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Austrian Breast & Colorectal Cancer Study Group

Annual Report

Austrian Breast & Colorectal Cancer Study Group 2020

„SCIENCE FROM THE HEART OF EUROPE“

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Introduction and Key Facts

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From Crisis to Innovation – the ABCSG Year 2020

The year 2020 was not easy for any of us. The COVID-19 pandemic has had the world firmly in its grip almost from the beginning of the year and changed our private and working lives permanently. Nevertheless, we can now also look back on a year in which we learned a lot and had to work together more intensively than ever before to overcome this unexpected global challenge.

The ABCSG study teams and the team of the ABCSG trial office have together managed to successfully continue our important clinical studies and in accordance with international quality standards despite the at times massive COVID-19-related limitations at the clinics. In 2020, our international core project ABCSG 42 / PALLAS again accounted for the largest share of the ABCSG's operational performance. At the end of May 2020, an evaluation of the results of a planned interim analysis showed that it is unlikely that the intended study goal – improved efficacy of treatment with the addition of palbociclib – can be achieved in this population of early breast carcinoma. This was also prominently presented at the ESMO Congress and has since been published in Lancet Oncology, the results of the final analysis will follow in 2021. PALLAS is unique in the history of ABCSG and it was the first time a collaboration on this scale has been coordinated and implemented from Austria in 20 countries around the world. Although the scientific hopes for an immediate further improvement in therapy have not been fulfilled, the data and tumor samples collected worldwide offer us and many international researchers great opportunities for further projects in the research of HR+, HER2- early breast cancer.

In addition to the continuous support of ongoing studies, a lot of energy went into the launch of new projects: the ABCSG 49 / POLAR and ABCSG 52 / ATHENE studies, which got off to a successful start. In 2020, the specific challenges contained recruitment efforts for the ongoing studies, generated by the pandemic and patient overload at the clinics as well as the difficult communication setting with patients. For international studies, such as the ABCSG 50 / BRCA-P study, which focuses on the prevention of breast cancer in BRCA1-positive women, recruitment of these healthy individuals is a particular challenge anyway and was further complicated this year. Nevertheless, new centers could be successfully activated and women were enrolled in this promising prevention trial. The 2020 Annual Report provides you a summarizing overview of all ABCSG breast, colorectal and pancreatic cancer studies that are recruiting as well as those in treatment and follow-up phase.

The scientific work of ABCSG was acknowledged in seven peer-review publications, with a strong focus on results of translational research questions of the ABCSG and its collaborators. The results of ABCSG 34 study were also finally released in high-ranking publications. Trans-PALLAS topics have increasingly shifted into focus in translational research projects during the year. Great progress was also made in the Cepheid TraX&Vields-01 project in validating the test usingthe ABCSG-6 cohort. Similarly, an important mile-stone was achieved by validating the OncoMasTR prognostic test in the ABCSG-8 cohort.

To make our numerous breast cancer education courses and discussion formats increasingly available virtually and for remote participation, ABCSG goes digital was launched already in the previous year as the ABCSG digitization initiative. The year 2020 has deprived us of the „classic" alternative, making us even more eager to develop, optimize and accelerate the use of digital tools. The various digital formats that we implemented in 2020 also provided us with the opportunity to address new target audiences and test new, innovative forms of scientific dialogue and peer exchange. A strong focus in 2020 also laid on exchanges among younger members of the ABCSG, as part of the newly formed Task Force FutureNow, which culminated in the first virtual exchange format of this group at the virtual ABCSG Annual Meeting in November 2020.

In the following ABCSG Annual Report 2020 you will receive an overview of our study projects and associated activities which could be excellently realized – even in these challenging times – due to our strong cohesion and team spirit.

We hope you enjoy reading it!

Sincerely,

ABCSG president and vice-presidents,
Michael Gnant, Marija Balic, Richard Greil,
Raimund Jakesz and Christian Marth

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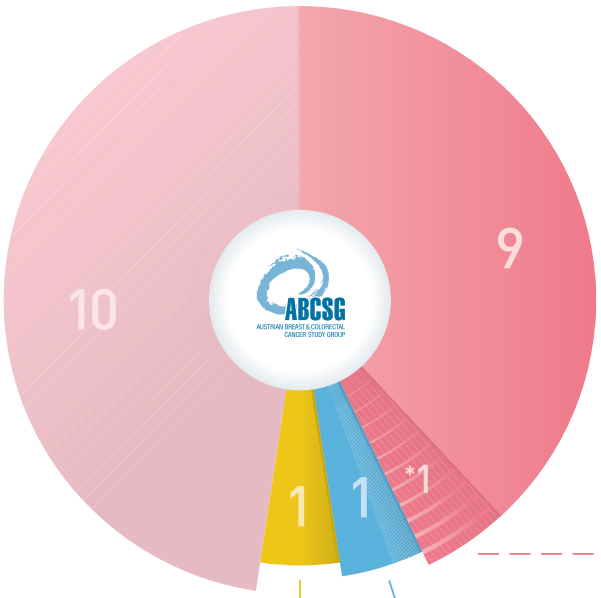
Number of patients enrolled so far

28.759

Clinical studies in enrollment, treatment and follow-up 2020



Number of enrolling breast cancer studies 2020*

*(thereof Quality of Life studies)

Number of breast cancer studies in treatment and follow-up 2020

Number of enrolling pancreas studies 2020

Number of enrolling colorectal studies 2020

Number of ...

... translational projects 2020	**3**
... enrolling studies 2020 thereof Quality of Life studies	**11** (1)
... studies in follow-up and treatment phase 2020	**10**

151

Total Publications ABCSG (peer reviewed)

Publications 2020 (peer reviewed)	**7**

ABCSG Key Facts 2020

effective date 31.12.20

Subsidiary GmbH

Year of foundation: 2015

Ownership:
99 % Association, 1 % Persons

Commercial Managing Director:
Mag. Hannes Fohler

Scientific Managing Director:
Prof. Dr. Michael Gnant

Current purpose: legal entity international registration study PALLAS

Tax status: non-profit

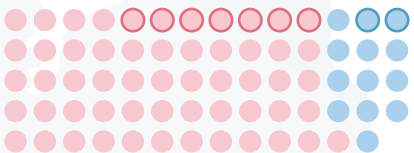
Association

Year of foundation: 1984

9 Board members
11 Members Executive Committee
46 Members General Assembly

Tax status: non-profit

Employees* (Head Count)



