tools and resources for black women. So call me. Tweet me.

Whitaker: Yeah, we'll have to remember Ricki's name. She's really doing very powerful work here for the TNBC community, especially.

Can you share your expert opinions on the prevalence of PD-L1 expression patterns and *BRCA* mutations in TNBC and disparities/inequities when it comes to biomarker testing?

PD-L1, programmed cell death protein ligand 1; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

- ▶ So, the next question, Dr. Tolaney: Can you share your expert opinions on the prevalence of PD-L1 expression patterns and BRCA mutations in TNBC and then potentially comment a little bit on whether there are any known disparities or inequities when it comes to biomarker testing?

Tolaney: In general, we test patients who have TNBC. We test their tumors for PD-L1, if they have metastatic triple-negative disease. We don't need to do that in someone with early-stage TNBC. And the reason we do this is because there are data to suggest in metastatic triple-negative disease that if the tumor has the PD-L1 receptor on it, that patients with that kind of TNBC will benefit from the use of immunotherapy, specifically, with the benefit of checkpoint inhibition with chemotherapy. So it really is a critical part of making treatment decisions for our patients with metastatic TNBC.

And similarly for genetic testing, we do want to know if someone has a BRCA mutation to understand if they could be a candidate for a drug called

a PARP inhibitor. So you know, these two pieces of biomarker testing are really quite critical when trying to make treatment decisions for patients with, particularly, metastatic disease. And now even with early-stage triple-negative disease, understanding if someone has a BRCA mutation can impact treatment recommendation.

So really again, very critical, we know that about 40% of patients with metastatic TNBC will have a tumor that is PD-L1 positive. We know that about 10% to 15% of patients with triple-negative disease will have a BRCA mutation. So, these aren't rare findings and are critical to understand.

In truth, we don't have great data about differences according to different ethnicities or racial patterns. I think much to Ricki's point, a lot of this is because of a lot of research that has been done involves very few minorities. If you look at the major registration trials that led to approval, for example for pembrolizumab, as Ricki pointed out, there are very few patients who are, for example, black or Hispanic.

And so getting data from large registration trials is even challenging, even though there are 1,100 patients, for example, in KEYNOTE-522, you're still going to have very limited data on differences by ethnicity and race. And that's a challenge. Again, it shows that this is an area where we really need to do better.

Whitaker: We've talked so much about the aggressive nature of TNBC, we've talked about how we don't have any kind of drugs to prevent recurrence, as Ricki pointed out in her talk. And we know that these patients tend to have the worst prognosis of any breast cancer subtypes. So with that, we can easily say there's a critical need to expand treatment options for all patients with TNBC.

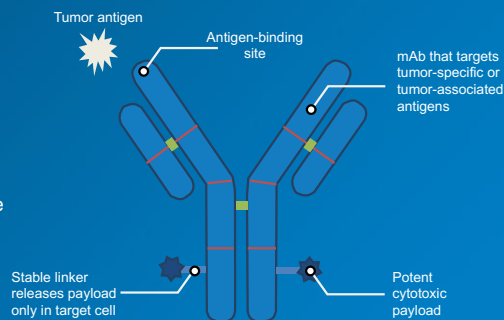
Advancing the Standard of Care With ADCs: Current and Emerging Treatment Regimens for TNBC

ADCs, antibody-drug conjugates; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

► Dr. Tolaney, can you comment on some of the newer developments in the triple-negative space over the past couple of years?

Structure of Antibody–Drug Conjugates

- **Tumor antigen:** Abundant in tumors, minimal in normal tissues; internalized upon ADC binding
- **Antibody:** High affinity and avidity for antigen; optimal pharmacokinetics; internalized
- **Linker:** Stable in plasma; efficient release of cytotoxic agent inside tumor cells
- **Payload:** Drug cytotoxic to targeted tumor cells; not hydrophobic; must be potent as limited number of molecules can be attached to antibody

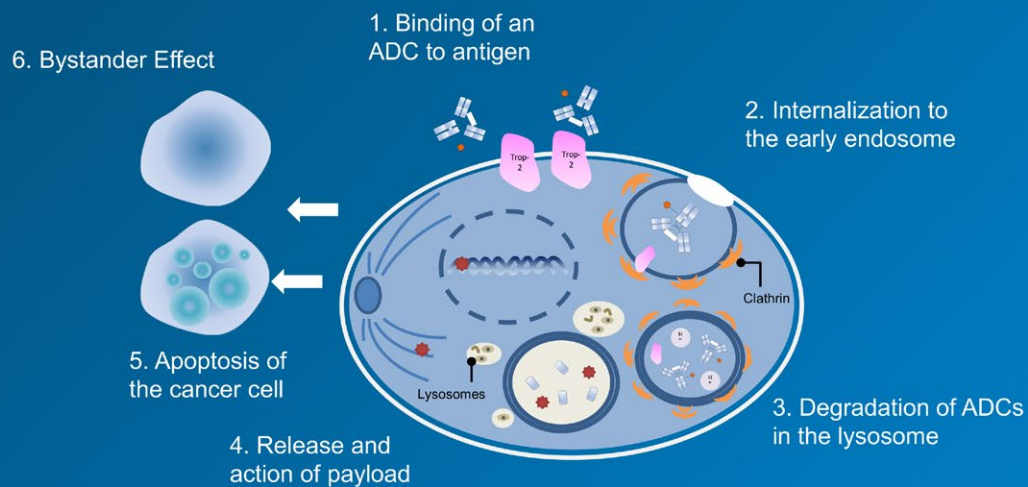


ADC, antibody-drug conjugate; mAb, monoclonal antibody.
Thomas et al. *Lancet Oncol*. 2016;17:e254–e262.

► **Tolaney:** I think it's been a really exciting time, because we have seen new approvals for TNBC.

And particularly, I think one area that is of great interest is development of what we call antibody-drug conjugates. So this really means that we take an antibody that is designed to target a particular receptor on a cancer cell and link it to very potent chemotherapy. And then that antibody binds to the receptor that's on that cancer cell. It gets taken into the cancer cell and releases its chemotherapy into the cell. A lot of people think of these as smart bombs or targeted delivery of chemotherapy. It's pretty ingenious, because it allows you to give drugs that are normally very toxic drugs that we couldn't just normally infuse but can now when we link it to an antibody, and we can deliver high doses into a cancer cell.

Selective Delivery of Toxic Payload



ADC, antibody-drug conjugate.
Nagayama et al. *Target Oncol.* 2017;12(6):719-739.

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► And I think one other clever trick about some of the newer models of antibody-drug conjugates is that once that chemo drug gets into the cancer cell, it can actually diffuse through the cell membrane into a neighboring cancer cell and kill it. And the reason that is sometimes critical is because not all cancer cells are the same.

Sometimes we see heterogeneity within a tumor where we see, for example, that not all the cancer cells have the same receptors on them. And so let's say you had an antibody-drug conjugate that was targeting TROP2, and the TROP2 was only expressed on one cell but not on the neighboring cell. Well then, if an antibody drug conjugate didn't have chemotherapy

that was being delivered that could diffuse into neighbors, then it wouldn't work in that neighboring cell, right? Being able to have what we call bystander effect and get your drug into the neighboring cell, sometimes can be quite critical in overcoming tumor heterogeneity. These newer antibody-drug conjugates have been developed with that in mind.

FDA-Approved ADCs in Breast Cancer

Drug Name	Target	Indication	FDA Approval
Trastuzumab emtansine	HER2	As a single agent, is indicated for the adjuvant treatment of patients with HER2-positive early breast cancer who have residual invasive disease after neoadjuvant taxane and trastuzumab-based treatment	05/2019
		As a single agent, is indicated for the treatment of patients with HER2-positive, metastatic breast cancer who previously received trastuzumab and a taxane, separately or in combination	02/2013
Trastuzumab deruxtecan	HER2	Adults with unresectable or metastatic HER2+ breast cancer who have received ≥ 2 prior anti-HER2 based regimens	12/2019
Sacituzumab govitecan	TROP-2	Adult patients with unresectable, locally advanced or metastatic TNBC who have received ≥ 2 prior therapies (at least 1 in metastatic setting)	04/2020 (accelerated) 4/2021 (regular)

ADCs, antibody-drug conjugates; FDA, US Food & Drug Administration; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer; TROP-2, trophoblast cell surface antigen 2.
FDA, 2013, 2019, 2020, 2021.

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► The very first antibody-drug conjugate that was approved in breast cancer was a drug we call T-DM1 or trastuzumab emtansine that was FDA approved for HER2-positive disease and is a standard drug that we use both in early-stage and metastatic HER2-positive breast cancer. That was developed with a bit of an older technology, so that drug cannot function by bystander effect. It has a non-cleavable

linker, and the payload or the chemotherapy that's being delivered does not diffuse through the cell membrane.

However, the newer drugs that have been developed, such as a drug called trastuzumab deruxtecan also known as T-DXd, which is FDA approved for metastatic HER2-positive disease, does function by bystander effect. It delivers very high doses of chemotherapy into the cell.

And sacituzumab govitecan, which is approved in TNBC, also can function by bystander effect.

So, again, nice to see these new technologies that are making antibody-drug conjugates even more effective because of their new ability to deliver high doses of chemo and function by bystander effect.

