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January 27, 2018

 **SAN ANTONIO  
BREAST CANCER  
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San Francisco, CA  
USA  
January 27, 2018

# New Directions in Translational Research, Prognostic Markers, and Resistance Mechanisms



***LAURA van 't VEER, PhD***

**Professor of Laboratory Medicine**

**Program Leader of the Breast Oncology Program**

**UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**University California San Francisco**

**San Francisco, CA (USA)**

## Disclosure(s)

### LAURA van 't VEER, PhD

Research Support:	N/A
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Advisory Panel/Consultant:	N/A
Co-founder/Stockholder:	Agendia Inc
Employee (part time):	Agendia Inc

**Dr. van t' Veer will not discuss investigational or off-label use**

# Review of Presentations

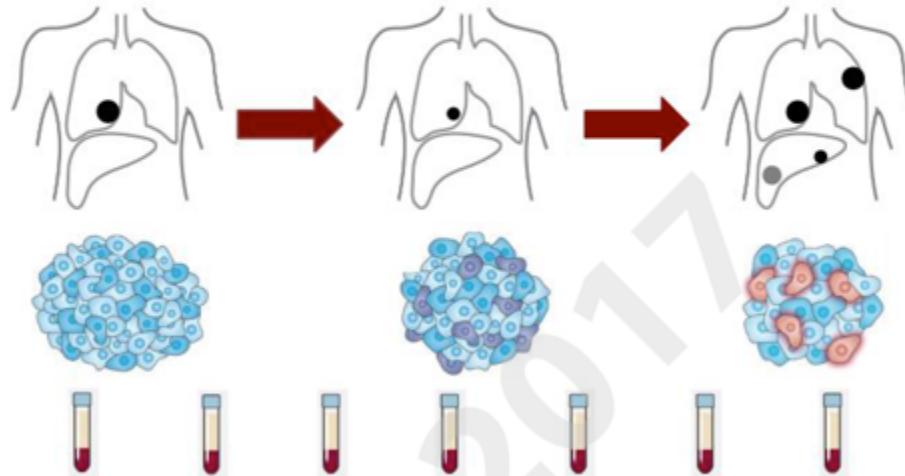
- Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer  
Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational
- Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer  
Nick Turner, Royal Marsden; AACR outstanding investigator award
- CTC's and Late Recurrence  
Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3
- Intratumoral Heterogeneity  
Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science Forum BSF03-1
- BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment  
Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

# Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer

Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

## ctDNA as a “Liquid Biopsy”



ctDNA =  
circulating DNA  
*Also called*  
cfDNA =  
cell-free DNA

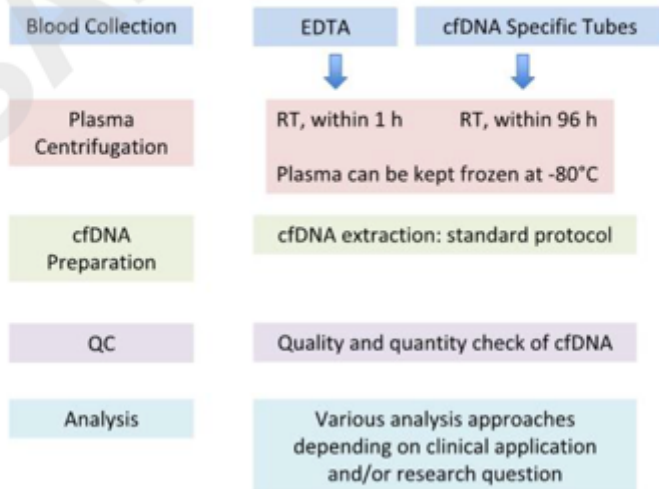
Different from  
CTC =  
circulating tumor  
cells  
(same concept)

# Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer

## Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

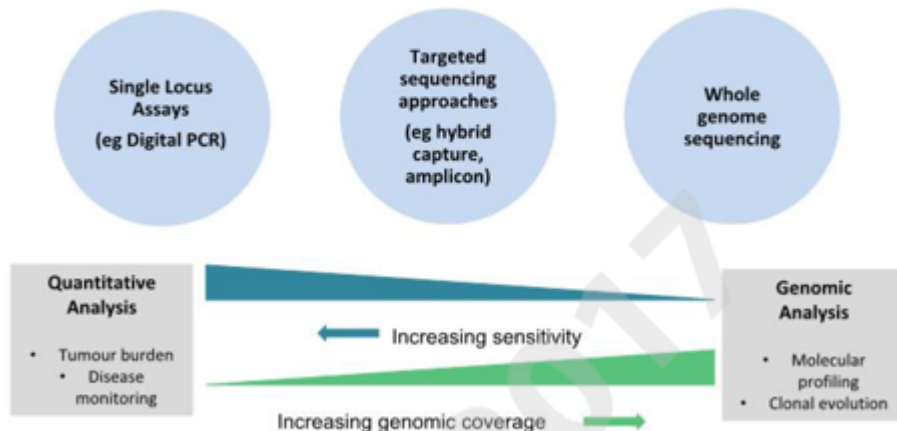
### Pre-analytical considerations



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San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