Number of female employees

Female employees with employee responsibility

Number of male employees

Male employees with employee responsibility

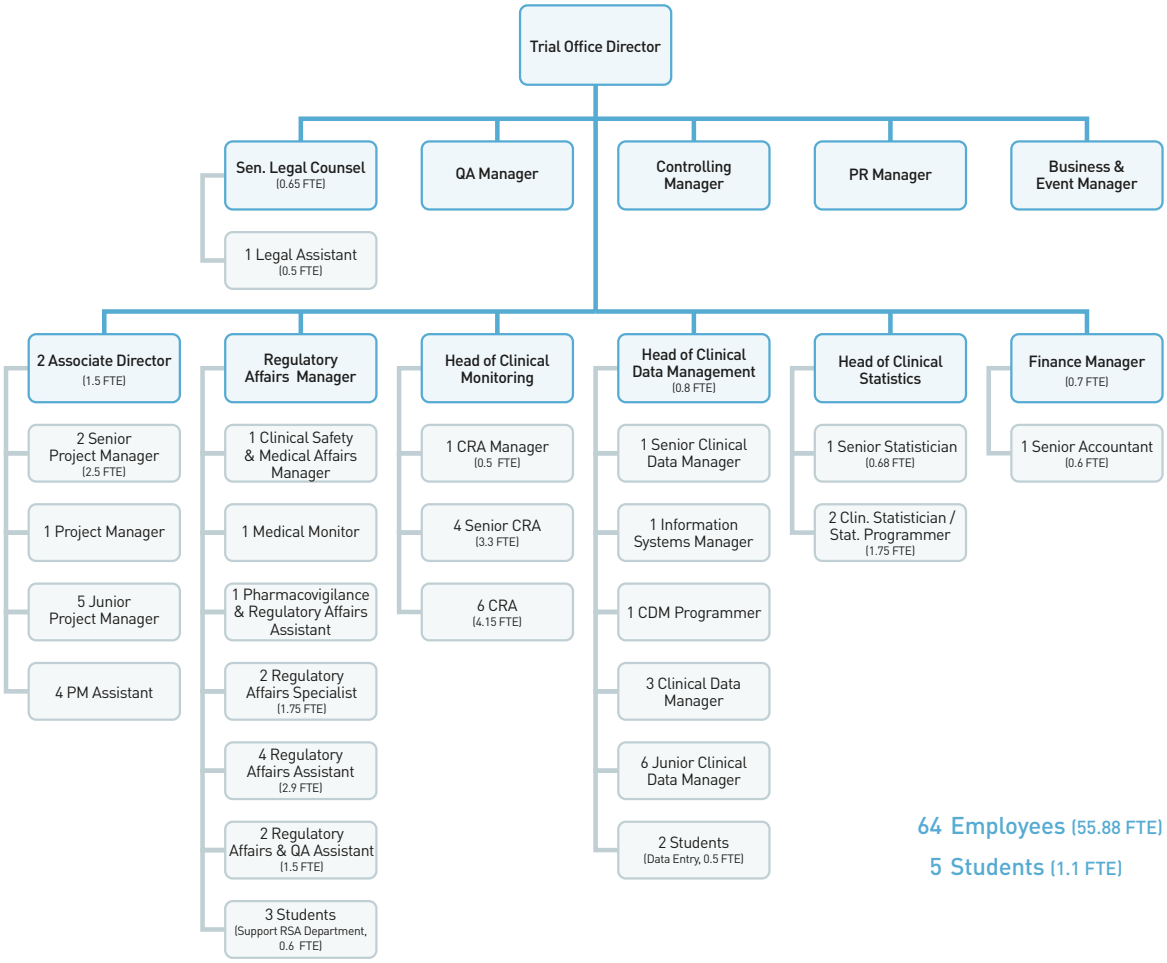
*including working students

11.9 years ...

... is the average employment duration of the ABCSG management team

Structure, Aims, Visions and International Network

ABCSG
Trial Office



64 Employees (55.88 FTE)

5 Students (1.1 FTE)

Structure, Aims and Visions

The ABCSG (Austrian Breast & Colorectal Cancer Study Group) is Austria's largest academic research organization in the field of clinical studies. Clinical studies in breast, colorectal and pancreatic cancer as well as scientific and translational research projects are planned and conducted by the ABCSG nationally but also embedded in an international network.

The primary goals are to standardize diagnostics, therapy, and follow-up treatment throughout Austria, but also internationally and to provide patients with the best possible, most recent and best suited therapy. Of great importance for the affected patients is a constant improvement of the diagnostic, prognostic but also predictive possibilities, coupled with the latest treatment options, in order to maintain a high quality of life in the long term. The ABCSG has set itself the goal of achieving continuous improvements in these areas through its studies and projects.

Multidisciplinary approaches are key to the worldwide success of the ABCSG and have contributed significantly to improving the chances of cure and patient survival. Surgeons, oncologists, gynaecologists, radiotherapists, pathologists, radiologists and, if necessary, physicians from other disciplines or basic researchers join forces to find new answers to important diagnostic and therapeutic questions about various cancers.

Since many years, studies on breast and colorectal cancer have been the focus of the ABCSG. Due to the high medical need, the ABCSG has also been conducting studies on pancreatic cancer since 2013. In order to bundle activities and to generate additional synergies, there are also smaller working groups („task forces") in various specialized and organizational areas. Currently, there are several projects and associated task forces in concrete planning stages.

The clinical trials and translational research projects are very transparent and are monitored at every stage by responsible ethics committees, the relevant authorities and a highly professional as well as dedicated operational ABCSG team. The execution of clinical trials is furthermore associated with a substantial logistical effort. In the ABCSG trial office in Vienna, highly qualified staff members are involved in the design and organization of the studies and, last but not least, in the analysis and publication of the resulting data.

The trial office is headed by the Managing Director and comprises the departments Clinical Data Management, Regulatory Affairs with Clinical Safety and Medical Affairs as well as Medical Monitoring, Project Management, Clinical Statistics, as well as a Legal Department, Quality Assurance, Business and Event Management, Finance and Controlling as well as Public Relations. Clinical Monitors / CRAs of the ABCSG, located throughout Austria, are responsible for the protocol-compliant study management and verification of the collected study data at the participating study sites.

The ABCSG – also Association for the Prevention and Therapy of Malignant Diseases – was founded in 1984 and is non-profit oriented. The name Austrian Breast & Colorectal Cancer Study Group (ABCSG) is in use as the organization name. Since 2015, also a non-profit subsidiary GmbH has been established. Its main purpose is to serve as the legal entity for the extensive international pivotal study PALLAS.