Sacituzumab Govitecan (SG) A First-in-Class Trop-2–Directed ADC

- Trop-2 is expressed in all subtypes of breast cancer and linked to poor prognosis^{1,2}
- SG is distinct from other ADCs³⁻⁶
 - Antibody highly specific for Trop-2
 - High drug-to-antibody ratio (7.6:1)
 - Internalization and enzymatic cleavage by tumor cell not required for liberation of SN-38, a topoisomerase inhibitor, from antibody
 - Hydrolysis of the linker also releases the SN-38 cytotoxic extracellularly in the tumor microenvironment, providing a bystander effect
- Granted accelerated approval by the FDA for metastatic TNBC and Fast Track designation in metastatic urothelial cancer⁷

Linker for SN-38

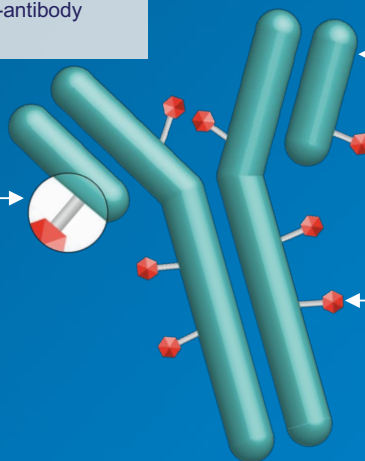
- Hydrolyzable linker for payload release
- High drug-to-antibody ratio (7.6:1)⁶

Humanized anti-Trop-2 antibody

- Directed toward Trop-2, an epithelial antigen expressed on many solid cancers

SN-38 payload

- SN-38 more potent than parent compound, irinotecan



ADC, antibody–drug conjugate; FDA, US Food & Drug Administration; SG, sacituzumab govitecan; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer; Trop-2, trophoblast cell surface antigen 2.

1. Vidula et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2017;35:15(suppl):Abstract 1075. 2. Ambroggi et al. *PLoS One*. 2014;9(5):e96993. 3. Goldenberg et al. *Expert Opin Biol Ther*. 2020;20(8):871-885.

4. Nagayama et al. *Ther Adv Med Oncol*. 2020;12:1758835920915980. 5. Cardillo et al. *Bioconjugate Chem*. 2015;26:919-931. 6. Goldenberg et al. *Oncotarget*. 2015;6:22496-224512.

7. US Food & Drug Administration. <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-approvals-and-databases/fda-grants-accelerated-approval-sacituzumab-govitecan-hzy-metastatic-triple-negative-breast-cancer>.

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- The drug that was FDA approved for triple-negative disease, again, is sacituzumab govitecan. Sometimes I call it “sassy” for short.

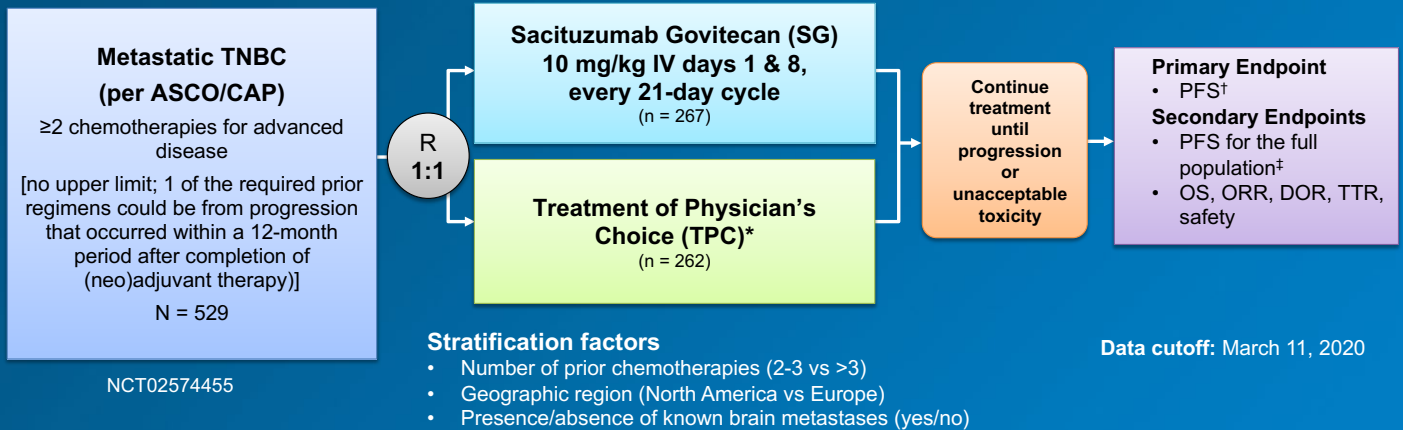
Interestingly, again, it’s targeting TROP2. It’s confusing for patients sometimes, because we just told them they have a TNBC that doesn’t have estrogen, progesterone, or HER2. And so they’re like well why do you think there’s

this other receptor on the cancer cell? But it turns out that TNBC truthfully is a very bad name, because it doesn’t mean that there aren’t other receptors on cancer cells. In fact, TROP2 is actually very prevalent in the vast majority of TNBCs and actually is also on hormone receptor–positive breast cancer cells.

It’s a clever way to target the cancer cell when you know

that that receptor is there. Sacituzumab is targeting the TROP2 receptor, and it’s linked to a chemo drug, which is called SN-38. On each antibody, there are almost eight different molecules of chemotherapy attached to the antibody. So it’s able to deliver a ton of chemotherapy, much more than we ever could by just infusing a standard chemotherapy drug.

ASCENT: A Phase 3 Confirmatory Study of Sacituzumab Govitecan in Refractory/Relapsed mTNBC



ASCENT was halted early due to compelling evidence of efficacy per unanimous DSMC recommendation. Here, we report the primary results from ASCENT, including PFS and OS.

*TPC: eribulin, vinorelbine, gemcitabine, or capecitabine. [†]PFS measured by an independent, centralized, and blinded group of radiology experts who assessed tumor response using RECIST 1.1 criteria in patients without brain metastasis. [‡]The full population includes all randomized patients (with and without brain metastases). Baseline brain MRI only required for patients with known brain metastasis. ASCO/CAP, American Society of Clinical Oncology/College of American Pathologists; DOR, duration of response; DSMC, Data Safety Monitoring Committee; IV, intravenous; mTNBC, metastatic triple-negative breast cancer; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; R, randomization; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors; TTR, time to response. Bardia A et al. *N Engl J Med* 2021; 384:1529-1541; National Institutes of Health. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02574455>.

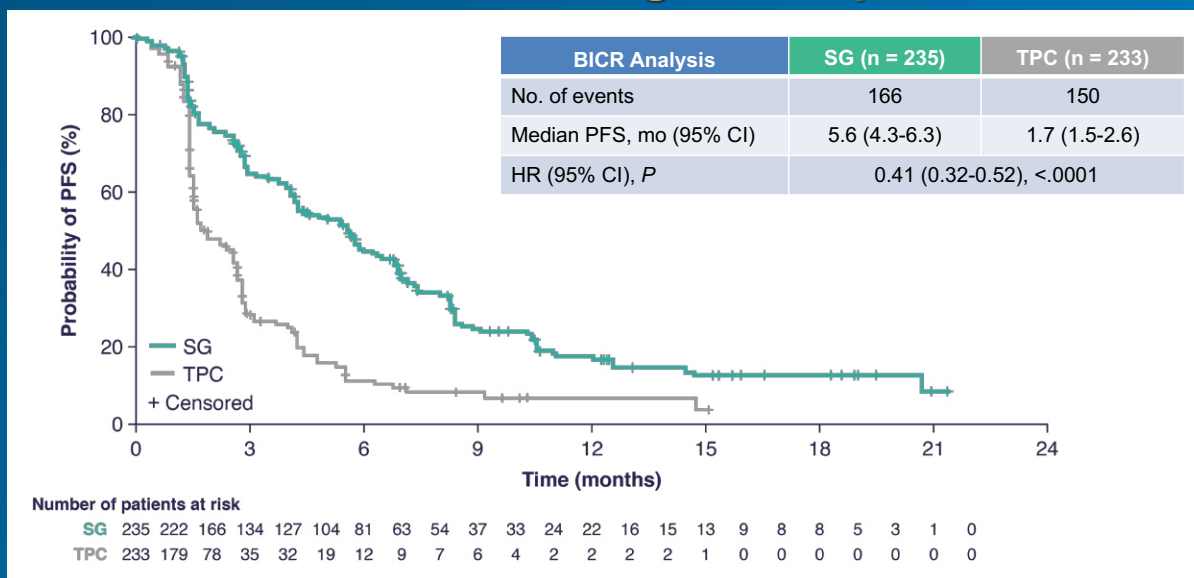
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► This drug was tested originally in early-phase studies, but it looked so promising, that it led to a randomized trial called the ASCENT study, which took patients who have metastatic TNBC and randomized them to receive sacituzumab or to receive what we call treatment of physician's choice therapy. So the doctor could choose

from a bucket of different chemo drugs for which one to administer. And this was a trial that was really developed for patients who have pretreated metastatic disease. So they had to have had two lines of prior chemotherapy. So this was really a third line or beyond trial. The eligibility is a little interesting, though, because

if you had a treatment for early-stage disease, and you relapsed within a year of that treatment, that counted as a line of treatment. In fact, there were some patients in this trial that did receive sacituzumab as their second treatment for their metastatic TNBC.

ASCENT: Progression-Free Survival (BICR Analysis) Brain Metastases-negative Population



Primary endpoint (PFS) assessed by independent central review in the brain metastases-negative population, as pre-defined in the study protocol.
 Secondary endpoint (PFS) assessed in the full population (brain metastases-positive and -negative) and PFS benefit was consistent (HR 0.43 [0.35-0.54], $P < .0001$).
 BICR, blinded independent central review; PFS, progression-free survival; SG, sacituzumab govitecan; TPC, treatment of physician's choice.
 Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2020;31(suppl 4):S1142-S1215; *N Engl J Med* 2021; 384:1529-1541.

