







# QUALI INFORMAZIONI DEVE FORNIRE OGGI L'ANATOMO-PATOLOGO AL CLINICO? QUALI SOTTOGRUPPI SONO OGGI IDENTIFICABILI?

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# DISCLOSURES

Commercial Interest	Relationships
MSD, Novartis, AstraZeneca, Adicet Bio, Sermonix, Roche, Menarini, Gilead, Veracyte Inc.	Consulting/advisory role
MSD, Novartis, AstraZeneca, Daiichi Sankyo, GSK, Gilead, Roche, Leica Biosystems, Lilly	Speaker bureau
Novartis, Reply	Research grants
Roche	Travel grants

# NOVEL AND EMERGING BIOMARKERS IN BREAST CANCER

- PD-L1 (CPS/IC)
- HER2-low
- PIK3CA
- ESR1
- g/s/tBRCA
- TROP-2

→ IHC
 → IHC/ISH
 → SEQ
 → SEQ
 → SEQ
 → tbd







HER2 Low, Ultra-low, and Novel Complementary Biomarkers: Expanding the Spectrum of HER2 Positivity in Breast Cancer

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# PREDICTIVE ROLE OF PD-L1 EXPRESSION: PITFALLS

- Assay variability
  - Different antibodies
  - Different platforms
  - Different scoring systems
- Biological variability
  - Spatial variability
  - Temporal variability
  - Tumor or microenvironment
  - Constitutive vs. inflammation-induced



Marletta S, et al. Atlas of PD-L1 for Pathologists: Indications, Scores, Diagnostic Platforms and Reporting Systems. J Pers Med. 2022

### PD-L1 CPS in mTNBC: A REAL-LIFE ITALIAN PORTRAIT





Advancing the PD-L1 CPS test in metastatic TNBC: Insights from pathologists and findings from a nationwide survey

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### **Conclusions (1): a reproducibility study**



- In mTNBC, CPS can be reliably assessed either by 22C3 (which was used in the KEYNOTE studies) or SP263, providing the use of the dedicated platform (i.e. Dako and Ventana).
- CPS and IC are not interchangeable tests in mTNBC
- PD-L1 test in mTNBC is reproducible when assessed by specifically trained pathologists using CE-IVD assays, i.e. 22C3 and SP263 for CPS and SP142 for IC score.



#### (22C3 vs 0.874-0.869-SP263) 0.938 0.945) 1 (CI 0.725-(SP142) 1.274) CPS (22C3 v SP263) vs IC

ICC

0.939

(CI

0.913-

0.96)

0.972

(CI

0.96-

0.982)

0.909

(CI

Kappa

0.938

(CI

0.857-

1.018)

0.972

(CI

0.890-

1.052)

0.907

(CI



# **Conclusions (2): The role of Digital Pathology**

- Harmonization efforts aim to standardize PD-L1 testing for better patient selection.
- TILs correlate with favorable outcomes in TNBC.
- MMR alterations are rare but predictive, indicating potential ICI response.
- Al plays a growing role in enhancing biomarker assessment and precision medicine.
- Standardized practices and validation are essential for successful AI application.





Immune Biomarkers in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: Improving the Predictivity of Current Testing Methods

Francesca Maria Porta <sup>1</sup><sup>10</sup>, Elham Sajjadi <sup>1,2</sup><sup>0</sup>, Konstantinos Venetis <sup>1</sup>, Chiara Frascarelli <sup>1,2</sup>, Giulia Cursano <sup>1</sup>, Elena Guerini-Rocco <sup>1,2</sup>, Nicola Fusco <sup>1,2</sup>,\*<sup>0</sup> and Mariia Ivanova <sup>1</sup><sup>0</sup>

# NOVEL AND EMERGING BIOMARKERS IN BREAST CANCER

- PD-L1 (CPS/IC)  $\rightarrow$  I-A
- HER2-low  $\rightarrow$  I-A
- PIK3CA  $\rightarrow$  I-A
- ESR1 → II-A
- TROP-2  $\rightarrow$  I-C



### **PIK3CA** mutations in breast cancer



Image adapted from: Brufsky AM & Dickler MN. Oncologist. 2018; **23:**528 . 1.Hanah et al J. Med. Chem. 2022, 65, 16589–16621

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Alpelisib for *PIK3CA*-Mutated, Hormone Receptor–Positive Advanced Breast Cancer

F. André, E. Ciruelos, G. Rubovszky, M. Campone, S. Loibl, H.S. Rugo,
H. Iwata, P. Conte, I.A. Mayer, B. Kaufman, T. Yamashita, Y.-S. Lu, K. Inoue,
M. Takahashi, Z. Pápai, A.-S. Longin, D. Mills, C. Wilke, S. Hirawat,
and D. Juric, for the SOLAR-1 Study Group\*
N Engl J Med 2019;380:1929-40.
DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1813904