International Network

The ABCSG is part of the Breast International Group (BIG) network, the largest international association dedicated to breast cancer research and control. Overall, the ABCSG is part of a network of breast cancer study groups encompassing 65 countries and 6 continents. These include the Spanish study groups GEICAM and SOLTI and the International Breast Cancer Study Group (IBCSG), among many others. The ABCSG is involved in BIG sponsored studies as well as studies of the named partner organizations and also directly acts as a legal sponsor of international studies in which organizations of the BIG network participate. However, the ABCSG also collaborates with other organizations beyond this network: a particular example is the transatlantic academic collaboration with Alliance Foundation Trials (AFT) in the context of the phase III PALLAS trial. While AFT has the legal responsibility for this collaborative study project in the USA, the ABCSG acts as legal sponsor in 20 countries and coordinates about 250 study sites. The ABCSG is supported by many academic and commercial partners in this largest study to date, with the coordination of these multiple stakeholders being the responsibility of the professional team at the trial office headquarters. In addition to smaller and larger academic studies, the ABCSG also participates in relevant research questions in industry-initiated studies and coordinates these in Austria. Due to the large number of studies, the ABCSG has been able to generate an enormous treasure of data and this also opens up opportunities for collaboration with renowned academic institutions abroad in the context of retrospective meta-analyses and translational research questions and developments of applications or diagnostic tools. For example, data from large ABCSG studies are an essential component of collaborative high-level publications of the Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG). Furthermore, in translational projects of the ABCSG, there have been intensive collaborations with international partners, including the Centre for Cancer Prevention of the Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine at Queen Mary University of London, biotech companies such as Nanostring, Agendia, Cepheid, Myriad and OncoMark. The focus is always on the value of the proposed scientific questions and the potential benefit for patients, preferably implemented within independent academic structures. It is precisely this balanced mix of different collaborative constructs that has been the basis of the ABCSG's success for almost 40 years.

Almost 40 years – successful collaboration in the service of patients

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Studies open for Enrollment

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Scientific terms and definitions used in the study titles and descriptions are based on the official study protocols and may therefore vary between the respective texts.

ABCSG 18 AND ZOLEDRONIC ACID SUBSTUDY*

A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center Phase 3 Study to Determine the Treatment Effect of Denosumab in Subjects With Non-Metastatic Breast Cancer Receiving Aromatase Inhibitor Therapy

Coordinating Investigator: **Michael Gnant** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
12/2006 (main study/global) **02/2020** (zoledronic acid substudy/ in a national subset)	**3.400** (main study)	**Amgen**

Description and status:

ABCSG 18 study is a placebo-controlled, double-blind, multi-center phase III study. By 2013, 3.425 patients with hormone receptor-positive breast cancer had been included in the study. The standard of care for postmenopausal women with this type of breast cancer are aromatase inhibitors (AI), but these have a negative effect on bone density and significantly increase the risk of osteoporosis. The monoclonal antibody denosumab was therefore used in addition to anti-hormonal therapy in one of the two study arms. As previously reported for the study results, denosumab reduced the incidence of clinical bone fractures by 50% and generally improved bone health with no additional side effects. However, cessation of denosumab therapy is associated with a decrease in bone mass and a suggestive increase in vertebral body fractures. Bisphosphonate treatment (with e.g., zoledronic acid) after discontinuing denosumab could prevent these fractures, especially in patients who were not previously exposed to bisphosphonates and who are at high risk of fractures. To test this hypothesis, substudy 18 ZA was developed as an additional protocol. The zoledronic acid (ZA) substudy evaluates the effects of a single intravenous administration of ZA on bone mineral density, fracture incidence (clinical and morphometric), and bone turnover markers (CTX and osteocalcin). Willing and eligible patients who participated in the open label phase (OLP) of Study 18 and received OLP denosumab can choose to participate in the ZA substudy. Depending on the randomization group, they receive either a single dose of ZA (therapy arm) or are treated according to the current standard of care for this patient population (control arm). Written consent for participation in the ZA substudy can be obtained from the date of the last denosumab administration up to a maximum of 9 months afterwards. Follow-up continues for a total of 18 months after day 1. After day 1, the patients are evaluated every 6 months (at 6, 12 and 18 months (+/-2 weeks). Enrolment of eligible patients in the ZA substudy started in 2020 at selected ABCSG 18 centers and 47 patients had been randomized by the end of the year 2020. The results of this subset analysis are eagerly awaited.

* Main study in follow-up, substudy recruiting.

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ABCSG 22R-QoL

A survey conducted on the quality of life of breast cancer patients registered in ABCSG 22R

Coordinating Investigator: **Vesna Bjelic-Radisic** (Graz/Wuppertal)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
07/2019 (national)	**600**	**ABCSG**

Description and status:

The ABCSG 22R-QoL is a survey among breast cancer patients who have received hormone therapy to treat their breast cancer and whose data have already been recorded in the ABCSG patient register 22R. While in Study 22R the registration of premenopausal patients with hormone-sensitive breast cancer under existing therapy with Nolvadex® and Zoladex® was carried out and corresponding data were collected, the aim of the survey is to investigate long-term quality of life (QoL) outcome including sexual health and fertility concerns in breast cancer survivors. A total of 7 questionnaires on the topics of quality of life, sexual health, body perception, as well as specific questionnaires on fertility concerns and quality of life after menopause are issued and analyzed. The department of Gynecology at the Medical University of Graz was activated as the leading center. Completed questionnaires of 600 patients are planned within 36 months. Eleven centers throughout Austria, recruiting most of the participants for the 22R patient register, agreed to join the survey. Since the study start in July 2019, a total of 333 questionnaires were issued to patients at 11 centers. Despite temporary difficulties in accessibility of the centers due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the willingness of patients to take part in the survey remains high, making an important contribution to gaining new knowledge in medical research in regard to quality of life after cancer therapy.

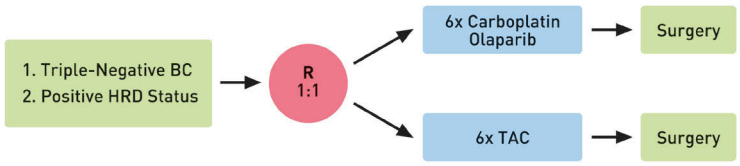
ABCSG 45

A prospective, open, randomized, phase II study of carboplatin / olaparib in the pre-operative treatment of patients with triple-negative primary breast cancer which exhibit the features of positive homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) status

Coordinating Investigator: **Christian Singer** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
11/2019 (national)	**90**	**ABCSG**

Design:



Description and status:

ABCSG 45 is an open, randomized phase II study, aiming to enroll 90 patients with early triple-negative breast cancer and homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) in their tumor tissue. The participants are randomized 1:1 to either receive neoadjuvant treatment with PARP inhibitor olaparib, in combination with carboplatin, or a neoadjuvant taxane / anthracycline-based chemotherapy (TAC) consisting of doxorubicin, docetaxel and cyclophosphamide. The study consists of 2 sub-phases: in dose-finding phase 1, the maximum tolerated olaparib dose is assessed in 20 patients at 6 sites and the identified olaparib-dose is then administered in phase 2, with an additional 70 participants in 9 centers. The primary endpoint of ABCSG 45 is the central evaluation of the residual cancer burden (RCB) after surgery following neoadjuvant treatment to compare the efficiency of 6 cycles of olaparib / carboplatin with 6 cycles of TAC. Secondly, the pathological complete remission (pCR) and the quality of life of the patients are recorded using EORTC questionnaires. In dose-finding phase 1, all 6 sites were activated by the end of 2020 and the required 20 patients were included. Phase 2 is expected to start in Q2 2021 with 9 sites and 70 additionally planned patients. Enrollment is currently planned until August 2022.