### Methods of ctDNA analysis



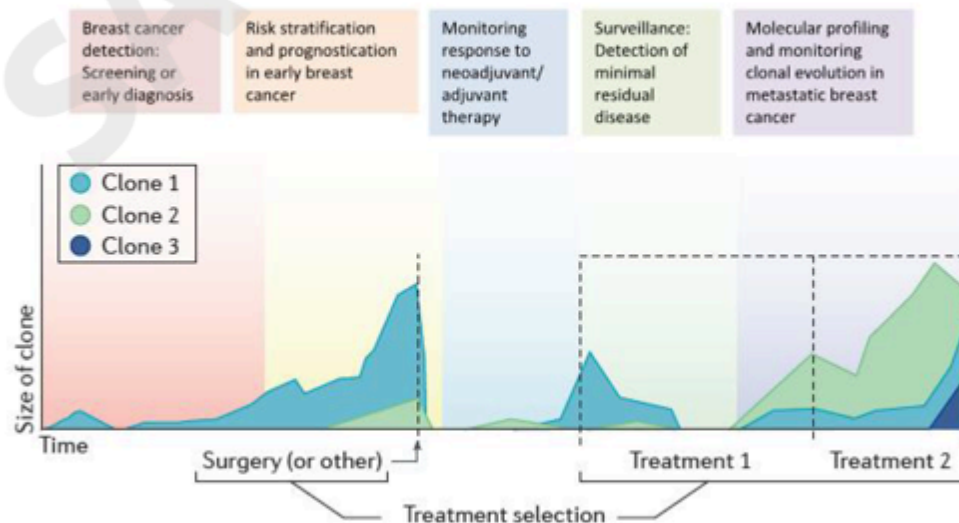
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# Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer

Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

## Clinical applications of ctDNA in breast cancer management



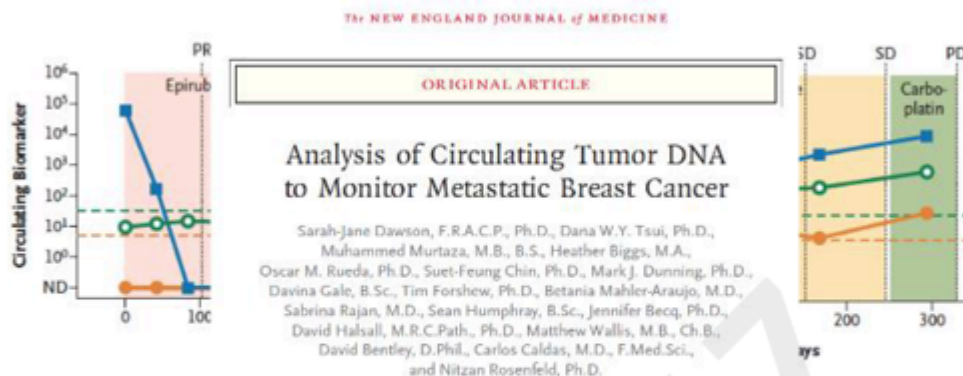
Adapted from Wan et al, Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology, 2017

# Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer

## Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

## ctDNA to monitor treatment responses



- Changes in levels of circulating tumour DNA closely follow treatment responses
- Tracking levels of circulating tumour DNA may provide an early indicator of treatment resistance

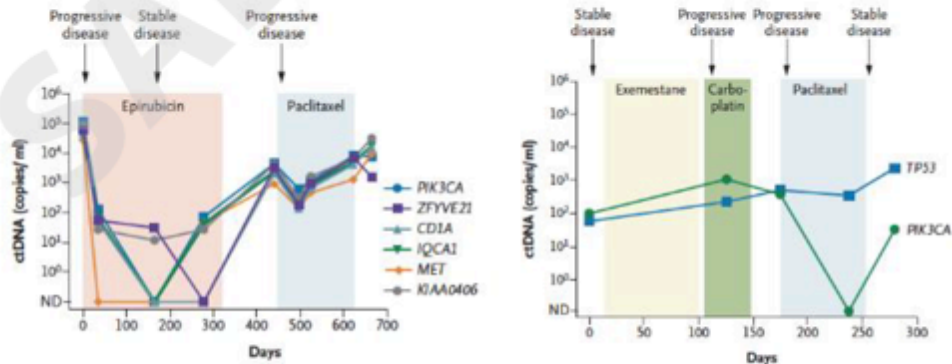


# Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer

## Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

### ctDNA to monitor treatment responses



- Multiple mutations often show similar dynamic changes when tracked simultaneously
- Evidence of clonal heterogeneity: different clones show diverging patterns over the course of treatment

# Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer

Nick Turner, Royal Marsden; AACR outstanding investigator award

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

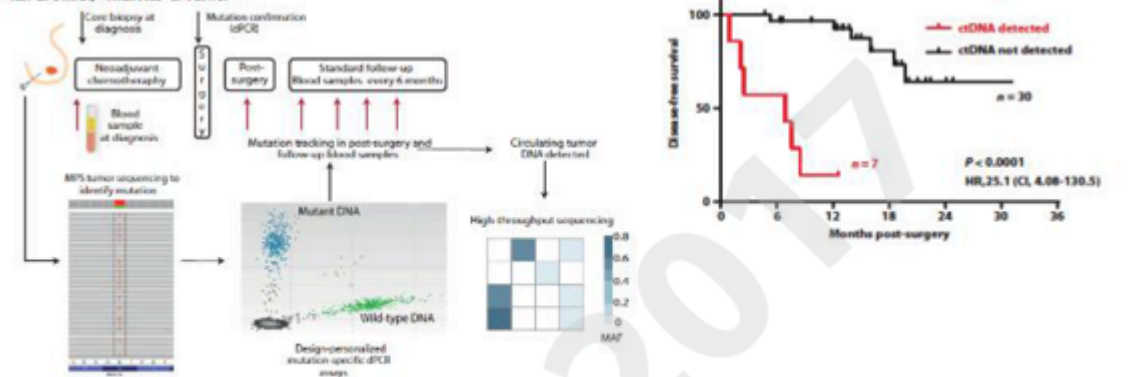
## ctDNA during surveillance to detect early relapse

### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### CANCER

### Mutation tracking in circulating tumor DNA predicts relapse in early breast cancer

Isaac Garcia-Murillas,<sup>1\*</sup> Gala Schiavon,<sup>1,2\*</sup> Britta Weigelt,<sup>3</sup> Charlotte Ng,<sup>3</sup> Sarah Hrebien,<sup>1</sup> Rosalind J. Cutts,<sup>1</sup> Maggie Cheang,<sup>4</sup> Peter Osin,<sup>3</sup> Ashutosh Nerurkar,<sup>2</sup> Iwanka Kozarewa,<sup>3</sup> Javier Armiñen Garrido,<sup>1</sup> Mitch Dowsett,<sup>1,2</sup> Jorge S. Reis-Filho,<sup>3</sup> Ian E. Smith,<sup>3</sup> Nicholas C. Turner<sup>1,2\*</sup>



# Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer

## Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational

*San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017*

### ctDNA, risk stratification and future clinical trial design

#### Future MRD Clinical Trial Paradigm



MRD  
Minimal residual disease

- ctDNA negative → • De-escalate adjuvant therapy to reduce toxicity and costs
- ctDNA positive → • Prioritize intensive and novel approaches for those most likely to benefit

# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

40<sup>th</sup> Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, December 5-9, 2017

### Circulating Tumor Cells and Late Recurrence of Breast Cancer

Joseph A. Sparano, MD<sup>1</sup>, Anne O'Neill, MS<sup>2</sup>, Katherine Alpaugh, PhD<sup>3</sup>,  
Antonio C. Wolff, MD<sup>4</sup>, Donald W. Northfelt, MD<sup>5</sup>, Chau T. Dang, MD<sup>6</sup>,  
George W. Sledge, MD<sup>7</sup>, Kathy Miller, MD<sup>8</sup>

1. Montefiore Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY; 2. Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA; 3. Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA; 4. Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Baltimore, MD; 5. Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ; 6. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY; 7. Stanford Cancer Center, Palo Alto, CA; 8. Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center, Indianapolis, IN

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# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

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### Background: Late Recurrence in ER+ Breast Cancer

- **Late recurrence - 5 or more years after diagnosis**
  - Accounts for ~ 50% of recurrences in ER+ breast cancer
  - In EBCTCG metaanalysis<sup>1</sup>, the 10-year recurrence risk in patients recurrence-free after a 5-year course of endocrine therapy:
    - 5% if 0 LN+
    - 10% if 1-3 LN+
    - 22% if 4-9 LN+
- **Adjuvant therapy and biomarkers for late recurrence**
  - Adjuvant chemotherapy ↓ early recurrence within 5 years <sup>2</sup>
  - Extended adjuvant endocrine therapy ↓ late recurrence by ~ 2-4% <sup>3-8</sup>
  - Some gene expression assays prognostic for late recurrence
    - ~ 2.5-fold ↑ recurrence risk in high vs. low risk groups <sup>9,10</sup>

(1) EBCTCG, NEJM 2017; 377: 1836-46; (2) EBCTCG, Lancet 2012; 379:432-44 (3) Goss PE et al, J Natl Cancer Inst 2005;97:1262-71. (4) Mamounas EP et al., J Clin Oncol 2008;26:1965-71 (5) Jakesz et al., J Natl Cancer Inst. 2007; 99(18):1845-53. (6) Davies C et al., Lancet. 2013 ;381:805-16. (7) Gray et al., J Clin Oncol 31, 2013 (suppl; abstr 5). (8) Goss PE et al., N Engl J Med. 2016; 375:209-219 (9) Sgroi et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2013; 105:1036-42 (10) Wolmark et al. J Clin Oncol 2016; 34:2350-58

# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium December 5-9, 2017

### Background: Rationale for Evaluation of Circulating Tumor Cells (CTCs) as a Biomarker for Late Recurrence

- **Analytical validity**
  - FDA-cleared blood test for enumerating CTCs in metastatic breast cancer <sup>1,2</sup>
- **Clinical validity**
  - CTC burden and prognosis in metastatic breast cancer <sup>1,2</sup>
  - CTC presence/burden & recurrence in early breast cancer <sup>3,4</sup>

	Lucci et al <sup>3</sup>	Rack et al <sup>4</sup>	Reithdorf <sup>5</sup>
No.	302	2026	213
CTC-Positive	24%	22%	22%
Median followup	2.9 years	2.9 years	5.6 years
Recurrence risk (CTC + vs. -)	4.6-fold ↑	2.1-fold ↑	2.9-fold ↑

(1) Cristofanilli et al. N Eng J Med 2004; 351:781-91 (2) Smerage et al. J Clin Oncol 2014; 32:3483-89 (3) Lucci et al. Lancet Oncol 2012; 13: 688-95 (4) Rack et al. JNCI 2014;106(5): dju066 doi:10.1093/jnci/dju066 (5) Reithdorf et al. Clin Cancer Res 2017; 23: 5384-5392



# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

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### Methods: Hypothesis & Study Objectives

#### Hypothesis:

CTCs are prognostic for late recurrence

#### Study Objectives:

1. Prevalence of CTCs ~ 5 years after diagnosis
2. Association between CTCs and recurrence

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### Methods: Study Design

- **Population:** Stage II-III HER2-negative enrolled in E5103 (NCT00433511)
- **Treatment:** AC-weekly paclitaxel ± bevacizumab + endocrine therapy if ER+
- **Selection:** Recurrence-free 4.5-7.5 years after diagnosis & informed consent
- **CTC Assay:** Whole blood (7.5 ml) drawn into fixative-containing tube for CTC identification and enumeration using the CellSearch® system at entry
- **Assay results:** not reported to clinicians or patients due to uncertainty regarding prognostic information

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### Methods: Analysis Plan

- **Prospective study:** planned in accordance with REMARK<sup>1</sup>
- **Sample size:** distinguish CTC+ rate <1% vs. 5-10%
  - Interim after 233 patients, halt if the CTC+ rate <1% ( $\beta=0.10$ ,  $\alpha=0.05$ )
  - Accrual continued after interim analysis, but eventually halted after 3.4 years due to slowing accrual and close to target
- **Primary analysis population:** evaluable CTC sample and no invasive recurrence before or within 30 days of entry
- **Primary endpoint: time to recurrence (TTR):** date of sample to first invasive distant and/or local/regional recurrence