CANCER DISCOVERY JANUARY 2022

#### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

RTK-Dependent Inducible Degradation of Mutant PI3Kα Drives GDC-0077 (Inavolisib) Efficacy ₪

Kyung W. Song: Kyle A. Edgar<sup>3</sup>, Emily J. Hanan<sup>2</sup>, Marc Hafner<sup>2</sup>, Jason Oeh<sup>4</sup>, Mark Merchant<sup>4</sup>, Deepak Sampath<sup>4</sup>, Michelle A. Nannin<sup>4</sup>, Rebecca Hong<sup>4</sup>, Lilian Phu<sup>2</sup>, Willim F. Forrest<sup>3</sup>, Eric Stawiski<sup>3</sup>, Esphen Schmidt<sup>6</sup>, Nicholas Endres<sup>6</sup>, Jane Guan<sup>3</sup>, Jeffrey J. Wellin<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan Cheong<sup>4</sup>, Emile G. Plise<sup>7</sup>, Sall D. Lewis Phillips<sup>1</sup>, Laurent Salphatf<sup>7</sup>, Timothy P. Heffron<sup>2</sup>, Alan G. Olivero<sup>2</sup>, Shiva Malek<sup>3</sup>, Steven T. Staben<sup>2</sup>, Donald S. Kirkpatrick<sup>2</sup>, Anwesha Dey<sup>1</sup>, and Lori S. Friedman<sup>4</sup>



- ~40% of HR+/HER2- aBC patients have a *PIK3CA* mutation, and can have endocrine resistance and/or shorter mPFS
- Hotspot regions: ex 7, 9, 20
- PIK3CA mutations can be detected in tissue (FFPE) or plasma samples.



#### *PIK3CA* Mutations as a Molecular Target for Hormone Receptor-Positive, HER2-Negative Metastatic Breast Cancer

Nicola Fusco<sup>1,27</sup>, Umberto Malapollo<sup>27</sup>, Matteo Fassan<sup>45</sup>, Caterina Marchio<sup>6,7</sup>, Simonetta Buglioni<sup>8</sup>, Simonetta Zupo<sup>9</sup>, Cammen Criscitiello<sup>2,19</sup>, Paolo Vigneri<sup>11,12</sup>, Angelo Paolo Dei Tos<sup>45</sup>, Eugenio Maioran<sup>01</sup> and Giuseppe Viale<sup>1,28</sup>

# PIK3CA: RATIONALE FOR CLINICAL TESTING 2024?

Compound 👻 Generic Name 👻	Trade Name 👻	Combination 🖌	Indication 🗸	Phase 👻 123F	Expected 👻 Filing
♦ RG6114 Inavolisib		plus palbociclib plus fulvestrant	1L metastatic ER- positive and HER2- negative breast can- cer (1L HR+ mBC)		2024

Description/Summary:

Inavolisib (RG6114, GDC-0077) is a small molecule PI3 kinase (PI3K) inhibitor. Dysregulation of PI3K signaling is implicated in a broad range of human cancers, and activating mutations in the PI3K alpha-isoform gene (PIK3CA) are common oncogenic drivers. The PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway regulates cell growth and survival.

Managed By:

Roche Late Stage Product Development

Inavolisib is a PI3K $\alpha$ -specific inhibitor that also promotes degradation of mutant p110 $\alpha$ . It has demonstrated encouraging preliminary antitumor activity in pts with PIK3CA-mutated HR+ BC as a monotherapy, and in combo with other anticancer agents

https://www.roche.com/solutions/pipeline/#81ad1b25-f415-4714-9450-45c188614658

# ctDNA IN MBC

- As in early breast cancer, the quantity of ctDNA correlates with poor survival
- serial measurement of ctDNA has the potential to monitor and predict treatment response.
- PADA-1 trial (NCT03079011) is currently investigating the utility of serial ESR1 ctDNA measurements in HER2-negative MBC patients treated with palbociclib and AI



### **PIK3CA** mutational analysis



Next-Generation Sequencing

#### Pros and cons of the *PIK3CA* molecular testing methods

	PROS	CONS		
	Cost-effective	High amount of material required		
	Short turnaround time	Affected by low tumor cell content		
	Widely available	Variable reference range		
	High sensitivity	No allele frequency		
Real Time PCR	Wide choice of panels	Affected by the pre-analytical phase		

	PROS			CONS
	Higher sequence	ing depth for	•	Expensive
	<ul> <li>increased sensitivity (down to 1%)</li> <li>Multi-target panels</li> <li>Low input of nucleic acid needed</li> </ul>		•	Long turnaround time
			•	Not widely available
			•	Affected by the pre-analytical phase
Next-Generation	tion • Wide choice of panels		•	Dedicated personnel required
Sequencing				