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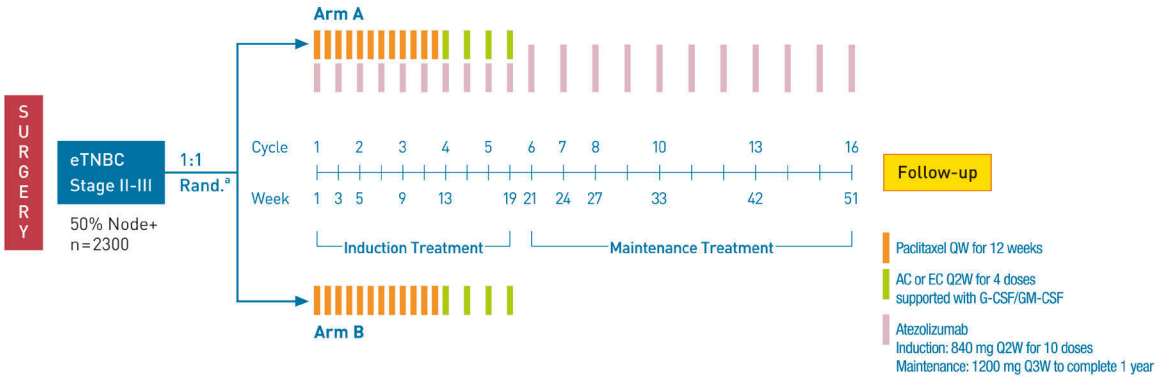
ABCSG 47 / IMpassion030 / ALEXANDRA

A Phase III, multicenter, randomized, open-label study comparing Atezolizumab (Anti PD-L1 Antibody) in combination with adjuvant anthracycline/taxane-based chemotherapy versus chemotherapy alone in patients with operable triple-negative breast cancer

Coordinating Investigator: **Günther Steger** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
08/2018 (global) **11/2019** (national)	**2.300**	**Roche**

Design:



Notes: The study population will be enriched for patients with node-positive disease such that the final population will contain no more than 50% of node-negative patients. Node-negative patients with tumors ≤ 2 cm in size are not eligible to participate in this study. G-CSF/pegylated G-CSF/GM-CSF will be used with each dose of AC/EC. In the induction period, 1 cycle = 4 weeks; in the maintenance period, 1 cycle = 3 weeks.

[a] Randomization should occur no more than 8 weeks after definite surgery, and study drug administration should begin within 1 week after randomization but no sooner than 2 weeks after surgery.

Description and status:

ABCSG 47 / IMpassion030 / ALEXANDRA is an open, randomized phase III trial to evaluate the efficiency of adjuvant treatment with PD-L1 antibody atezolizumab in patients with early triple negative breast cancer (TNBC). Immunotherapy is administered in combination with chemotherapies paclitaxel, doxo- or epirubicin and cyclophosphamide. The primary endpoint is invasive disease-free survival (iDFS) of patients who received atezolizumab plus T-AC / EC compared to T-AC / EC alone. IDFS of the subpopulation with a positive PD-L1 tumor status and questionnaires on the quality of life of the patients are the secondary endpoint. Globally, 365 centers in 30 countries had been activated by the end of 2020 and 1.455 patients were randomized. In Austria, 7 of the 8 planned centers were activated in 2020, and six patients had been included by the end of 2020.

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ABCSG 49 / POLAR

A phase III open-label, multicenter, randomized trial of adjuvant palbociclib in combination with endocrine therapy versus endocrine therapy alone for patients with hormone receptor positive / HER2-negative resected isolated locoregional recurrence of breast cancer

Coordinating Investigator: **Marija Balic** (Graz)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
11/2020 (national) **08/2019** (global)	**400**	**IBCSG**

Design:

Description and status:

ABCSG 49 / POLAR is an unblinded, multi-center, randomized phase III trial examining adjuvant palbociclib combined with endocrine therapy treatment versus endocrine therapy treatment alone for patients with hormone-receptor-positive (HR+) / human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative resected isolated locoregional recurrence of breast cancer. It is commonly known that adjuvant chemotherapy and endocrine therapy can reduce the recurrence of breast cancer in patients with primary breast cancer. However, so far only limited data is available serving as a basis for recommendations on the systemic treatment of locoregional recurrence. In view of the documented activity and safety of palbociclib in the first-line treatment of metastatic HR-positive/ HER2-negative breast cancer, there is interest in whether the benefits of CDK4/6 inhibition may translate into the adjuvant setting, which is the purpose of the present POLAR trial. The trial is sponsored by the International Breast Cancer Study Group (IBCSG) and started with the "first patient in" milestone at a site in Switzerland in August 2019. Globally, a total of 50 sites is planned to participate in countries such as Italy, Spain, Hungary, France and also four sites in Austria are involved. The recruitment phase will last 3.5 years, in order to enroll 400 patients worldwide. In Austria, 2 out of 4 sites are already active and the first patient could already be enrolled at the Medical University Innsbruck in November 2020.