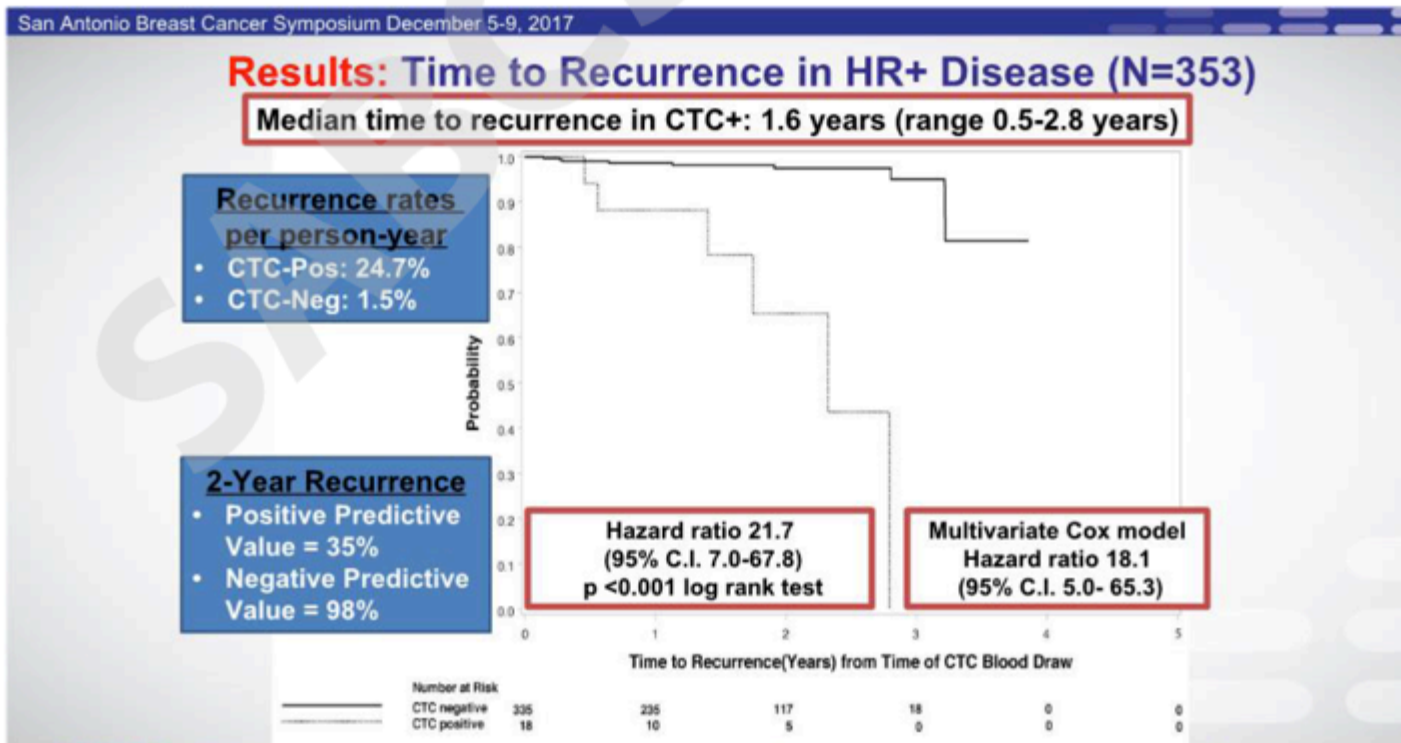
(1) McShane et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2005;97:1180-4

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cancer research group

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# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3





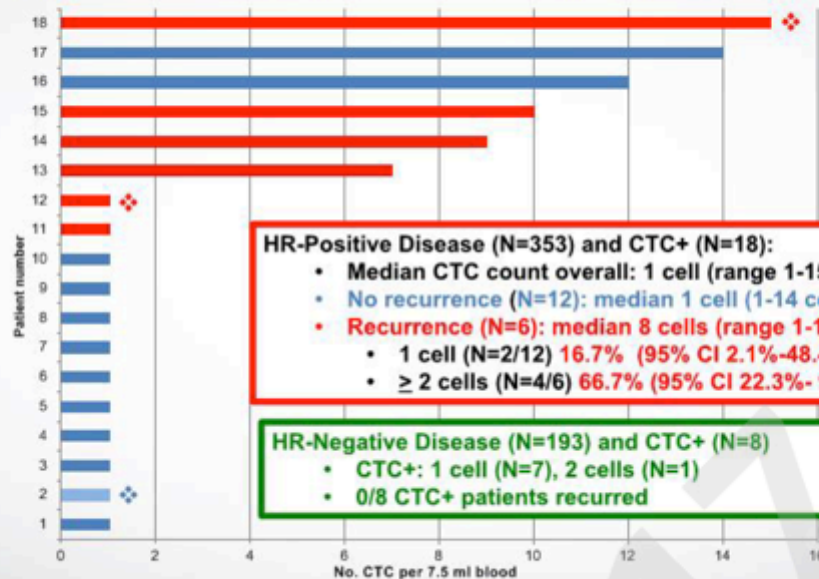
# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

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### Results: CTC Burden & Recurrence in HR+ Disease (N=18)

(all taking endocrine therapy except 3 patients denoted by symbol ❖①)



#### HR-Positive Disease (N=353) and CTC+ (N=18):

- Median CTC count overall: 1 cell (range 1-15 cells)
- No recurrence (N=12): median 1 cell (1-14 cells)
- Recurrence (N=6): median 8 cells (range 1-15 cells)
  - 1 cell (N=2/12) 16.7% (95% CI 2.1%-48.4)
  - $\geq 2$  cells (N=4/6) 66.7% (95% CI 22.3%-95.7%)