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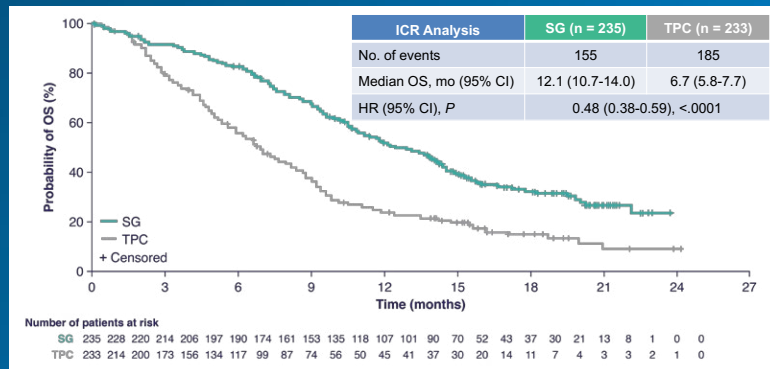
► We saw very impressive results because what happened was that the duration of time patients had their cancer controlled or the progression-free survival was dramatically better with sacituzumab compared to treatment of physician's choice therapy. So it's 5.6 months for sacituzumab compared to 1.7 months for the

treatment of physician's choice therapy.

These data tells us a couple things: One is, unfortunately, in pretreated, metastatic TNBC, standard chemotherapy drugs honestly don't work that well, right? We're seeing a median progression-free survival that's under 2 months. This shows us that we really need to do much

better. But at least we find now a new drug with sacituzumab that is able to do much better, again, achieving a progression-free survival of almost 6 months, and importantly, is allowing patients to live longer.

ASCENT: Overall Survival

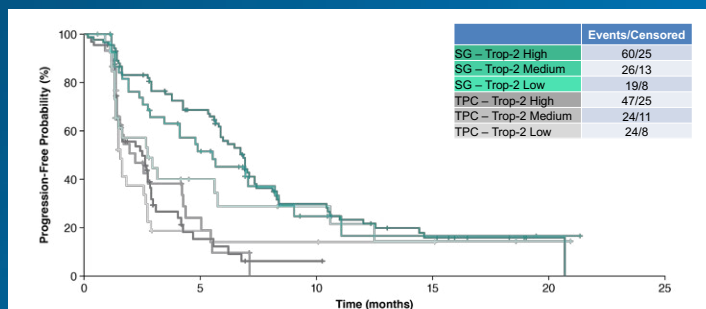


Assessed by independent central review in the brain metastases-negative population.
OS, overall survival; SG, sacituzumab; govitecan; TPC, treatment of physician's choice.
Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2020;31(suppl 4):S1142-S1215. *N Engl J Med* 2021; 384:1529-1541.

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- So overall survival was almost doubled from about 6.7 months to 12 months, again, showing that the sacituzumab is able to keep disease control longer but also able to allow patients to live longer with their metastatic triple-negative disease.

ASCENT: Progression-Free Survival by Trop-2 Expression



	Trop-2 High H-score: 200-300		Trop-2 Medium H-score: 100-200		Trop-2 Low H-score: <100	
	SG (n = 85)	TPC (n = 72)	SG (n = 39)	TPC (n = 35)	SG (n = 27)	TPC (n = 32)
Median PFS, mo (95% CI)	6.9 (5.8-7.4)	2.5 (1.5-2.9)	5.6 (2.9-8.2)	2.2 (1.4-4.3)	2.7 (1.4-5.8)	1.6 (1.4-2.7)

Assessed in brain metastases-negative population. Trop-2 expression determined in archival samples by validated immunohistochemistry assay and H-scoring.
H-score, histochemical score; PFS, progression-free survival; SG, sacituzumab; govitecan; TPC, treatment of physician's choice; Trop-2, trophoblast cell surface antigen-2.
Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2021;32(9):1148-1156.

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- One question that we all had when we saw these data, well, is: If it's targeting TROP2, wouldn't you think that if someone had more TROP2 expression on their cancer cell, that they would derive greater benefit from sacituzumab compared to someone, for example, who had a lower expression of TROP2 or no expression, even, of TROP2? So the study did look at this. They did it in a retrospective manner, though. They took archival tissue that's been sitting around. This wasn't necessarily a biopsy that was

done immediately prior to going onto the trial. There are some challenges with the data. We don't have TROP2 expression on all patients. It wasn't from, again, a baseline biopsy in all patients but did provide some interesting data that suggested that all patients, regardless of level of TROP2 expression, did do better with sacituzumab compared to standard chemotherapy. These data suggested that we don't need to be testing patients for TROP2 to figure out who's going to benefit

from treatment. It is interesting though, that the patients who had intermediate-to-high levels of TROP2 expression did derive even greater benefit from sacituzumab compared to the physician's choice therapy. So the differences were larger in the higher expressers. There are interesting data here but, again, not enough to suggest we need to test patients for TROP2 expression to select those who are going to benefit, since all did benefit.

ASCENT: TRAEs (All Grade, >20%; Grade 3/4, >5% of Patients)

TRAE*		SG (n = 258)			TPC (n = 224)		
		All grade %	Grade 3, %	Grade 4, %	All grade, %	Grade 3, %	Grade 4, %
Hematologic	Neutropenia [†]	63	46	17	43	27	13
	Anemia [‡]	34	8	0	24	5	0
	Leukopenia [‡]	16	10	1	11	5	1
	Febrile neutropenia	6	5	1	2	2	<1
Gastrointestinal	Diarrhea	59	10	0	12	<1	0
	Nausea	57	2	<1	26	<1	0
	Vomiting	29	1	<1	10	<1	0
Other	Fatigue	45	3	0	30	5	0
	Alopecia	46	0	0	16	0	0

- Key Grade ≥3 TRAEs (SG vs TPC): neutropenia (51% vs 33%), diarrhea (10% vs <1%), leukopenia (10% vs 5%), anemia (8% vs 5%), and febrile neutropenia (6% vs 2%)
 - G-CSF usage was 49% in the SG arm vs 23% in the TPC arm
 - Dose reductions due to TRAEs were similar (22% SG vs 26% TPC)
- No severe cardiovascular toxicity, no grade ≥2 neuropathy or grade ≥3 interstitial lung disease with SG
- No treatment-related deaths with SG; 1 treatment-related death (neutropenic sepsis) with TPC
- AEs leading to treatment discontinuation were low for SG and TPC: 4.7% and 5.4%
- Patients received a median of 7 treatment cycles of SG, with a median treatment duration of 4.4 months

*Patients may report more than 1 event per preferred term. AEs were classified according to the MedDRA systems of preferred terms and system organ class and according to severity by NCI CTCAE v4.03.
[†]Combined preferred terms of 'neutropenia' and 'decreased neutrophil count'.
[‡]Combined preferred terms of 'anemia' and 'decreased hemoglobin'.
[§]Combined preferred terms of 'leukopenia' and 'decreased white blood cell count'.
 G-CSF, granulocyte-colony stimulating factor; SG, sacituzumab govitecan; TPC, treatment of physician's choice; TRAEs, treatment-related adverse events.
 Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2021;32(9):1148-1156.

AXIS
Medical Education

► But of course, then, comes the question about what's the cost? So what are the toxicities of the drug? This is an antibody-drug conjugate. It is chemotherapy, right? You are still delivering chemotherapy,

and we do see chemotherapy toxicities. So all my patients, for example, lose their hair. Alopecia is very common with this drug.

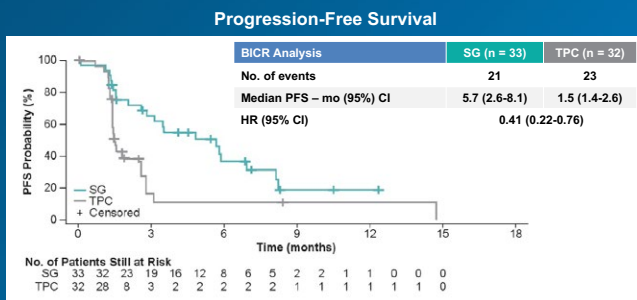
And it does cause neutropenia, and about half of the patients

in the trial actually did require using growth-factor support. So that's important. And that the neutropenia is significant enough that many patients do require growth factor to keep their blood cell counts up enough to keep on schedule.

It can cause diarrhea. Usually, the diarrhea, however, is a low-grade diarrhea, so this isn't something where you need to take prophylactic anti-diarrheal therapy. Usually patients only need to use anti-diarrheal therapy as needed. And for me that has worked very well for the majority of my patients.

Generally speaking, major toxicities are hair loss, neutropenia, diarrhea, and fatigue. So again, things that do need to be monitored in patients.

Assessment of Sacituzumab Govitecan in Patients with Prior Neoadjuvant/Adjuvant Chemotherapy in the Phase 3 ASCENT Study in Metastatic TNBC: Second-line Patients



FDA approved for mTNBC patients with ≥2 systemic therapies, at least one of them for metastatic disease

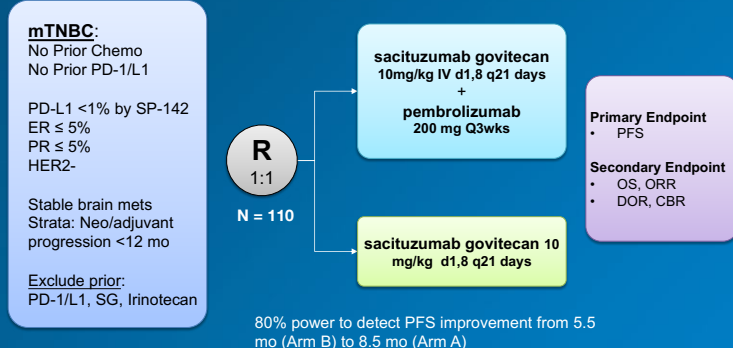
Assessed by independent central review in the BM-negative population who received ≥12 months after (neo)adjuvant chemotherapy and received 1 line of therapy in the metastatic setting prior to study enrollment.
 BICR, blinded independent central review; BMneg, brain metastases negative; CBR, clinical benefit rate; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; mDOR, median duration of response; mOS, median overall survival; mPFS, median progression-free survival; ORR, overall response rate; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors; R/R, relapsed/refractory; SG, sacituzumab govitecan; TNBC, triple negative breast cancer; TPC, treatment of physician's choice.
 Carey et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2021;39(15):1080.