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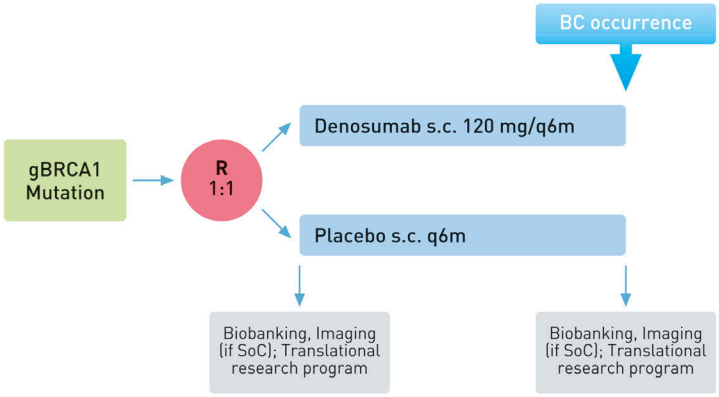
ABCSG 50 / BRCA-P

A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center International Phase 3 Study to determine the Preventive Effect of Denosumab on Breast Cancer in Women carrying a BRCA1 Germline Mutation

Coordinating Investigator: **Christian Singer** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor (Austria):
07/2019 (global and national)	**2.918**	**ABCSG**

Design:



Description and status:

The prevention study started in July 2019 at the Medical University Vienna, led by Christian Singer. ABCSG 50 / BRCA-P examines whether the preventive administration of denosumab, a drug currently used and approved to treat osteoporosis, reduces the risk to develop breast cancer. There are two arms in the study, in arm A participants receive a subcutaneous injection of 120mg denosumab every 6 months for a total of 5 years, in arm B, women are treated with a placebo at the same frequency and for the same period of time. A total of 2918 healthy women with a BRCA1 germline mutation will be randomized worldwide. Next to Austria, also Australia, Germany, Israel, Spain, UK, and the US are involved in this trial. Currently all 5 out of 5 sites are already activated in Austria and 56 women could be enrolled in total, 43 participants of them in Austria. Great progress is expected to occur in the next months, as countries like Israel, Germany, and the UK, besides the already active countries Austria, Australia and Spain, will start with their recruitment. The primary analysis will be performed when 167 primary endpoint events will have occurred, whereat the primary endpoint is defined as the occurrence of breast cancer. ABCSG is leading this study globally and is responsible for global coordination, including trial-related systems such as central data management, as well as working with local sponsors to explore whether denosumab could have a positive effect on the increased risk of breast cancer associated with a BRCA1 germline mutation in affected women.

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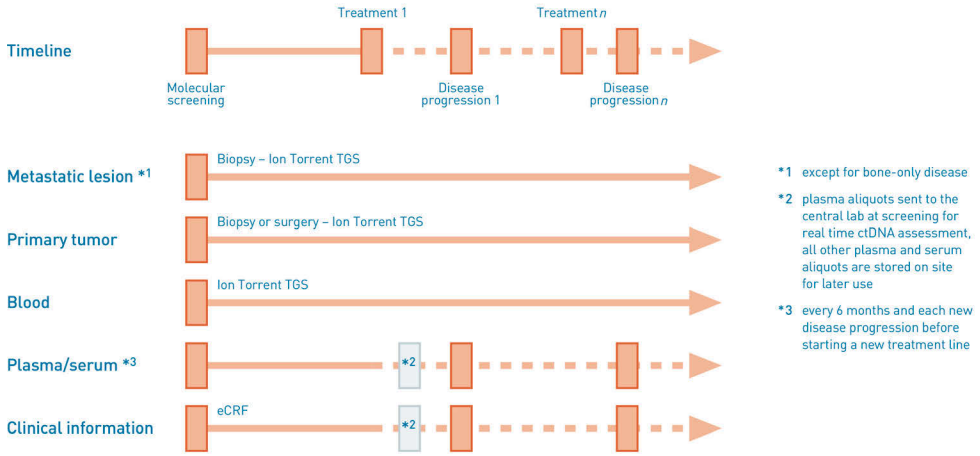
ABCSG 51 / AURORA

Aiming to Understand the Molecular Aberrations in Metastatic Breast Cancer: The AURORA Program

Coordinating Investigator: **Marija Balic** (Graz)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
09/2014 (global) **12/2018** (national)	**2.000** (revised in August 2020)	**Breast International Group** (BIG)

Design:



Description and status:

The ABCSG 51 / AURORA program is dedicated to researching the molecular characteristics of locally recurrent / advanced and metastatic breast cancer not amenable to treatment with curative intent. For this purpose, the tumor and blood samples of participants are assessed for tumor heterogeneity, clonal evolution and transcriptional changes using high-throughput sequencing technologies (NGS). In addition, bio-markers of response and resistance to systemic therapies are evaluated with help of genomic and transcriptomic data. Currently, the AURORA team at BIG is working on the first publication, which will be released in 2021. At the end of 2020, 1.067 participants worldwide were included in the research program, in Austria there were 15 participants enrolled at 4 active centers.

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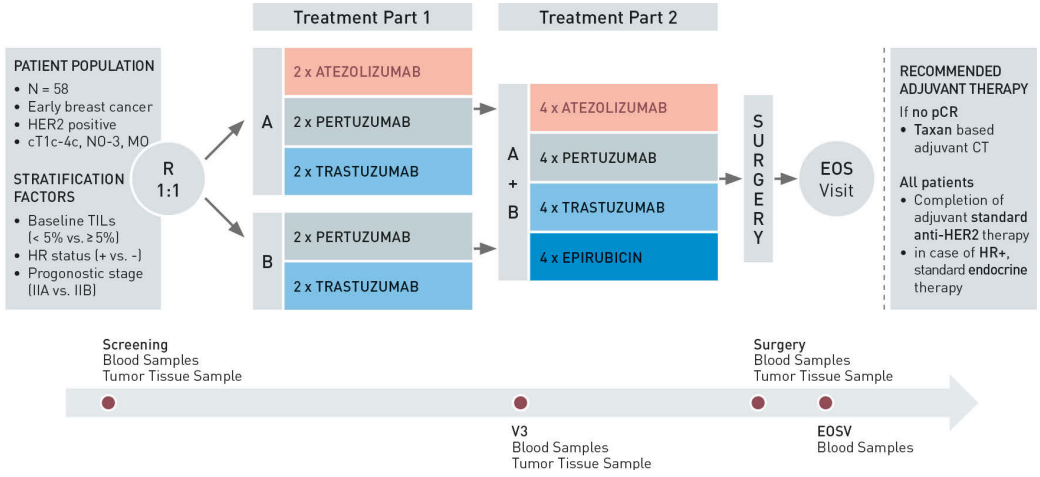
ABCSG 52 / ATHENE

An open-label, two-arm, randomized, single-stage phase II study of ATezolizumab in combination with dual HER2 blockade plus epirubicin as NEoadjuvant therapy for HER2-positive early breast cancer

Coordinating Investigators: **Richard Greil** (Salzburg) **/ Michael Gnant** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
07/2020 (national)	**58**	**ABCSG**

Design:



Description and status:

The ABCSG 52 / ATHENE study is investigating the efficacy and safety of neoadjuvant immunochemotherapy regimen consisting of atezolizumab, trastuzumab, pertuzumab and epirubicin in HER2-positive early breast cancer patients. Additionally, this study project includes a comprehensive translational research program with accordingly defined study endpoints. This academic Austrian-wide research project will be conducted at 8 study sites, whereby 7 sites are already open for study enrollment. On July 3rd, 2020 the first patient was randomized into the study at the trial site in Salzburg under the responsibility of local PI and ABCSG vice president Richard Greil. Up until end of 2020, 14 of the 58 planned patients have already been randomized: 8 out of these at the top recruiting site in Innsbruck under PI Daniel Egle. If recruitment activities continue to be as strong, end of recruitment is projected to happen by end of 2021.

