# Proliferation and apoptosis as measures of response

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# Proliferation and apoptosis as measures of response

Chemotherapy
Endocrine therapy

 $\Delta$ Proliferation (Ki67)  $\Delta$ Apoptosis 1,000 cells scored % positive



3,000 cells scored % positive



#### **Apoptosis - TUNEL**





or FNA

#### Proliferation



Or:

- s-phase
- mitotic index
- thymidylate synthase
  BrDU (Urruticoechea et al JCO, 2005, 23, 7212)

#### Cell death

Apoptosis - TUNEL



Or:

- morphology
- activated caspase 3
- ? M30 (keratin 8/18)

serum assay

 (also autophagy and necrosis)

## Precision of measurements of Ki67 and Al in pairs of 14g core-cuts



## Relationship between Ki67 and apoptosis (IMPACT baseline)



Ki67 (%)

## Chemotherapy

#### High proliferation pretreatment:

good response to chemotherapy but poor long term outcome

NB pCR

#### Effect of 24 hours chemotherapy on apoptotic index and Ki67 Al (%) Ki67 (%)



#### Change in Ki67 with neoadjuvant chemotherapy



# Relationship of clinical response with change in Ki67 or apoptosis

	∆pre/24hr	∆ pre/21d
Ki67↓	Non-significant	Significant: Makris et al 1998 Chang et al 1999 Assersohn 2003
apoptosis <sup>↑</sup>	Significant: Chang et al 1999 Non-significant: Parton et al 2001	

Pretreatment and excision (matched) Ki67 and RFS with neoadjuvant chemotherapy



Endocrine therapy



#### ATAC: Kaplan–Meier Curves of Disease-free Survival in Receptor-positive Population



## Apoptosis

## Decreased with all 3 arms at 2 weeks (15-25%) and at 12 weeks for anastrozole (21%)

#### Proliferation Ki67 (%): Individual Patient Plots — Anastrozole (Per-Protocol Population)



Time (weeks)

# Percentage Ki67 Change (95% CI) from Baseline\* During Treatment



#### **Relationship Between Ki67 Change** and Objective Clinical Response













Effect of anastrozole on Ki67 in individual patients



Effect of anastrozole on Ki67 in individual patients



### Effect of anastrozole on Ki67 in individual patients





#### Relapse Free Survival by 2 week LnKi67



### Multivariate analysis: RFS

		HR (95%CI)	p-value
Tumour size	per cm	1.67 (1.35 - 2.06)	<0.001
Ki67 (2 wks)	2.7x increase	2.01 (1.28 - 3.15)	0.002
ER (2wks)	2.7x increase	0.79 (0.62 - 0.99)	0.04

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## →POETIC

Short-term presurgical treatment: Biological characteristics of AI response



# Selected clusters from heirarchical clustering based on 2680 most variable genes



# Global index of dependence on estrogen (GIDE)

- Number of genes which change [up or down] beyond a given threshold (x2)
- How does this index vary according to:
  - [ER]
  - HER2

#### Comparison of GIDE with other markers

Patient GIDE ER HER2

145 21	4126 2502	3	31 30	
263	2343			
125	2069		34	
267	2032			
17	1811	1		
67	1728			
218 175	1443			
148	1299	9		
223	1171			
202	1027	6		HIGN
61	862	4 2		<b>U</b>
230	856	-		
151	818			
21/	811	32	27	
149	760	7	32	
90	688	-		
201	675	•	25	
30 123	616	8	55	
228	597	34	3	
152	512			
146	480	22	33	
70	398	22	- <b>1</b>	
64	376		2	
155	349	5		
39	321	30		
P3	139	31		
203	79		4	

#### **Biological disaggregation**



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- Oestrogen dependency of feature
- Importance in clinical benefit from E-deprivation
- Determinants of response of feature to E-deprivation

#### **Biological disaggregation**



Oestrogen dependency of feature

Importance in clinical benefit from E-deprivation

Determinants of response of feature to E-deprivation

 $\rightarrow \text{POETIC}$ 

## Summary Chemotherapy

 decreased proliferation is associated with response to treatment

- high residual Ki67 is associated with poor RFS
- increased apoptosis occurs in response to therapy but no close relationship with response

## Summary Endocrine therapy

 decreased proliferation may predict for treatment benefit but no close relationship with clinical response

- high 2 week Ki67 is associated with poor RFS
- increased apoptosis does not occur at 2 weeks or 12 weeks with tamoxifen or AI

## Novel agents

Open-minded about effects on apoptosis and proliferation during early studies

#### Pre-chemotherapy Ki67 and Relapse Free Survival (matched)



#### Post-chemotherapy Ki67 and Relapse Free Survival (matched)



Years since presentation