AXIS
Medical Education

► Another question, I think, that arose was, if you remember, we said that the eligibility was a little interesting that it did allow some patients who could have been second line if they had relapsed within a year of their adjuvant therapy. And so they did look at outcomes specifically for those second-line patients and did find that they did similarly to the overall population in the trial. So they did better with sacituzumab compared to chemotherapy, with a progression-free survival of around 5.7 months compared to 1.5 months in the control arm.

This drug now has FDA approval as a second-line and beyond treatment, which has been really critical for our patients to be able to get access to the drug earlier, which was great to have that second-line cohort of patients.

Saci-IO TNBC Study: SG +/- Pembrolizumab in First-line PD-L1- TNBC



NCT04468661. PI: Sara Tolane/Ana Garrido-Castro.
CBR, clinical best response; Chemo, chemotherapy; DOR, duration of response; ER, estrogen receptor; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; mets, metastases; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed cell death protein ligand 1; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response; Q3wks, every 3 weeks; SG, sacituzumab govitecan.

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- There's certainly interest in trying to do better. Can we move sacituzumab, for example, to the first-line setting? We all want to have data about the benefits of sacituzumab earlier.

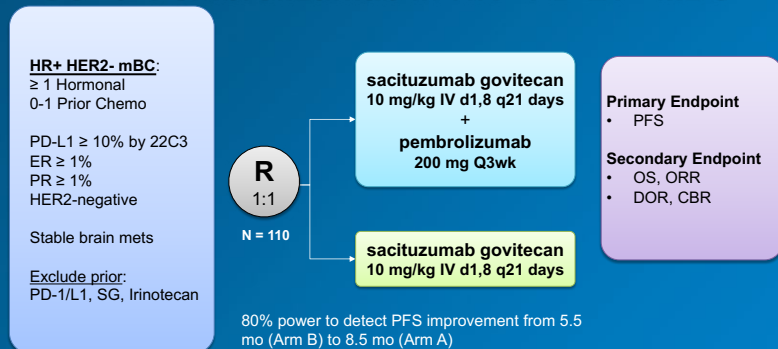
Our group is running a trial that's specifically looking at the question: Can we add immunotherapy to sacituzumab in the first-line setting and make it work better but, really interestingly, in a PD-L1-

negative population? It is standard of care to give immunotherapy to a PD-L1-positive triple-negative patient. We have not seen benefit to immunotherapy in the PD-L1-negative patients with chemotherapy.

But the question is: If you use an antibody-drug conjugate that is delivering so much more chemo into the cancer cell, can you get more antigen release from the cancer cell and potentially allow for better synergistic activity with immunotherapy?

This particular trial called the Saci-IO study in triple-negative diseases, randomizing first-line triple-negative metastatic patients to get sacituzumab alone or to get it with pembrolizumab if they have PD-L1-negative triple-negative disease.

Saci-IO HR+ Study: SG +/- Pembrolizumab in HR+ PD-L1+ MBC



NCT04448886. PI: Sara Tolane/Ana Garrido-Castro.
CBR, clinical best response; Chemo, chemotherapy; DOR, duration of response; ER, estrogen receptor; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; MBC, metastatic breast cancer; mets, metastases; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed cell death protein ligand 1; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response; Q3wk, every 3 weeks; SG, sacituzumab govitecan.

AXIS
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- And we're also doing a study in hormone receptor-positive disease with a similar randomization of sacituzumab with or without pembrolizumab to see if we see benefits in other subtypes of disease, as well, with the combination.

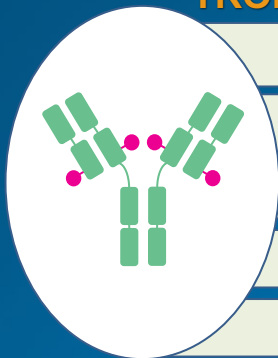
Combination Trials In TNBC

- MORPHEUS-TNBC, a phase 1b/2 study that includes a cohort of PD-L1-positive patients receiving sacituzumab govitecan combined with atezolizumab (NCT03424005)
- Combination of sacituzumab govitecan plus durvalumab (Syed, 2020)
- Phase 3 trial of sacituzumab govitecan plus pembrolizumab vs chemotherapy plus pembrolizumab as a first-line treatment for patients with locally advanced or metastatic TNBC

AXIS
Medical Education

► There are also lots of other combinations that are ongoing. There's a trial one of my colleagues is running at Mass General combining sacituzumab with talazoparib, it's a PARP inhibitor, looking for that synergistic activity. And again there are also other trials, combining it with immunotherapy. So we're going to see a lot more from sacituzumab to come potentially in earlier lines and other combinations.

Datopotamab Deruxtecan (DS-1062): TROP2 ADC In Development



Circulating free payload is negligible due to high stability of the linker, thereby limiting systemic exposure or nontargeted delivery of the payload¹

High-potency membrane-permeable payload (DXd; topoisomerase inhibitor) that requires TROP2-mediated internalization for release²

DS-1062 has a DAR of 4 for optimized therapeutic index²

DS-1062 has a substantially **longer half-life** than SG (≈ 5 days vs 11-14 hours), enabling a more optimal dosing regimen³

SG's DLT is neutropenia, while DS-1062's DLTs are maculopapular rash and stomatitis/mucosal inflammation⁴⁻⁶

1. Goldenberg et al. *Oncotarget* 2016;6:22496-22512.
2. Ogilvie et al. *Clin Cancer Res* 2016;22(20):5097-5108.
3. Ocean et al. *Cancer*. 2017;123:3843-3854.
4. Bardia et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2017;35:2141-2148.
5. Lisberg et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2020;38(15):9619.
6. Heidt et al. Oral presentation at: WCLC, September 7-10, 2019; Barcelona, Spain.
DAR, drug-to-antibody ratio; DLT, dose-limiting toxicity; SG, sacituzumab govitecan.

AXIS
Medical Education

► But what about other antibody-drug conjugates in development for triple-negative disease? I think one really interesting drug is called datopotamab deruxtecan, also known as Dato-DXd or DS-1062. This drug is interestingly also targeting TROP2. So the same receptor that sacituzumab is targeting. And it's also delivering a topoisomerase-1 payload. The payload is a little different. It's not exactly SN-38 like we see in sacituzumab. It is deruxtecan, so it's the payload that's also used in trastuzumab deruxtecan. And this drug also can function by bystander effect.

TROPION-PanTumor01: TNBC Cohort

Phase 1, First-in-human, Dose Escalation and Expansion Study

- Advanced/metastatic HR-/HER2-negative breast cancer (TNBC)^a
- Relapsed/progressed on standard treatment
- Unselected for TROP2 expression^b
- Measurable disease (per RECIST version 1.1)

**Dato-DXd 6mg/kg
IV Q3W
N ≈ 40**

2 patients received 8 mg/kg prior to selection of the 6-mg/kg dose for dose expansion

Primary objectives include:

- Safety, Tolerability

Secondary objectives include:

- Efficacy, Pharmacokinetics

Data cutoff January 8, 2021

- Current analysis includes 24 patients treated at the 6-mg/kg dose (n = 22) and 8-mg/kg dose (n = 2)^c
- Treatment ongoing in 18 patients (75%); 6 patients (25%) discontinued treatment, all due to disease progression^d

^a Estrogen receptor positivity <1%; ^b Pretreatment tumor tissue was required for retrospective analysis of TROP2 expression;

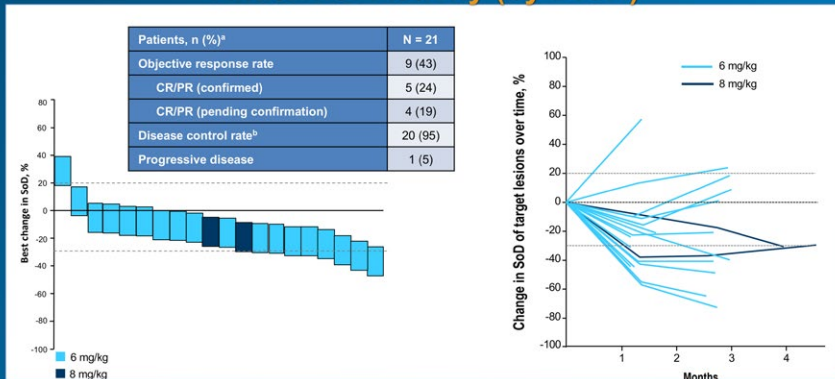
^c An HR+ cohort is currently open for enrollment at 6 mg/kg; ^d Progression includes progressive disease per RECIST 1.1 and clinical progression. HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; IV, intravenous; Q3W, every 3 weeks; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

NCT03401385.

AXIS
Medical Education

- And we saw some very interesting early data that emerged from the use of Dato-DXd in metastatic triple-negative disease,

TROPION-PanTumor01: Dato-DXd TNBC Cohort Antitumor Activity (by BICR)



Data cutoff: January 8, 2021

^a Includes response evaluable patients who had ≥1 postbaseline tumor assessment or discontinued treatment. Postbaseline tumor assessments were not yet available for 3 patients at the data cutoff. One patient was not confirmed to have a target lesion per BICR and therefore had a best overall response of non-CR/non-PD.

^b Includes patients with a best overall response of CR, PR, stable disease, or non-CR/non-PD.

BICR, blinded independent central review; CR, complete response; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SoD, sum of diameters; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2021;32(suppl_2):S60-S78. 10.1016/jannonc.annonc508.