#### HR-Negative Disease (N=193) and CTC+ (N=8)

- CTC+: 1 cell (N=7), 2 cells (N=1)
- 0/8 CTC+ patients recurred

# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

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### Conclusions

- **Study objective 1: prevalence of detectable CTCs**
  - Detectable in 5% with localized HR+, HER2- breast cancer 5 years or more after diagnosis
  - After adjuvant chemotherapy and concurrent endocrine therapy
  - Also detected in 4% of HR-, HER- ("triple-negative") disease
- **Study objective 2: CTCs and clinical recurrence**
  - Prospective study - level 1 evidence supporting **clinical validity** of a positive CTC assay with clinical recurrence in HR+ breast cancer
    - Robust risk stratification (hazard ratio ~20x↑)
    - High negative predictive value (98%)
  - No association with recurrence in ER- disease, although few events in this population

# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

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### Discussion: Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths**
  - Prospective study - REMARK guidelines
  - Risk stratification in ER+ disease surpasses other assays by 10-fold
  - High negative predictive value (98%)
  - Clinicians blinded to CTC result
- **Limitations**
  - Positive CTC did not trigger imaging studies
  - Not designed to determine whether negative CTC assay could spare extended adjuvant endocrine therapy in ER+ disease
  - CTC performed only at a single time point - uncertain role of serial negative assays as a negative predictive test
  - Median followup of 1.8 years is relatively short for ER+ disease
  - CTC not evaluated in the context of other assays
  - Excluded HER2-positive disease
  - No association with recurrence in ER-negative disease

# CTC's and Late Recurrence

## Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3

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### Implications for Clinical Practice and Research

- **Proof of concept - “clinical validity”**
  - Biomarker prognostic for late recurrence in HR+, HER2- early breast cancer
  - Supports concept of a second “decision point” to tailor therapy based on biomarker results
- **Further study - “clinical utility”**
  - Negative CTC assay - spare extended adjuvant endocrine therapy
  - Positive CTC assay - benefit from novel therapeutic approaches (eg. oral SERDS, CDK4/6 inhibitors)
  - Comparison and/or combination with other biomarkers (ie, ctDNA)

# Intratumoral Heterogeneity

Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science BSF03-1

## Manifestations and implications of subclonal alterations in metastatic breast cancer

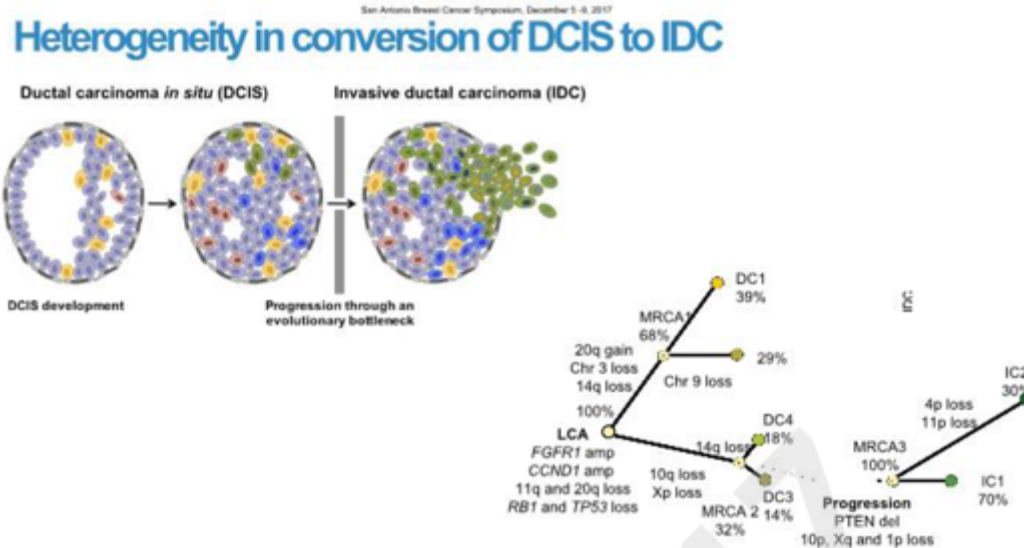
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### Intratumoral Heterogeneity

- Decades of research proving heterogeneity in cancer
- Origins are widely reported (local pressures, genomic instability, stem cells)
- Manifestations are numerous – focus here on genetic (transmittable)
- Major questions –
  - (1) where is it observed in clinical breast cancer?
  - (2) what are the implications of its presence?
  - (3) can we easily detect heterogeneity in clinical practice?
  - (4) are there implications for it in treatment decisions?

# Intratumoral Heterogeneity

Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science BSF03-1



Martelotto et al., Nature Medicine 2017

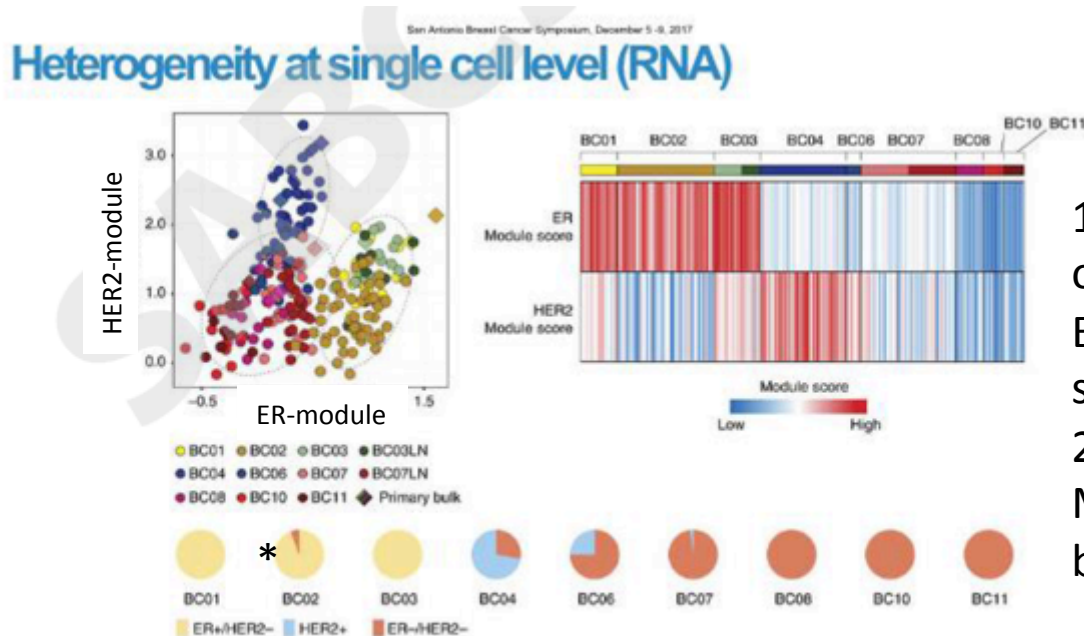
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Clonal evolution  
What does it mean  
What is relevant  
clinical actionable



