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Title: Comparing Risk Stratification and Radiotherapy Benefit for Patients with DCIS Using a 7-Gene Biosignature as Compared to a Clinicopathologic Nomogram

Background: Multiple prospective trials show over 70% of women with ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) do not recur after breast conserving surgery (BCS) alone and that radiotherapy (RT) had a clinically meaningful reduction in 10-yr risk after BCS. Clinicopathologic (CP) factor-based criteria or nomograms have been used to select for whom to de-escalate treatment, assessing 10-yr ipsilateral breast recurrence (IBR) rate after BCS. In this study, we compared classification of women by a CP model similar to the MSKCC DCIS nomogram with the 7-gene biosignature and their associated total 10-yr IBR rates with and without RT.

Material and Methods: DCIS patients (n=926) from four international cohorts treated with BCS with negative margins (no ink on tumor) with or without RT (CP details previously published) were analyzed with both a CP model and the 7-gene biosignature with residual risk subtype (RRt). Biosignature decision score (DS) was categorized as Low Risk ($DS \leq 2.8$ without RRt) vs Elevated Risk ($DS > 2.8$ with or without RRt). CP model used MSKCC DCIS nomogram factors and weighting, but omitted number of excisions and close margin and was categorized using score < 220 as CP low-risk. 10-yr total IBR rates were evaluated using Cox Proportional Hazards and Kaplan Meier analysis by treatment, and risk groups in patients treated with and without RT.

Results: The biosignature classified 338 patients (37%) as DS Low Risk with a 5.6% 10-yr IBR rate for BCS without RT and no risk reduction with RT (4.8%, $HR=0.8$, 95%CI(.3, 2.3), $p=0.7$). The CP-model classified 320 patients (34%) as CP low-risk (score < 220) with an 8.3% 10-yr IBR rate for BCS without RT and a non-significant slightly lower rate with RT (4.7%, $HR=0.5$, 95%CI(.2, 1.2), $p=0.12$). However, the biosignature reclassified 63% of these CP low-risk patients as DS Elevated Risk with 10-yr IBR rates of 12.3% for BCS without RT and 4.8% with RT ($HR 0.2$, 95%CI(.1, .8), $p < 0.01$).

Conclusions: Using 10-yr outcome data (n=926) from multiple contemporary published validation studies, the biosignature re-classified nearly 2/3 of patients in the CP low-risk (MSKCC nomogram-like) group as Elevated Risk. The re-classified CP low-risk patients had elevated 10-year IBR rates after BCS without RT and had an 80% relative benefit from RT, demonstrating they potentially could have been undertreated. This demonstrates the ability of the 7-gene biosignature to better risk-stratify patients with DCIS following BCS and identify patients with low-risk CP who may benefit from RT.

Authors:

Julie A. Margenthaler, MD
Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, MO
Karuna Mittal, PhD
PreludeDx, Laguna Hills, CA
Shawna Willey, MD
Inova Schar Cancer Institute, Fairfax, VA
Frank Vicini, MD
GenesisCare, Farmington Hills, MI
Chirag S. Shah, MD
Department of Radiation Oncology, Taussig Cancer Institute,
Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland OH
Rachel A. Rabinovitch, MD
University of Colorado Cancer Center, Aurora, CO
Pat W. Whitworth, MD
Nashville Breast Center, Nashville, TN

Brian J. Czerniecki, MD
Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL
David J. Dabbs, MD
PreludeDx, Laguna Hills, CA
G Bruce Mann, MBBS
Royal Women's Hospital, Parkville, Australia
Fredrik Wärnberg, MD PhD
University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden
Sheila Weinmann, MPH PhD
Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research, Portland, OR
Michael Leo, PhD
Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research, Portland, OR
Steven C. Shivers, PhD
PreludeDx, Laguna Hills, CA
Troy Bremer, PhD
PreludeDx, Laguna Hills, CA