AXIS
Medical Education

- where in fact I saw a response rate that was over 40% in pretreated triple-negative patients.

TROPION-PanTumor01: Dato-DXd TNBC Cohort Majority of Patients Were Heavily Pretreated

Patient Characteristics	N = 24
Age, median (range), y	57.0 (32-82)
Country, n (%)	
US	18 (75)
Japan	6 (25)
ECOG PS, n (%)	
0	8 (33)
1	16 (67)
De-novo metastatic disease, n (%)	
Yes	9 (38)
No	15 (63)

Patient Characteristics	N = 24
Brain metastases, n (%)	2 (8)
Prior therapies, median (range), n ^a	4 (1-9)
≥2 prior lines of therapy, n (%) ^a	21 (88)
Previous systemic treatment, n (%) ^a	
Taxanes	20 (83)
Platinum-based chemotherapy	12 (50)
Immunotherapy	8 (33)
Sacituzumab govitecan	2 (8)
PARPI	1 (4)

^aIncludes prior lines of therapy in the (neo)adjuvant and/or metastatic setting.

Data cutoff: January 8, 2021

ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; PARPI, poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase inhibitor; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2021;32(suppl_2):S60-S78. 10.1016/annonc/annonc508.

AXIS
Medical Education

► That being said, it was from a small cohort of patients, only 24 patients, but it's very impressive data, suggesting that this drug does have robust activity.

TROPION-PanTumor01: Dato-DXd TNBC Cohort Dato-DXd Demonstrated a Manageable Safety Profile

Patients, n (%)	N = 24	
	Any grade	Grade ≥3
TEAEs	24 (100)	8 (33)
Treatment related	24 (100)	4 (17)
Serious TEAEs ^a	3 (13)	3 (13)
Treatment related	0	0
Fatal TEAEs	0	–
Treatment related	0	–

- Dose reductions due to AEs occurred in 6 patients (25%) and were most commonly due to stomatitis (3 patients [13%]) and mucosal inflammation (2 patients [8%])
- No patients discontinued treatment due to AEs

Data cutoff: January 8, 2021

^aA serious TEAE was defined as any untoward medical occurrence that at any dose results in death, is life-threatening, requires inpatient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization, or results in persistent or significant disability/incapacity or is a congenital anomaly/birth defect or is an important medical event.

AE, adverse event; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2021;32(suppl_2):S60-S78. 10.1016/annonc/annonc508.

AXIS
Medical Education

► When we looked at the toxicity profile for this agent, generally speaking, it's been pretty well tolerated. I've used this drug in several patients to date on clinical trials and also have found it pretty well tolerated. It is every 3 weeks, which is nice, compared to the sacituzumab, which was 2 weeks on, 1 week off.

It does cause mouth sores. So the rates of stomatitis were pretty high in this trial. Our group has tried using dexamethasone mouthrinse for prevention, which I have found to be quite beneficial to many patients.

TROPION-PanTumor01: Dato-DXd TNBC Cohort Manageable, Predominantly Nonhematologic AEs

- Predominantly grade 1 or 2 (67%) and nonhematologic
- No cases of grade ≥ 3 diarrhea or neutropenia
- No cases adjudicated as drug-related ILD were observed

Preferred Term, n (%) ^a	N = 24	
	Any grade	Grade ≥ 3
TEAEs	24 (100)	8 (33)
Stomatitis	15 (63)	3 (13)
Nausea	15 (63)	0
Fatigue	10 (42)	1 (4)
Vomiting	10 (42)	0
Alopecia	6 (25)	—
Cough	5 (21)	0
Pruritus	5 (21)	0
Anemia	4 (17)	1 (4)
Headache	4 (17)	0
Constipation	4 (17)	0

^aTEAEs observed in $\geq 15\%$ of patients.

Data cutoff: January 6, 2021

AEs, adverse events; ILD, interstitial lung disease; TEAEs, treatment-emergent adverse events; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

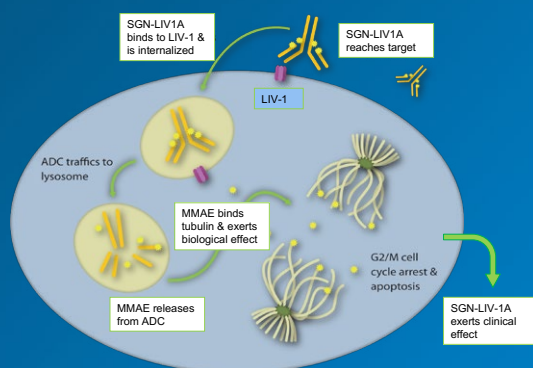
Bardia et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2021;32(suppl_2):S60-S78. 10.1016/annonc.2021.05.008.

AXIS
Medical Education

► But it doesn't really cause much in the way of neutropenia, so very different from sacituzumab with regards to neutropenia, and also doesn't cause the diarrhea like we've seen with sacituzumab.

It does have nausea and fatigue, and so again, you have different toxicities with these different agents. But again, very robust early data for response. We're all eagerly looking forward to seeing more data for this drug to see, again, look at progression-free survival in larger numbers of patients.

Ladiratuzumab Vedotin (SGN-LIV1A) Mechanism of Action

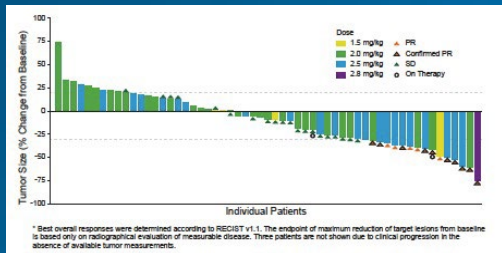


ADC, antibody-drug conjugate; MMAE, monomethyl auristatin E.
Sussman et al. *Mol Cancer Ther*. 2014 Dec; 13(12):2991-3000.

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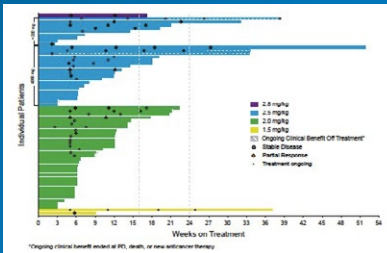
► Another antibody-drug conjugate in development is by the SGN group, which is targeting LIV1A. This ADC is targeting the LIV1A receptor and is linked to an MMAE payload, so a different cytotoxic drug that's a microtubule inhibitor.

Ladiratuzumab Vedotin (SGN-LIV1A)



*Best overall responses were determined according to RECIST v1.1. The endpoint of maximum reduction of target lesions from baseline is based only on radiographic evaluation of measurable disease. Three patients are not shown due to clinical progression in the absence of available tumor measurements.

Median 3 prior chemo for MBC
TNBC n = 63
ORR = 25%



*Ongoing clinical benefit ended at PR, death, or new anticancer therapy.

Median PFS = 11.6 weeks

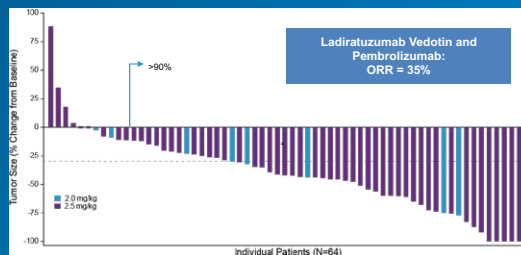
MBC, metastatic breast cancer; ORR, objective response rate; PFS, progression-free survival; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.
Modi et al. SABCS 2017. Abstract PD3-14.

AXIS
Medical Education

- This drug has had nice activity in pretreated metastatic triple-negative disease with an objective response rate of around 25%.

Combination of Ladiratuzumab (ADC targeting LIV1 linked to MMAE) and Immunotherapy

- The efficacy evaluable population includes all treated subjects with at least one evaluable post-baseline assessment according to RECIST v1.1 or those off study (N = 69)
- Of the efficacy evaluable population, 5 subjects did not have evaluable response assessments before study discontinuation

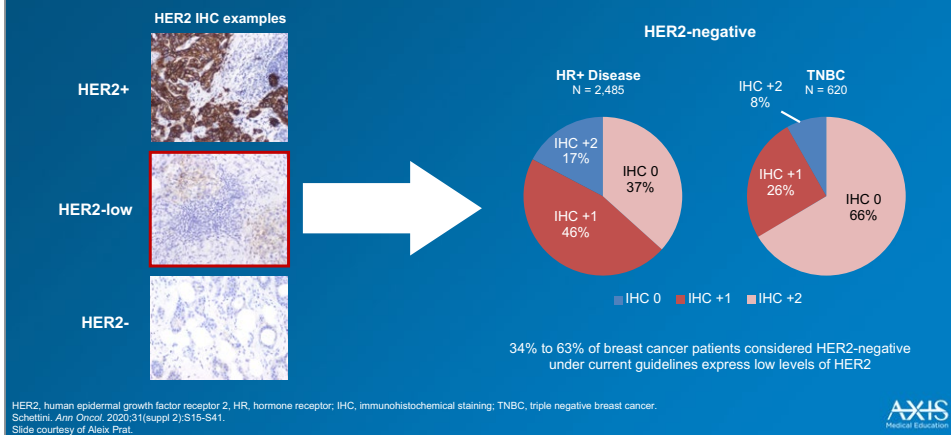


ADC, antibody-drug conjugate; MMAE, monomethyl auristatin E; ORR, objective response rate.
Han et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019;37(15):TPS1110.

