

Highlights from the ASCO conference 2016



Extending aromatase inhibitor (AI) therapy with letrozole from 5 to 10 years proves beneficial for early stage breast cancer patients

A new study showed that postmenopausal women with early stage breast cancer benefited from taking the AI letrozole for 10 years instead of 5 years and there wasn't a decrease in their quality of life. This study showed a 34 percent reduction in recurrences for women who took the AI for 10 years. [Read more.](#)

Phase 3 study results confirm benefit of adding pablociclib to letrozole for estrogen receptor positive, HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer

Phase 3 results from the PALOMA-2 trial were presented at ASCO and showed that adding the CDK 4/6 inhibitor pablociclib to letrozole reduced the risk of disease progression by 42 percent compared to using letrozole alone. [Read more.](#)

Combination of atezolizumab with chemotherapy has interesting results for triple negative metastatic breast cancer

Atezolizumab is an immunotherapy in a class of drugs known as PD-L1 inhibitors that counteract a tumour's ability to hide itself from the immune system. In this study, 42 percent of patients responded to treatment with the majority of responders achieving stable disease. [Read more.](#)

Ribociclib Phase 3 MONALEESA-2 study ends early due to significant improvement in progression free survival for hormone receptor positive, HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer

The combination of ribociclib and letrozole significantly improved progression-free survival compared with letrozole alone in patients with HR+, HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer. [Read more.](#)

Abemaciclib continues to show a good overall response rate for people with HR+ metastatic breast cancer

Phase 1 trial results show that abemaciclib, another CDK 4/6 inhibitor, can be taken on a continuous schedule and achieve good clinical activity against HR+ metastatic breast cancer tumours. Because this is given as a single agent and has greater selectivity for CDK4, it doesn't affect white blood cell counts as severely as other CDK 4/6 inhibitors. [Read more.](#)

Utidelone shows improvement in progression-free survival for heavily pretreated women with metastatic breast cancer

Utidelone, a genetically engineered epothilone analog, shows improvements in progression-free survival when used in combination with capecitabine. The median progression-free survival was 6.9 months versus 4.76 months with capecitabine alone. [Read more.](#)



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