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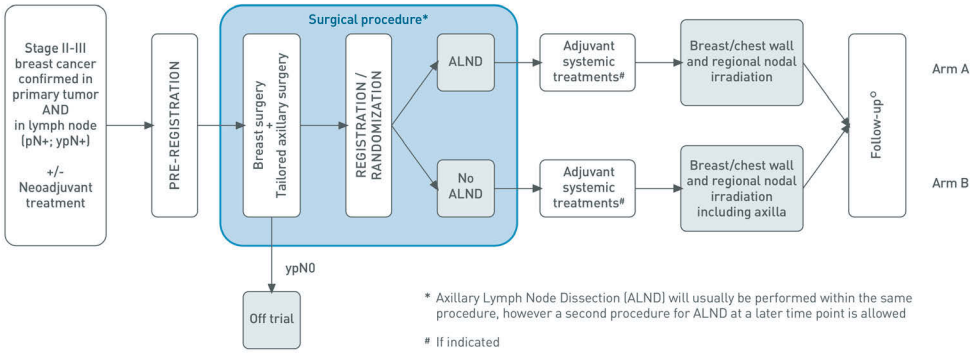
ABCSG 53 / TAXIS

Tailored axillary surgery with or without axillary lymph node dissection followed by radiotherapy in patients with clinically node-positive breast cancer (TAXIS): a multicenter randomized phase III trial

Coordinating Investigator: **Florian Fitzal** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
08/2018 (global) **12/2019** (national)	**1.500**	**SAKK**

Design:



Description and status:

ABCSG 53 / TAXIS investigates the hypothesis that ALND (axillary lymph node dissection) is no longer necessary for confirmed lymph node involvement in the initial diagnosis of breast cancer, that is, in the case of extensive regional lymph node irradiation in clinically lymph node-positive patients in the adjuvant setting or incomplete response of the affected lymph nodes in the neoadjuvant setting. For many patients who undergo ALND, the number of lymph nodes removed exceeds the number of cancerous ones. Removal of several unaffected lymph nodes increases morbidity (e.g., in the form of lymphedema, impaired shoulder mobility) without having an oncological advantage. The TAXIS study examines TAS (tailored axillary surgery), a tailor-made procedure in which the tumor-affected lymph nodes are removed. The main objective of the TAXIS study is to show that TAS and axillary radiotherapy are not inferior to ALND in terms of disease-free survival (DFS) with lymph node involvement in times of effective systemic therapy and extensive regional lymph node irradiation. As of November 2020, 25 centers in Switzerland, seven each in Austria and Germany, two in Hungary and one each in Italy and Lithuania were open for recruitment. A total of 394 patients were randomized, 29 of them in Austria. At the end of November, study enrollment had to be halted and a sponsor transfer is currently underway.

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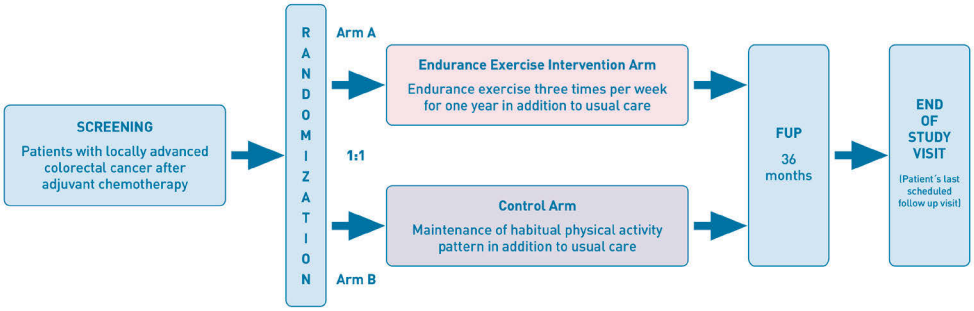
ABCSG C08 / EXERCISE II

Randomized Trial of Endurance Exercise following adjuvant Chemotherapy for Colorectal Cancer

Coordinating Investigator: **Josef Thaler** (Wels-Grieskirchen)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
11/2018 (national)	**100** (feasibility study) **788** (main study)	**ABCSG**

Design:



Description and status:

ABCSG / C08 II study is a randomized, two-arm, multicenter trial to investigate the efficacy of endurance exercise following adjuvant chemotherapy in patients with colorectal cancer. Patients have the opportunity to participate in a study aiming to reduce relapse rates and improve the quality of life by an increase of their physical activity. Patients within the training group get individually supervised training based on regularly performed ergometries. They are encouraged to complete the endurance training three times a week for an intended period of 12 months. After a slow building up phase during the first months, the time required for training is estimated with three hours per week.

In addition to the usual follow-up care after a colorectal cancer treatment, a variety of other parameters such as increased physical performance, quality of life, metabolic parameters or molecular markers are assessed in the course of the study. Prior to the final analysis, an advanced feasibility investigation will be performed based on the first 100 randomized patients aiming to evaluate patient recruitment as well as patient compliance. By the end of 2020, a total of 23 patients have been included at 5 out of 8 activated sites.

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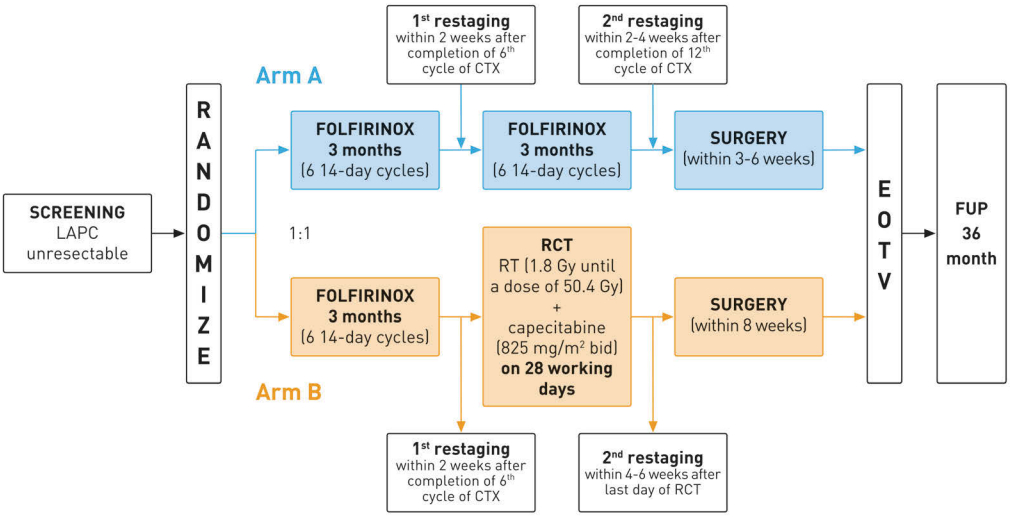
ABCSG P02