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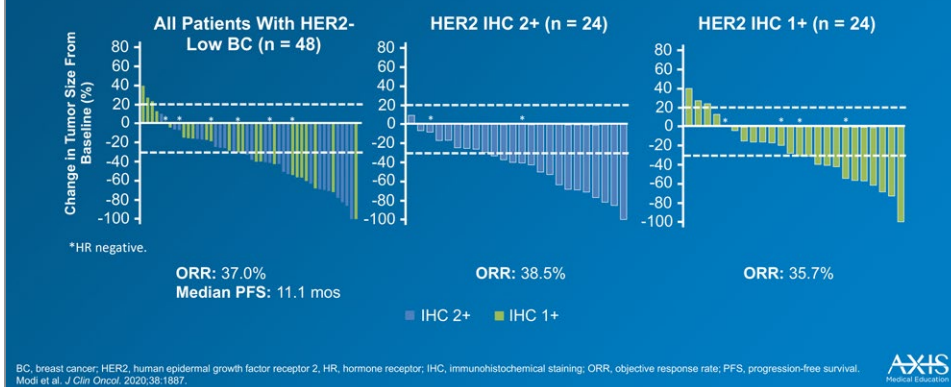
- And in fact, they've done some work combining it with immunotherapy, suggesting robust activity with even higher response rates of around 35%. So more work is ongoing with this particular ADC.

Prevalence of HER2-low by HR Status



► One thing I think that is important for TNBC patients to realize is, again, that there are receptors on TNBC cells. We talked about TROP2, but interestingly, even though TNBC patients have a HER2-negative cancer, you can still see a little bit of HER2 expression in some TNBC cells. So about 25% to 30% of TNBCs will actually be HER2-low-positive, meaning that they have 1+ or 2+ expression of HER2 and are not FISH amplified. So they have a little bit of receptor there.

Phase 1b Trial: Trastuzumab Deruxtecan for Heavily Pretreated HER2-Low Advanced Breast Cancer



► And so the thought would be is: If some of these triple-negative cancers have some HER2 expression, can we use that receptor as that anchor to get an antibody-drug conjugate to bind to the cell and deliver its chemotherapy?

And so, interestingly enough, trastuzumab deruxtecan, which again, is FDA approved in HER2-positive breast cancers, has been tested in HER2-low-positive cancers, and has had very nice efficacy where, in fact, we've seen response rates that are just under 40% with T-DXd in HER2-low-positive disease.

DESTINY-Breast04: Trastuzumab Deruxtecan vs Chemotherapy in Previously Treated HER2-low BC

International, randomized, open-label phase 3 study

Women and men with unresectable and/or metastatic HER2-low breast cancer; progression on endocrine therapy; 1-2 prior lines chemotherapy; no prior HER2 positivity (IHC3+ or ISH+)

(planned N = 540)

Trastuzumab deruxtecan
10 mg/kg on Days 1 and 8

Chemotherapy*

*Investigator's choice of capecitabine, eribulin, gemcitabine, paclitaxel, or nab-paclitaxel.

21-day cycles

- Primary endpoints: PFS per BICR
- Secondary endpoints: OS, DoR, ORR, PFS per investigator

BC, breast cancer; BICR, blinded independent central review; DoR, duration of response; IHC, immunohistochemistry; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival.
NCT03734029.

AXIS
Medical Education

► There was a registration trial that was conducted comparing T-DXd to physician's choice chemotherapy in HER2-low-positive metastatic breast cancer. This trial has been fully enrolled. It's called DESTINY-Breast04 and will be reported, likely, in 2022.

And so the thought is if that trial is positive, so T-DXd is better than chemotherapy, then we could get a new approval for T-DXd in HER2-low-positive cancers. And that could really change things because, again, for triple-negative disease, that's almost one third of patients who could have access to get another antibody-drug conjugate. It'll make us have lots of questions about how to think about sequencing of antibody-drug conjugates, but again, would be tremendous for patients.

BEGONIA Study Design: T-Dxd + Durvalumab for HER2 low TNBC

- Metastatic TNBC
- No prior treatment for stage IV disease
- ECOG PS 0-1
- RECIST evaluable
- Patients may have relapsed from earlier stage disease but must be ≥ 12 months since prior taxane treatment
- Arm 6: Locally confirmed HER2 IHC 1-2+ (ISH-)

Note:

- Arms 3 (Durva + selumetinib + pac) and Arms 4 (Durva + danvatirsen + pac) were removed before patient enrollment
- Part 1 of this study is considered Stage 1 of the Simon 2-Stage design, and Part 2 of this study is considered Stage 2
- Amendment for a new arm (Arm 7) to include a novel combination of durvalumab + a novel ADC (will include HER2-0 patients)

⚡ = Enrollment complete; only Arm 6 is open at this time

Part 1

1: Durva + Paclitaxel (n = 20)

2: Durva + Pac + Capivasertib (AKT) (n = 30)

5: Durva + Pac + Oleclumab (CD73) (n = 30)

6: Durva + DS-8201a (T-DXd) (n = 30)

7: Durva + Novel ADC (n=30)

Arms 2-6: Safety run-in: 6 DLT evaluable patients for 28 days (Arms 2-5) or 21 days (Arms 6 and 7) with ≤ 1 DLT

Part 1: Primary Endpoint: Safety and tolerability
Secondary Endpoint: ORR, PFS, DoR, OS, SW/ADA

ORR $\geq 57\%$ (17/30)

Part 2 Expansion (TBD)

Durva Combination (n = 27)

Durva Combination (n = 27)

Part 2: Primary Endpoint: ORR
Secondary Endpoint: Safety and tolerability, PFS, DoR, OS, PFSm

ADC, antibody-drug conjugate; DLT, dose-limiting toxicity; DoR, duration of response; Durva, durvalumab; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; IHC, immunohistochemistry; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; Pac, paclitaxel; PFS, progression-free survival; TBD, to be determined; T-Dxd, trastuzumab deruxtecan; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.
Schmid et al. J Clin Oncol. 2021;39(15):1023.

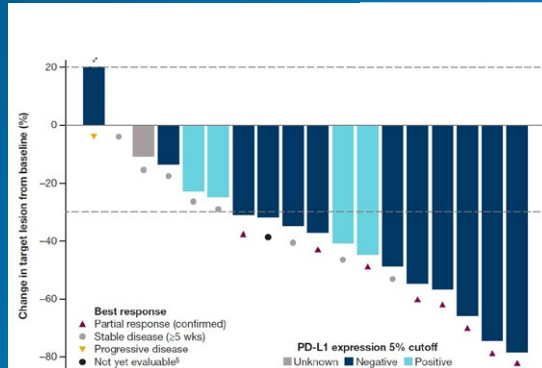
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► There's work being done combining T-DXd with other agents, specifically with immunotherapy in triple-negative disease. The BEGONIA trial had investigated T-DXd with durvalumab in the first-line metastatic triple-negative setting for patients who have HER2-low-positive triple-negative disease. The data included small numbers of patients but very dramatic data with almost an over 70% response rate. Really something...we almost never see such a high response rate.

T-DXd+ Durvalumab: Efficacy

Responses observed in both PD-L1-positive (confirmed ORR 1/1 [100%]) and PD-L1-negative (confirmed ORR 7/10 [70.0%]) groups

Parameter	D+T-DXd
Patients who completed at least 1 on-treatment assessment, n	18
Response evaluable analysis set, n	12
Confirmed ORR, n (%)	8/12 (66.7)
95% CI	41.0, 86.7
Complete response, n	0
Partial response, n	8
Stable disease, n	8
Progressive disease, n	1



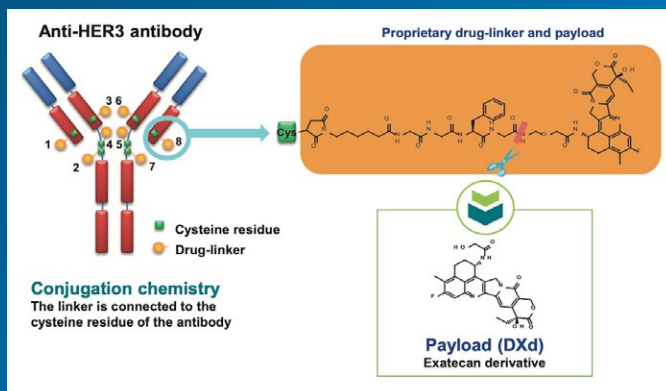
Will there be a role for TDxd+ Durvalumab in 1L HER2-low TNBC?
And will activity be greater than TDxd alone even in PD-L1-negative patients?

D, durvalumab; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; ORR, objective response rate; PD-L1, programmed cell death protein ligand 1; T-DXd, trastuzumab deruxtecan; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.
Schmid et al. J Clin Oncol. 2021;39(15):1023.

AXIS
Medical Education

► So there's definitely interest in better understanding the benefits of the combination and whether or not the combination is truly benefiting PD-L1-negative patients equally to PD-L1-positive patients. Again, numbers here are so small, I don't think we can conclusively say that it's the synergy of the combination-driving benefit in PD-L1-negative patients. But again, what we have to learn more and so really exciting to see the potential for not only single-agent ADC but also potentially with immunotherapy.

Patritumab Deruxtecan (U3-1402): HER3 ADC



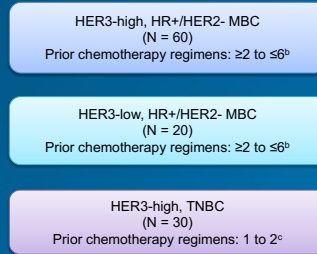
ADC, antibody-drug conjugate; HER3, human epidermal growth factor receptor 3.
Krop et al. Publication no PD1-09, SABCS 2020.

AXIS
Medical Education

► And another antibody-drug conjugate in development targets HER3. This is U3-1402 or patritumab deruxtecan. And this agent has been studied both in hormone receptor-positive as well as triple-negative disease.