# Intratumoral Heterogeneity

Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science BSF03-1



- 1) ER- and HER-module on overall gene Expression recapitulate subtypes, but
- 2) single cells could be Module ER (yellow), but by single genes TN (\*)

Chung et al., Nature Comm 2017

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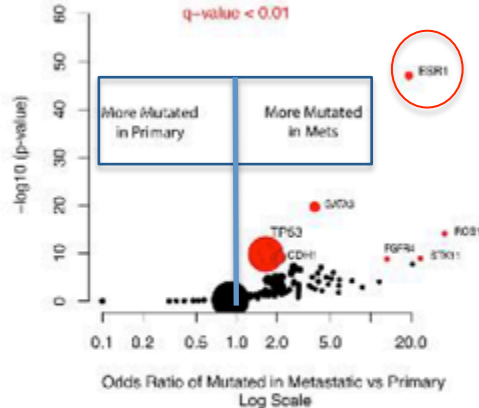
# Intratumoral Heterogeneity

Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science BSF03-1

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## Heterogeneity in MBC: ESR1

Primary and Mets



Razavi et al., AACR 2016

Primary and cfDNA

Gene	Mutation	Pre-tx tumor (06-FEB-2015)	Pre-tx cfDNA (10-FEB-2015)
AKT1	E17K	127/341 (37%)	87/331 (26%)
KEAP1	L153dup	179/561 (32%)	80/674 (12%)
NCOR1	Splice site	216/356 (61%)	26/149 (17%)
ESR1	D538G	0/325 (0%)	16/313 (5%)
NKX2-1	A102V	0/121 (0%)	12/241 (5%)

Smyth et al., manuscript in prep.

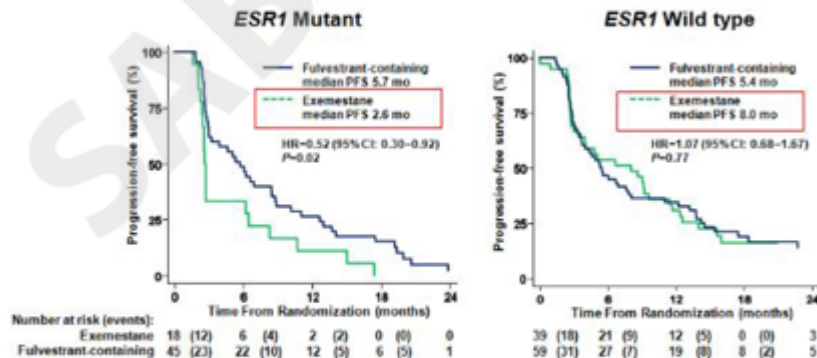


# Intratumoral Heterogeneity

Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science BSF03-1

## Subclonal alterations and resistance

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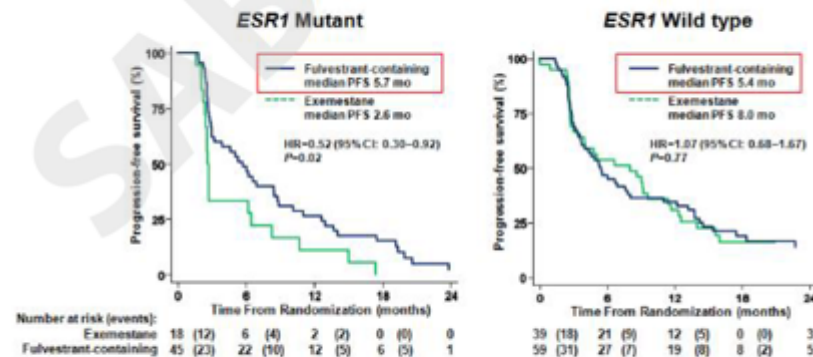


Fribbens et al., JCO 2016

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## Subclonal alterations may predict response

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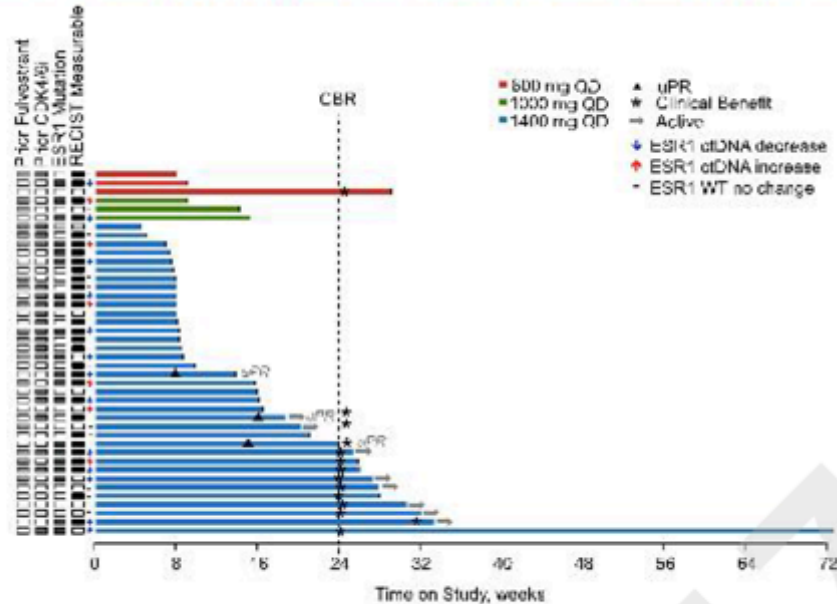
Fribbens et al., JCO 2016