A prospective randomized phase II trial of FOLFIRINOX alone versus FOLFIRINOX followed by radiochemotherapy in patients with locally advanced, primarily inoperable pancreatic cancer

Coordinating Investigators: **Carmen Döller** (Graz) / **Gerald Prager** (Vienna) / **Martin Schindl** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
05/2017 (national)	**112**	**ABCSG**

Design:



Description and status:

ABCSG P02 is the second pancreas-related project organized by ABCSG. Patients with locally advanced, primarily irresectable (irresectable and borderline irresectable) pancreatic cancer are enrolled into this Austrian-wide clinical trial. Primarily, this study was designed to demonstrate, that within this patient collective a neoadjuvant chemotherapy, followed by concurrent radiochemotherapy is superior to neoadjuvant chemotherapy alone in terms of R0-resectability. Study start and "first patient in" occurred on March 23rd, 2017 at the study site Ordensklinikum Linz – Elisabethinen. According to the study protocol, 112 patients are planned to be randomized into the study and currently 66 patients have been recruited. All seven participating trial sites have already randomized study patients. This academic project sponsored by ABCSG offers the opportunity to answer important questions for a patient cohort that has been usually presented with limited possibilities for study participation.

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Studies in Treatment Phase and Follow-up

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Scientific terms and definitions used in the study titles and descriptions are based on the official study protocols and may therefore vary between the respective texts.

ABCSG 25 / PANTHER

A randomized phase III study comparing biweekly and tailored epirubicin + cyclophosphamide followed by biweekly tailored docetaxel (dtEC→dtT) (A-arm) versus three weekly epirubicin + cyclophosphamide, 5-fluorouracil followed by docetaxel (FEC→T) (B-arm) in lymph node positive or high-risk lymph node negative breast cancer patients – a continuation of the feasibility part of the SBG 2004-1 study

Coordinating Investigator: **Richard Greil** (Salzburg)

Start of study: **02/2007** (global) **/ 10/2007** (national)

Sample size: **2.000**

Sponsor: **ABCSG** (Co-Sponsor) **and SBG**

Description and status:

This controlled, randomized, adjuvant phase III study examines the effects of a dose-dense chemotherapy tailored to the individual breast cancer patient compared with standard chemotherapy. In the course of the tailored chemotherapy, affected women received the active ingredients epirubicin and cyclophosphamide (dtEC) at the beginning of therapy and were then treated with the active ingredient docetaxel (dtT) after a three-week break. The individually assessed dose was based on changes of the blood count triggered by the therapy. This therapy impact on the blood count varies between patients. The control group was treated with standard chemotherapy starting with fluorouracil, epirubicin und cyclophosphamide (FEC), after a three-week break resuming with docetaxel (T) without any adjustments based on the laboratory values. This project is conducted as a collaboration between the Scandinavian Breast Group (SBG) and the ABCSG and is currently in the follow-up phase. Austrian, Swedish, and German sites are involved with 2017 enrolled patients in total. In Austria, 465 patients at 16 sites could be enrolled in this study. First results show no significant difference in the 5-year overall and disease-free survival between the two arms. However, with the individually tailored therapy, a significantly better event-free survival could be observed compared to the control group. Results were already presented at international breast cancer conferences, such as ASCO 2016, ESMO 2017, and were also successfully published (Foukakis T et al, JAMA 2016). Scientific sub-projects are currently being planned.

ABCSG 28 / POSYTIVE

Primary Operation in SYnchronous meTastasized InVasivE breast cancer, a multicenter prospective randomized study to evaluate the use of local therapy

Coordinating Investigator: **Florian Fitzal** (Vienna)

Start of study: **11/2010** (national)

Sample size: **254**

Sponsor: **ABCSG**

Description and status:

The purpose of the POSYTIVE study is to follow the disease progression of patients suffering from metastasized breast cancer where the main tumor is removed by surgery. The control arm of the randomized trial consists of patients where such breast surgery is only carried out on demand, e.g. bleeding or infections have occurred. A total of 90 patients were randomized at 14 centers throughout Austria. The recruitment was stopped prematurely on November 6th, 2015 whereupon all patients transitioned into the 5-year follow-up phase which ended in October 2020. The results of the study could not demonstrate a benefit for patients within the surgery arm in terms of survival, instead the data indicated a trend towards the opposite. These findings were published in 2018 by Florian Fitzal in the journal „Annals of Surgery". Another publication by Vesna Bjelic-Radisic on the quality of life of the study participants was published in June 2020 in the "British Journal of Cancer". The surveys revealed that the surgery didn't alter the quality of life, however reported health status and physical functioning were predictors for the survival of the patients.

ABCSG 31 / ALTTO

A randomized, multi-center, open-label, phase III study of adjuvant lapatinib, trastuzumab, their sequence and their combination in patients with HER2/ErbB2 positive primary breast cancer

Coordinating Investigator: **Michael Gnant** (Vienna)

Start of study: **07/2007** (global) **/ 01/2010** (national)

Sample size: **8.000**

Sponsor: **Novartis** (formerly GlaxoSmithKline)

Description and status:

The primary objective of the ALTTO trial is to compare the impact of adjuvant therapy with lapatinib versus trastuzumab versus their sequential administration on disease-free survival (DFS) in patients with HER2 overexpressing and/or amplified breast cancer. Global recruitment of this international study is already closed, and patients are currently in the study follow up. The last Austrian patient visit was already completed in May 2020 at the trial site Villach and all Austrian patients have thus completed study participation. The global "last patient last visit" date is scheduled for July 2021, according to the current study protocol, and a global data base lock is planned for October 21st, 2021, with study results being awaited thereafter. Subsequently, remaining site closure activities will be concluded at the currently still open Austrian trial sites.