U3-1402: Study Design

Patient Cohorts



HER3-DXd Dose

4.8 mg/kg IV Q3W

6.4 mg/kg IV Q3W

6.4 mg/kg IV Q3W

6.4 mg/kg IV Q3W

DXd, deruxtecan; HER3, human epidermal growth factor receptor 3; HR, hormone receptor; MBC, metastatic breast cancer; Q3W, every 3 weeks.
^aHER3-DXd at doses of 1.3, 3.2, 4.8, 6.4, and 8.0 mg/kg Q3W was evaluated in the dose escalation and dose finding parts of the study. ^b≥2 lines in the locally advanced/metastatic setting.
^cin the locally advanced/metastatic setting.
 Krop et al. Publication no PD1-09. SABCS 2020.

AXIS
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- They actually studied it in patients who had HER3 high and low expression.

U3-1402: Results

Efficacy by BICR	HER3-high, HR+/HER2- MBC		HER3 low, HR+/HER2- MBC	HER3-high TNBC
Dose	4.8 mg/kg (n=33)	6.4 mg/kg (n=31)	6.4 mg/kg (n=21)	6.4 mg/kg (n=31)
Follow-up, median, months	16.8	20.4	18.7	7.4
Confirmed ORR, %	30.3	12.9	33.3	16.1
PR	30.3	12.9	33.3	16.1
SD	60.6	61.3	33.3	67.7
PD	6.1	22.6	14.3	9.7
NE	3.0	3.2	19.0	6.5
DCR, %	90.9	74.2	66.7	83.9
Median DOR, months	5.0	7.2	5.3	NR
Median PFS, months	8.4	2.8	5.8	5.5
Median OS, months	14.3	9.7	9.2	NR

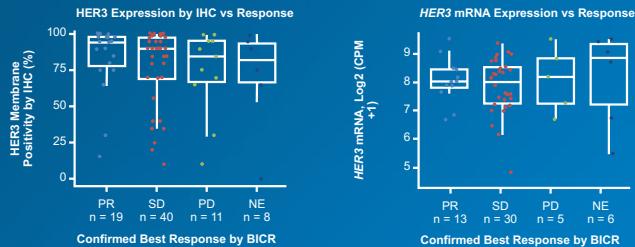
BICR, blinded independent central review; DCR, disease control rate; DOR, duration of response; NE, not evaluable; NR, not reached; ORR, objective response rate;
 OS, overall survival; PD, progressive disease; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.
 Adapted from Krop et al. Publication no PD1-09. SABCS 2020.

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- Specifically in triple-negative disease in the HER3 high expressers, we did see about a 16% response rate. So there were some responses in this subgroup.

Patritumab Deruxtecan: Association Between HER3 Expression and Response

- Among patients with HR+ MBC, there does not appear to be a clear relationship between pretreatment HER3 expression and response (membrane HER3 expression measured by IHC and *HER3* mRNA expression by RNAseq)



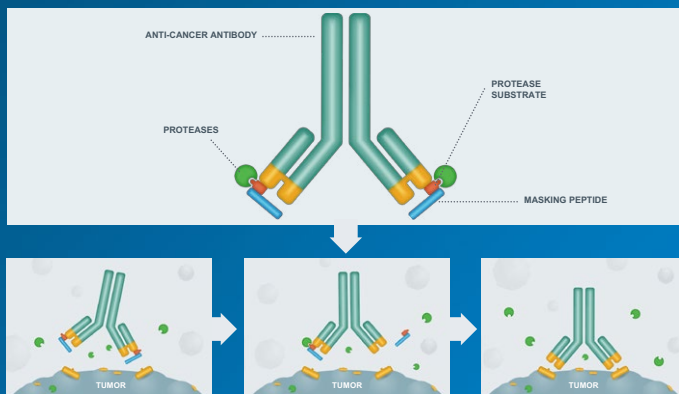
- Further analysis with additional clinical data will be performed in the future

BICR, blinded independent central review; HER3, human epidermal growth factor receptor 3; HR, hormone receptor; IHC, immunohistochemistry; MBC, metastatic breast cancer; NE, not estimable; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.
Krop et al. Publication no PD1-09, SABCs 2020.

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Interestingly, it seems like activity is not necessarily dependent on degree of HER3 expression. Again, more work is needed to better understand the activity in triple-negative disease, because numbers are still small, but exciting to see, again, potential for other antibody-drug conjugates.

Probody Therapeutics Are Designed to be Activated in the Tumor Microenvironment

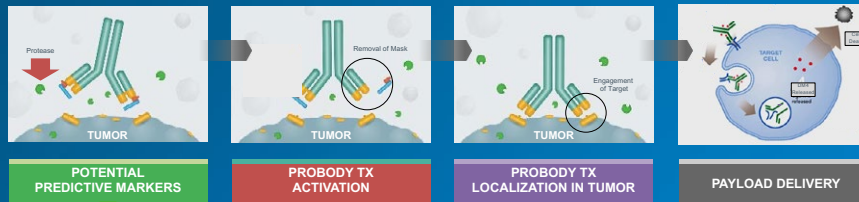


Autio et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2020 Mar 1;26(5):984-989.

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Another class of drugs that is emerging and quite early in development are what we call Probodyes. And so if you think about antibody-drug conjugates, they're trying to target a receptor that is uniquely on the cancer cell, but not on a healthy cell, right, because you're trying to target delivery of a payload into the cancer cell and spare the normal healthy cells. But what if the target is both on the healthy cell and on the cancer cell? Well, you don't want the chemo to get delivered into the healthy cell.

Translational Program Designed to Provide Evidence of Probody Therapeutics MOA and Biologic Activity in Patients

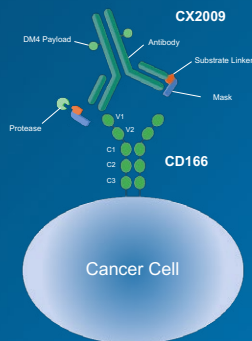


MOA, mechanism of action; TX, treatment.
Autio et al. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2020 Mar 1;26(5):984-989.

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► And so some smart people figured out, well, we could put a mask on the antibody that only comes off in the cancer cell but doesn't come off when it hits a normal cell. And so these probodies were very smartly developed to do that, so that they can just deliver the chemotherapy into the cancer cell and spare the normal cells because the mask only comes off via enzymatic cleavage in the cancer cell itself.

CX-2009: A Probody Drug Conjugate Targeting CD166 (ALCAM)



- CD166 (activated leukocyte cell adhesion molecule) is a transmembrane protein that functions as a junctional adhesion molecule, and facilitates cell migration, differentiation and hematopoiesis
- CD166 is a broadly and highly expressed tumor antigen
- CD166 is present on normal tissues (lung, GI, liver, pancreas)
- SPDB-DM4 linker-payload
 - Microtubule inhibition has activity in multiple tumor types
 - Ocular, neuropathic and hepatic toxicities are well characterized DM4-related toxicities

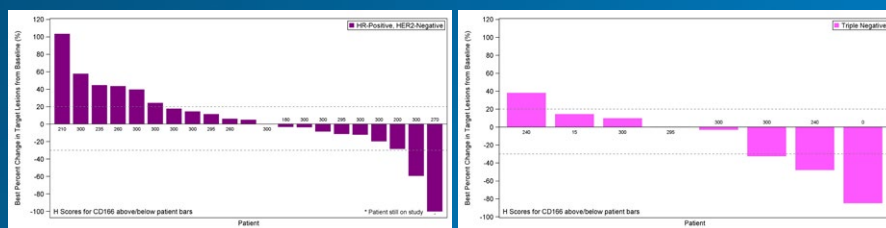
Boni et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2020;38:526.

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► An example of such a drug is called CX-2009. It is targeting CD166, which is present both on normal cells and cancer cells, but again, because of the mask, that mask only gets taken off in the cancer cells. So then you only get delivery of the payload into the impacted malignant cell.

Observed Clinical Activity in Breast Cancer With CX-2009 (Doses ≥ 4 mg/kg Q3W)

Breast cancer patients with measurable disease who received ≥ 4 mg/kg CX-2009 and had a post-baseline assessment



Parameter	Evaluable* Breast Cancer Patients		
	Overall (n = 32)	HR+/HER2- (n = 22)	TNBC (n = 10)
CBR16	13 (41%)	9	4
CBR24	9 (28%)	5 (2 cPR)	4 (3 uPR)

*Includes those with non-measurable but evaluable (eg, bone-only) disease

CBR16, clinical benefit rate at 16 weeks; CBR24, clinical benefit rate at 24 weeks; cPR, confirmed partial response; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; uPR, unconfirmed partial response; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

Liuet al. Cancer Res 2021;81(4 Suppl):Abstract nr PS11-07.

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- This agent looks very promising, based on some very early data, both in hormone receptor-positive, as well as within TNBC, where we've seen responses of both subtypes.

CX-2009 Breast Cancer Phase 2 Study Design

Monotherapy (7 mg/kg Q3W) and Combination with Pacmilimab (CX-072; anti-PD-L1) In Advanced, HER2 non-Amplified Breast Cancer

Key Eligibility

Ocular prophylaxis required

- Treated/stable brain metastases allowed
- No active corneal disease
- Measurable disease required

HR+/HER2 non-amplified

- 0 – 2 prior cytotoxics for advanced disease
- Prior CDK4/6i required

TNBC

- CD166 High
- ≥ 1 and ≤ 3 priors for advanced disease

Arm C exclusion criteria:

- PD-L1 negative/unknown
- I/O refractory
- History of or active autoimmune condition

Breast Cancer SubType

Arm A
HR+/HER2 non-amp (n~40)
CX-2009

Arm B
TNBC (n~40)
CX-2009

Arm C
TNBC (n~40)
CX-2009 + CX-072

Endpoints

Primary: Overall response rate by central review

Secondary: ORR (Inv), PFS, DCR, CBR24, DoR, OS, Safety, PK, ADA

Exploratory: Biomarker correlation with outcome

Readout: Initial data expected Q4 2021

DCR, disease control rate; DoR, duration of response; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; OS, overall survival; PD-L1, programmed cell death protein ligand 1; PFS, progression-free survival; Q3W, every 3 weeks; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

NCT04596150; Miller et al. Cancer Res 2021;81(4 Suppl):Abstract nr OT-03-08.