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# Intratumoral Heterogeneity

Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science BSF03-1

## Response of ESR1 mutants to oral SERDs in clinic: GDC0927



# Intratumoral Heterogeneity

Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science BSF03-1

## Conclusions/Discussion

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- (1) Where is it observed in clinical breast cancer?
- (2) What are the implications of its presence?
- (3) Can we easily detect heterogeneity in clinical practice?
- (4) Are there implications for it in treatment decisions?

Early days for heterogeneity in practice  
Treatment benefit worth pursuing  
Clinical Trials – Translational science

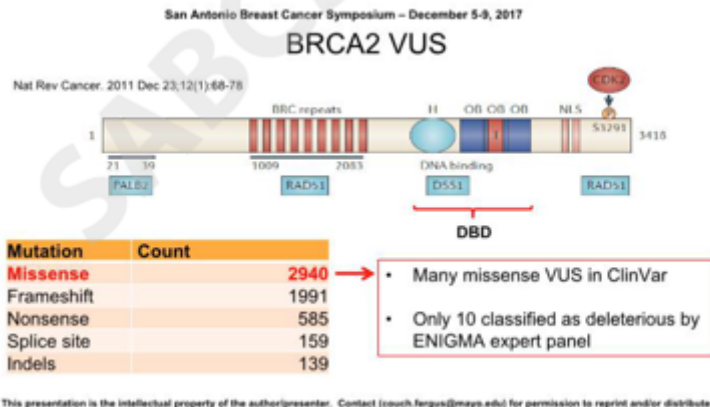
# BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment

## Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

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### BRCA1/2 Variants of Uncertain Significance (VUS)

- Missense, intronic and in-frame deletion and insertion mutations
- Many identified through predisposition panel testing
  - ~2-5% of all BRCA1/2 variants detected in U.S.A.
  - >3,000 individual BRCA1/2 VUS identified to date
- Many additional germline and somatic VUS identified through tumor sequencing



# BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment

## Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium – December 5-9, 2017

### Why are VUS problematic

Problematic for clinical management of BRCA1/2 patients

- Risk assessment of patient and family members
- Mammography/MRI screening
- Prophylactic surgery
- Treatment options (PARP inhibitors/platinum)

Most VUS will not ultimately be pathogenic

VUS should NOT be used to guide care

- Inappropriate interventions on basis of VUS
- Inappropriate reassurance

Anxiety about unresolved uncertainty

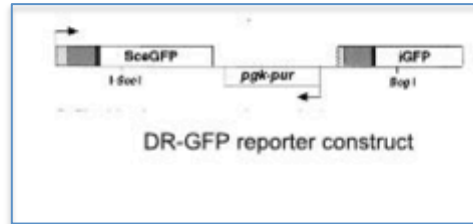
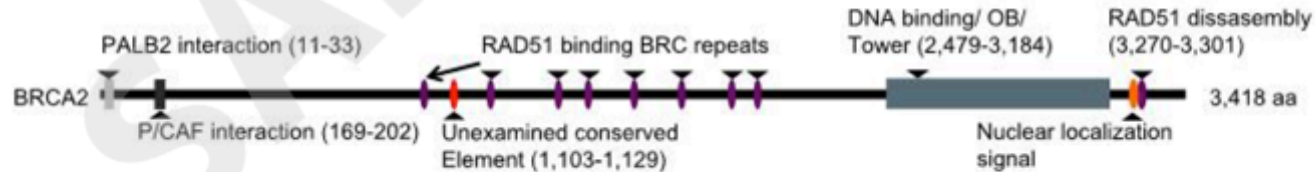
“VUS exist in all hereditary breast cancer genes”

# BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment

## Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium – December 5-9, 2017

### BRCA2 protein and Homology Directed Repair Assay



#### HDR Assay:

- functional BRCA2 repairs DNA break, resulting in green fluorescence
- non-functional > low fluorescence

# BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment

## Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

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### Validation of an *in-vitro* HDR assay

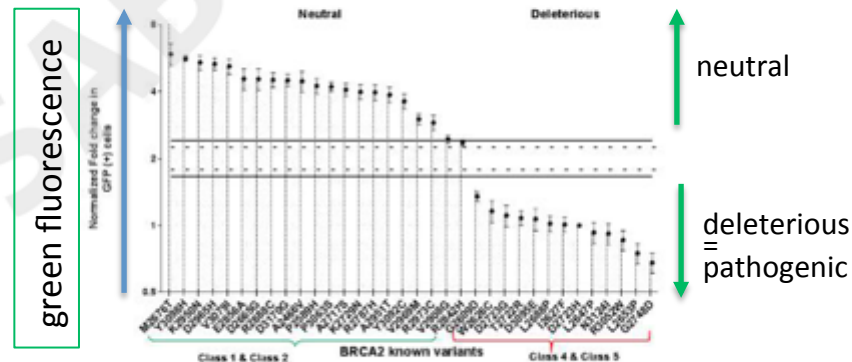
Evaluated the use of an HDR functional assay to classify BRCA2 missense variants in the DNA binding domain (DBD)

Used 19 established non-pathogenic and 13 pathogenic missense variants in DBD

HDR assay showed 100% sensitivity (95% CI: 75.3%–100%) and 100% specificity (95% CI: 81.5%–100%) for pathogenic BRCA2 variants.