### **PIK3CA MUTATIONS IN BREAST CANCERS: TESTING STRATEGIES**



Analytical Performance of Next-Generation Sequencing and RT-PCR on Formalin-Fixed Paraffin-Embedded Tumor Tissues for *PIK3CA* Testing in HR+/HER2— Breast Cancer

Konstantinos Venetis <sup>1,2,†</sup>, Francesco Pepe <sup>3,†</sup>, Elisabetta Munzone <sup>4</sup>, Elham Sajjadi <sup>1,2</sup>, Gianluca Russo <sup>3</sup>, Pasquale Pisapia <sup>3</sup>, Mariia Ivanova <sup>1</sup>, Giuseppina Bonizzi <sup>1</sup>, Davide Vacirca <sup>1</sup>, Alessandra Rappa <sup>1</sup>, Alberto Ranghiero <sup>1</sup>, Sergio Vincenzo Taormina <sup>1</sup>, Giuseppe Viale <sup>1,2</sup>, Giancarlo Troncone <sup>3</sup>, Massimo Barberis <sup>1</sup>, Elena Guerini-Rocco <sup>1,2</sup>, Umberto Malapelle <sup>3,\*,‡</sup> and Nicola Fusco <sup>1,2,\*,‡</sup>



Pepe et al. Unpublished 2023

### Landscape of *PIK3CA* mutation testing in Italy - Nationwide survey



North-west	52	
Valle d'Aosta	2	
Piemonte	7	
Lombardia	38	
Liguria	5	Yes, in Div
		n=54 (46
North-east	15	
Veneto	7	
Friuli Venezia Giulia	1	
Emilia Romagna	7	
Center	18	Q3: W ado
Toscana	3	
Umbria	5	Direc
Marche	5	
Lazio	2	
Abruzzo	3	PT DCD
O	50	n=15 (229
South and Islands	53	
Campania	24	
Puglia	8	
Calabria	8	
Sardegna	1	
Sicilia	12	



NGS

n=30 (42%)



#### Pepe et al. Unpublished 2023

#### Mutation features & dynamics did not significantly predict switch benefit

No difference by <u>which</u> ESR1mut



**ESR1**<sub>mut</sub> & PADA-1 design



#### ESR1 mutations

- are acquired during aromatase inhibitors (AI) therapy in ~40% of ER+ HER2- mBC pts and drive resistance
- can be detected by ctDNA analysis in blood (bESR1<sub>mut</sub>)
- retain partial sensitivity to fulvestrant (FUL), a selective estrogen receptor dégrader (SERD)

#### PADA-1

• Strategy: targeting rising bESR1<sub>mut</sub> when they become detectable under AI+Palbociclib (PAL)<sup>[1]</sup>



Spoerke JM, Gendreau S, Walter K, Qiu J, Wilson TR, Savage H, Aimi J, Derynck MK, Chen M, Chan IT, Amler LC, Hampton GM, Johnston S, Krop I, Schmid P, Lackner MR. Heterogeneity and clinical significance of ESR1 mutations in ER-positive metastatic breast cancer patients receiving fulvestrant. Nat Commun. 2016;7:11579.

# ESR1 mutations associated with increased metastatic spread and liver metastasis



Nguyen B Cell 2022



Venetis et al. Cancer Treat Rev 2023 (accepted)

### ctDNA for the detection of *PIK3CA* mutations in breast cancer

ARTICLES	
ttps://doi.org/10.1038/s43018-020-0047-1	

# Alterations in *PTEN* and *ESR1* promote clinical resistance to alpelisib plus aromatase inhibitors

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• Uncover mechanisms of resistance doing a longitudinal analysis of tumor and plasma circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) among such PIK3CA-mutant, HR+ metastatic breast cancer patients from a phase I/II trial combining alpelisib with an aromatase inhibitor

d	Clinical benefit		No clinica	al benefit	
		Best response			
100%		PIK3CA			83%
0%		PTEN*			17%
0%		ESR1**			33%
5%		AKT1			6%
10%		FGFR1			22%
0%		FGFR2			6%
10%		ERBB2			6%
5%		ERBB3			6%
5%		EGFR			6%
10%		NF1			0%
35%		TP53			11%
30%		CDH1			17%
10%		GATA3			11%
	<i>n</i> = 20	)		<i>n</i> = 18	
	Genetic alteration			Best response	•
	Amplification Missense r	mutation Trunca	ting mutation	CR SD	
	Deep deletion Inframe mu	utation Wild ty	ре	PR PD	

nature cancer

# Approach to newly diagnosed HR+/HER2- MBC



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Thank you!