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- There is a phase 2 study that is enrolling patients getting CX-2009 either with hormone receptor-positive or triple-negative disease, and, in fact, is also looking at combination therapy with immunotherapy for metastatic triple-negative disease.

Summary: ADCs in Breast Cancer

- 3 FDA-approved ADCs in breast cancer
 - Trastuzumab emtansine: HER2+ early and metastatic breast cancer
 - Trastuzumab deruxtecan: HER2+ metastatic breast cancer
 - Sacituzumab govitecan: TNBC
- Many questions remain
 - Will HER2 ADCs become a standard in HER2-low breast cancer?
 - Will TROP2 ADCs work in HR+ breast cancer?
 - Will one ADC work after another if they have non-cross resistant payloads?
 - Will one ADC work after another if they have the same target and different payloads?
 - Will there be optimal combination therapies?
- Numerous ongoing trials with novel targets, novel ADC mechanisms, and novel combinations



ADCs, antibody-drug conjugates; FDA, US Food & Drug Administration; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2.

► This is a really exciting time where years ago, we only had chemotherapy for metastatic TNBC, and now we have immunotherapy, PARP inhibitors, antibody-drug conjugates, and many other really exciting drugs in development.

It's very nice to see us finally making headway for TNBC. I'm definitely very excited about the new path ahead with many of these new antibody drug conjugates that appear to be very promising, and also excited about the combinations that are being studied with the really impressive early data that's emerging.

So I am hopeful that we are going to continue to see new drugs emerge. And hopefully we will continue to make headways in improving outcomes for our patients with metastatic TNBC.

So thank you, again, for the opportunity to review some of these data. But maybe it'd be nice to think about some cases to put these data into perspective. So Kristen, I'll pass it back to you.

► **Whitaker:** So now we can go on and move on to a case presentation. So here is a case that we'll discuss today.



Virtual Tumor Board

Case: Presentation

- 56-year-old black woman reported feeling a mass in her right breast and enlarged axillary lymph nodes
 - No family history of breast or ovarian cancer
 - Core biopsy: 4 cm high-grade infiltrating ductal carcinoma
 - Immunohistochemistry: ER/PR/HER2 negative tumor
 - FNA axilla: positive
 - Staging scans with liver metastases→ biopsy confirms TNBC
- What additional tests should be done on the tumor tissue?
- Should germline testing be offered?

ER, estrogen receptor; FNA, fine needle aspiration; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; PR, progesterone receptor; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

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▶ A 56-year-old black woman reported feeling a mass in her right breast and enlarged axillary lymph nodes. She had no family history of breast or ovarian cancer. She also ended up undergoing a core biopsy of the breast mass that revealed a 4-centimeter high-grade infiltrating ductal carcinoma. We looked at her immunohistochemistry, which showed that her ER was negative, her PR was negative, and her HER2 was negative, consistent with what we call TNBC. She had an fine needle aspiration of the axillary node, which was positive for metastatic infiltrating ductal carcinoma. Unfortunately, at the time of her diagnosis, we were concerned about the potential for having distant disease, so we got a CT of her chest, abdomen, and pelvis, and she had a lesion shown in her liver which underwent biopsy and ultimately came back showing TNBC that had already

metastasized to the liver.

Dr. Tolaney, what additional tests should be done on her tumor now?

Tolaney: Great question. So this comes back to the discussion we were having surrounding biomarkers. Because for triple-negative metastatic disease, it is critical to know if someone has a PD-L1 receptor on their cancer. So, we do know that if someone has PD-L1-positive TNBC, we would consider offering immunotherapy. I would recommend testing this patient for PD-L1 using 22C3, and if the CPS is greater than or equal to 10, you would declare that person having a PD-L1-positive TNBC.

We also should consider BRCA testing. Again, we did discuss the importance of genetic testing here. Certainly it has implications for that patient and their family, but also has implications for treatment. Because we do know that

having a BRCA mutation means that use of a PARP inhibitor is actually superior to standard chemotherapy, based on randomized trials in terms of progression-free survival. So really critical to get PD-L1 testing on the tumor and to offer that patient germline genetic testing.

I will say that many of us also consider next-generation sequencing on the tumor. That being said, those findings from, you know, genomic testing of the tumor are not quite actionable at this time. There are very few actionable findings. One would be high tumor mutation burden (TMB). But the PD-L1 and BRCA are the most critical components of biomarker testing for this patient.

Whitaker: Great information, Dr. Tolaney. We get that take-home that you absolutely should be doing PD-L1 testing, BRCA testing your new diagnosis of TNBC.

Case: Findings

- PD-L1 testing performed, 22C3 CPS>10, SP142 IC>1
- *BRCA* testing negative
- What first-line therapy would you offer?

PD-L1, programmed cell death protein ligand 1.

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► For this patient, after she had her liver biopsy, we did this PD-L1 testing on her, and we saw that her 22C3 CPS score was greater than 10. And then her SP142 IC was greater than 1. She also had genetic testing, and she was negative for a *BRCA* mutation.

And so, Dr. Tolaney, what would you now offer her as first-line therapy?

Tolaney: Because she has a PD-L1-positive tumor, we generally would like to use chemotherapy with a checkpoint inhibitor, since we know that the combination is associated not just with

progression-free survival benefit but also overall survival benefit.

And so, prior to a few months ago, we had access to two different checkpoint inhibitors: atezolizumab or pembrolizumab in combination with chemotherapy. However, there has been withdrawal of atezolizumab's approval in the United States.

So that means that at this time we could only offer this patient chemotherapy with pembrolizumab. Obviously, prior to a couple months ago, this patient could have gotten atezolizumab. So

in truth, I would have been comfortable with either approach. I generally would use a taxane with a checkpoint inhibitor in this de novo metastatic patient. So in this case, probably paclitaxel/pembrolizumab with a CPS greater than 10. But a couple months ago, again, you could have given nab-paclitaxel/atezolizumab, so either one of those would have been appropriate.

Whitaker: Thanks, Dr. Tolaney. That's really important information and clarification for everyone to know about these different PD-L1 agents.

Case: First-Line Treatment

- Patient started on nab-paclitaxel + atezolizumab
 - At the time, this was an FDA-approved option
- Initial reduction in liver metastases and breast mass
- Disease progression after 10 months with increase in liver metastases
- What would you offer second line?



► So returning back to our case. This patient, in this case, received nab-paclitaxel and atezolizumab. She initially had disease control for about 10 months, but then she had some progression of her breast cancer in the liver.

So then returning to you, Dr. Tolaney, now we have this patient who has had immunotherapy plus chemo as her first-line treatment but

progressed in about 10 months on that treatment. What would you offer her now?

Tolaney: That's a good question. So remember, this patient does not have a BRCA mutation. So PARP would not be an option for this patient.

So really, you're thinking about standard chemotherapy or sacituzumab. And so remember, sacituzumab technically has a second-line

indication, you know, based on the ASCENT trial, and so it is accessible in the second-line setting. And because it performed so much better than chemotherapy, I generally do like to use sacituzumab as early as possible. And so in the second-line setting is when I typically will administer it. And so for me, I would use sacituzumab here.

Case: Second-line Treatment

- Patient started treatment with sacituzumab govitecan

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► **Whitaker:** That's a really great point about sacituzumab because a lot of times, we're thinking that we have to save it for kind of later lines, but you make an excellent point of clarification.

AXIS

Thank You

Thank you for participating in this activity!

► I hope that you leave today's educational seminar with a better understanding of some of these health disparities and inequities in TNBC, both related to diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Tolaney, you did an absolutely fabulous job of covering where we're at with current approvals related to antibody-drug conjugates, but also the future of antibody-drug conjugates for breast cancer.

And then I hope you also leave with the take-home that it is critical that we incorporate shared decision-making without the implicit bias that we talked about a lot of times to lead us towards this path of more inclusive care for TNBC and better outcomes for our patients. Thank you so much for participating in this activity.

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About AXIS Medical Education, Inc.

AXIS Medical Education, Inc. is a full-service continuing education company that designs and implements live, web-based, and print-based educational activities for healthcare professionals. AXIS provides convenient opportunities to engage learners based on their individual learning preferences through a full spectrum of educational offerings.

The executive leadership of AXIS combines 75 years of experience in adult learning theory, curriculum design/implementation/assessment, continuing education accreditation standards, and medical meeting planning and logistics. Our team has a deep understanding of the governing guidelines overseeing the medical education industry to ensure compliant delivery of all activities.

AXIS employs an experienced team of medical and scientific experts, medical writers, project managers, meeting planners, and logistics professionals. This team is dedicated to meeting the unmet educational needs of healthcare professionals, with the goal of improving patient outcomes.

AXIS believes that partnerships are crucial in our mission to deliver timely, relevant, and high-quality medical education to healthcare professionals. To that end, AXIS partners with other organizations and accredited providers to offer added expertise and assist in expanding access to our educational interventions. AXIS also partners with numerous patient advocacy organizations to provide recommended patient education and caregiver resources in specific disease areas. AXIS finds value in these partnerships because they complement our core clinical curriculum with validated and relevant supplemental resources for busy clinicians and their patients.

The mission of AXIS is to enhance the knowledge, skills, competence, and performance of the interprofessional healthcare team to ensure patients receive quality care, resulting in improved patient outcomes. We engage healthcare professionals in fair-balanced, scientifically rigorous, expert-led certified educational activities designed to foster lifelong learning that is applicable to clinical practice and patient-centered care.

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