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### HDR assay sensitivity and specificity



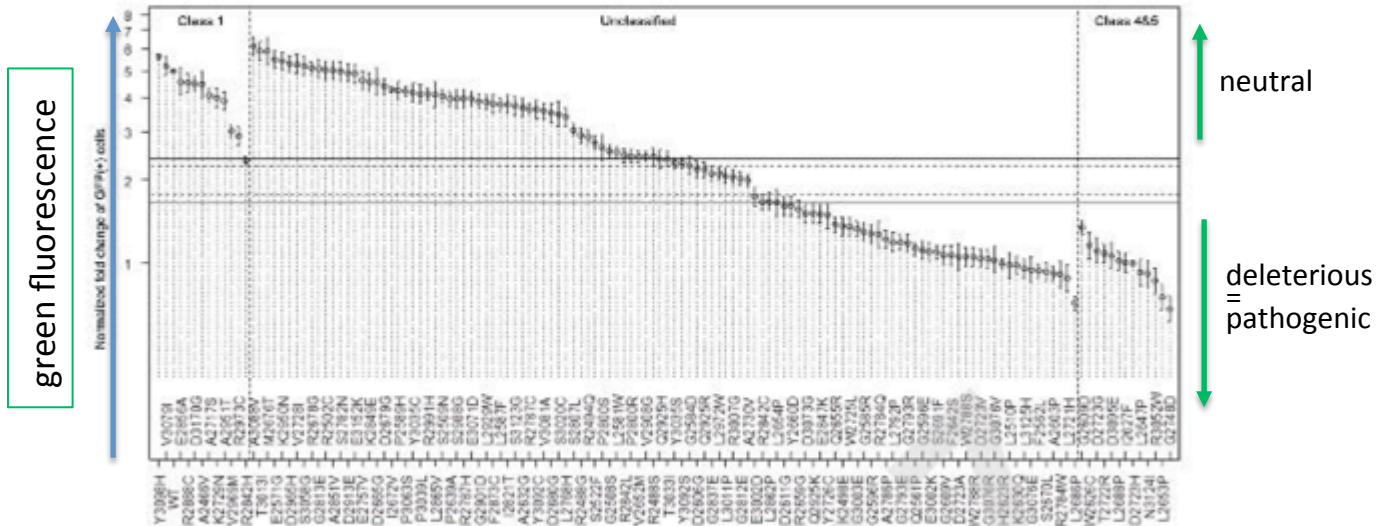


# BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment

## Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

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### Evaluated 139 BRCA2 DBD missense variants





# BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment

## Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

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### Cancer risks for missense variants in BRCA2

Ambry Genetics cases			gnomAD controls		Association with breast cancer			
BRCA2 variants	Mutated Alleles	# Cases	Mutated Alleles	# controls	OR	95%CI lower	95%CI Upper	p-value
Deleterious	62	49934	14	60010	5.32	2.97	9.73	$1.49 \times 10^{-10}$
Neutral	79	49934	63	60010	1.51	1.07	2.12	0.0179

(excluding previously BRCA tested)

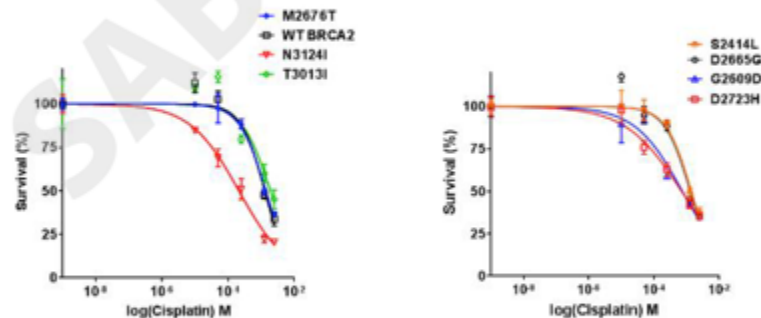
Ambry Genetics cases			gnomAD controls		Association with ovarian cancer			
BRCA2 variants	Mutated Alleles	# Cases	Mutated Alleles	# controls	OR	95%CI lower	95%CI Upper	p-value
Deleterious	14	9064	14	60010	6.63	3.10	14.14	$2.91 \times 10^{-6}$
Neutral	15	9064	63	60010	1.58	0.88	2.76	0.128

(excluding previously BRCA tested)

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San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium – December 5-9, 2017

### Influence of BRCA2 missense variants on response to cisplatin



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# BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment

## Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06

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### Summary

- Quantitative methods and standards for classification of BRCA1 and BRCA2 VUS have been developed.
- Validated functional assays allow classification of the pathogenicity of many additional VUS
- Drug response assays allow prediction of the responsiveness of tumors to targeted therapy
- Public databases providing information on BRCA1 and BRCA2 variants have been developed (ClinVar and BRCA Exchange)

# Summary of Presentations

- **Liquid Biopsies in Breast Cancer**  
Sarah Dawson, Melbourne; educational  
Nick Turner, Royal Marsden; AACR outstanding investigator award
  - > Role for ctDNA in follow-up/therapy de-escalation or escalation/clinical trials
- **CTC's and Late Recurrence**  
Joe Sparano, ECOG-ACRIN; GS06-3
  - > CTC positive associated with recurrence in ER+
- **Intratumoral Heterogeneity**  
Sarat Chandarlapaty, MSKCC; Basic Science Forum BSF03-1
  - > Still learning what heterogeneity is essential
- **BRCA2 VUS implications for risk and treatment**  
Fergus Couch, Mayo Clinic; GS4-06
  - > 'Variants of Unknown Significance', some are relevant for risk and therapy



**"Here are my  
genes..."**