

## The American Society for Radiation Oncology 2022

**Title:** Re-thinking Clinicopathologic Risk Assessment in DCIS: Pooled Data from Validation Studies Comparing a 7-gene DCIS Assay to Clinicopathologic Features Alone

**Background:** There is a need for a tool to predict recurrence risk and RT benefit to enable personalized management of DCIS after breast conserving surgery (BCS). Clinicopathologic (CP) factors alone have failed to identify a low-risk group with little benefit from RT, or a high-risk group with high recurrence risk after RT. The purpose of this study was to prospectively validate a novel biosignature, Residual Risk Subtype (RRt), integrated with the 7-gene DCIS assay to assess 10yr ipsilateral breast recurrence (IBR) rate and RT benefit compared to CP criteria alone.

**Methods:** Women (n=926) from four international cohorts treated with BCS with negative margins had FFPE tissue samples analyzed at a CLIA lab (Laguna Hills CA). The 7-gene DCIS biosignature combines biomarkers with CP factors (age, size, palpability, and margin status) using an algorithm and reports a decision score (DS). Women were classified into 3 risk groups by the biosignature DS (0-10) integrated with RRt (yes/no): 1) Low Risk(DS≤2.8 without RRt), 2) Elevated Risk (DS>2.8 without RRt), 3) Residual Risk (DS>2.8 with RRt). Within the 3 biosignature risk groups, 10yr IBR Kaplan-Meier rates by RT treatment and Cox proportional hazard ratios for RT-effect were assessed and reported by CP criteria (nuclear grade, palpability, screening detection, size, and age), including RTOG 9804 study 'good-risk' groupings.

**Results:** The biosignature classified 37% of the women as Low Risk with low 10yr IBR rates with or without RT and 43% as Elevated Risk with a 20.6% IBR rate without RT and an 80% IBR benefit from RT (4.9%), which persisted even in good risk CP patients (see table). 20% of women were classified as Residual Risk and had a 42.1% IBR rate without RT and a significantly elevated IBR rate of 14.7% after RT. The distribution of patients in the 3 biosignature risk groups differed between CP criteria (RTOG 9804 'good-risk', or young age or high grade). However, once classified into these 3 biosignature risk groups, the 10yr IBR rates and RT benefit were independent of CP criteria. About 30% of women with a high-risk CP profile were re-classified as Low Risk with almost no benefit of RT while ~30% were re-classified as Residual Risk. In women with favorable CP criteria, more than 50% were reclassified as Elevated Risk or Residual Risk patients with significant IBR risk remaining after BCS.

**Conclusions:** The predictive 7-gene DCIS assay integrated with the novel Residual Risk Subtype (RRt) biosignature classified women into 3 risk groups with distinct 10yr IBR rates and RT-benefit profiles. Within biosignature risk groups, CP criteria were not prognostic or predictive for 10yr IBR rates or RT benefit while a clear delineation was seen for the 3 biosignature risk groups. The incorporation of genomic information yields superior risk and RT benefit prediction as compared to CP features alone.

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