ABCSG 36 / PENELOPE^{B}

Phase III trial to evaluate palbociclib (PD-0332991), a cyclin kinase 4/6 inhibitor, in patients with hormone receptor positive, HER2-negativ primary breast cancer and a high risk of relapse following neoadjuvant chemotherapy

Coordinating Investigator: **Michael Gnant** (Vienna)

Start of study: **11/2013** (global) **/ 07/2015** (national)

Sample size: **1.250**

Sponsor: **GBG**

Description and status:

PENELOPE^{B} is an international phase III trial evaluating the effect of palbociclib combined with endocrine therapy on invasive disease-free survival (iDFS) in patients with HR-positive/HER2-negative primary breast cancer and high relapse risk after neoadjuvant chemo-therapy. The global enrollment goal was achieved by the end of 2017. Worldwide, 1.694 screenings were performed, followed by randomization of 1.250 patients. Overall, in this study in Austria, 19 centers were activated, 42 screenings were performed, and 25 patients were enrolled. Final analysis on the primary endpoint was completed in early autumn 2020 and revealed that the trial did not meet the primary endpoint of improved iDFS. The results were recently presented at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS Virtual Meeting) 2020.Following the recommendation of the trial´s IDMC (Independent Data Monitoring Committee) the long term-follow up will continue until 2023 (planned study end). Moreover, translational research projects and subgroup analyses will be carried out.

ABCSG 39 / APHINITY

A randomized multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled comparison of chemo-therapy plus trastuzumab plus placebo versus chemotherapy plus trastuzumab plus pertuzumab as adjuvant therapy in patients with operable HER2-positive primary breast cancer.

Coordinating Investigator: **Günther Steger** (Vienna)

Start of study: **10/2011** (global) **/ 05/2012** (national)

Sample size: **4.800**

Sponsor: **Roche**

Description and status:

In Austria, a total of 52 patients could be included in the APHINITY study at 11 sites. The trial is currently in the follow-up phase, which was originally planned to end in Q3 2023 but will be extended by 5 years, until Q4 2028. The extension is due to a request by the European Medicines Agency (EMA), to ensure that the definitive analysis of the study's objective overall survival is met. The results of the 2nd interim analysis on overall survival (OS) and invasive disease-free survival (IDFS) will be published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology in 2021. In December 2020, three posters on APHINITY were presented at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS Virtual Meeting). In addition, an abstract submission for the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) is planned for 2021.

ABCSG 41 / OLYMPIA

A randomised, double-blind, parallel group, placebo-controlled multi-centre Phase III study to assess the efficacy and safety of olaparib vs placebo as adjuvant treatment in patients with germline BRCA 1/2 mutations and high risk HER2-negative breast cancer who have completed definitive local treatment and neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy

Coordinating Investigator: **Christian Singer** (Vienna)

Start of study: **03/2017** (global) **/ 01/2015** (national)

Sample size: **1.800**

Sponsor: **AstraZeneca**

Description and status:

This international study project, exploring the efficacy and safety of study medication olaparib, recruited HER2 negative high-risk breast cancer patients with germline BRCA 1/2 mutations. The primary objective is to assess the effect of adjuvant treatment with olaparib on invasive disease-free survival (IDFS). This AstraZeneca sponsored trial reached global end of recruitment on May 28th, 2019 with 1.836 patients randomized. The initially planned recruitment target of the participating Austrian trial sites was 47 patients and due to the excellent recruitment activity, a total of 53 Austrian patients could be enrolled up until the end of recruitment. According to the current study protocol, the study will last until 2028. Data from study start until the reporting of the 165th IDFS event were considered for the OlympiA interim analysis and the global database lock was reached on December 15th, 2020. Results of that interim analysis have not been shared by the end of 2020. Preparations for the planned Primary Analysis are under way.

ABCSG 42 / PALLAS

PALbociclib CoLlaborative Adjuvant Study: A randomized phase III trial of Palbociclib with standard adjuvant endocrine therapy versus standard adjuvant endocrine therapy alone for hormone receptor positive (HR+) / human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative early breast cancer

Coordinating Investigator: **Michael Gnant** (Vienna)

Start of study:	Sample size:	Sponsor:
09/2015 (global) **10/2015** (national)	**5.600**	**ABCSG** (20 countries) **AFT** (US)

Description and status:

The adjuvant early breast cancer study ABCSG 42 / PALLAS (AFT-05 / BIG14-03) is ABCSG's largest trial and a successful cooperation between academic and industrial partners. The trial is conducted in 21 countries and ABCSG acts as legal sponsor in cooperation with the BIG network, for all 20 non-US countries involved. Recruitment was closed in late 2018, enrolling over 5.700 patients worldwide. The analysis of the scheduled second interim analysis of PALLAS showed that the addition of palbociclib to standard endocrine therapy was unlikely to provide the expected benefit to patients. Importantly, however, no safety concerns were raised by this analysis. This result led the Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC) to recommending to prematurely end the treatment phase of PALLAS. Upon the subsequent Steering Committee decision, all remaining active PALLAS patients were moved to the follow-up phase of the trial in June 2020. The follow-up phase will be conducted as per protocol and Trans-PALLAS biosample collection during follow-up was even extended to collect additional blood samples 7- and 10-years post-randomization, respectively. The dataset and analysis of the second interim analysis resulted in the first successful publication of PALLAS trial data, which was accepted for publication in Lancet Oncology. The event size pre-defined to trigger the final analysis was reached on November 20th 2020, with 469 documented iDFS events. Data cleaning and analysis is projected to be completed by May 2021, hopefully resulting in further insightful publications and presentations later in 2021. Keeping as many PALLAS patients in the extensive, ongoing follow-up phase of the study is a main aim of the current study phase. This will continue to ensure patient safety through close long-term monitoring and is continuously generating a valuable data resource that will be used to address questions aimed at understanding and developing treatment of early breast cancer in the future. Conceptualizing and planning of Trans-PALLAS projects has already commenced and is promising to keep the world-wide PALLAS teams engaged with this cohort for many years to come. RNA Sequencing of baseline tumor samples will commence within the first half of 2021, generating an immense genomic dataset, potentially useful to address a multitude of scientific objectives. Additionally, harmonized, international research calls for project proposals will be announced within 2021 to all PALLAS Investigators. The ABCSG would like to express gratitude towards the entire PALLAS study team, all global partners and study sites as well as supporters for their ongoing hard work and dedication.

ABCSG 43 / INSEMA

Comparison of axillary sentinel lymph node biopsy versus no axillary surgery in patients with stage I and II invasive breast cancer and breast-conserving surgery: a randomized prospective surgical trial

Coordinating Investigator: **Michael Knauer** (St. Gallen)

Start of study: **09/2015** (global) **/ 03/2016** (national)

Sample size: **5.505**

Sponsor: **University of Rostock**

Description and status:

Nine ABCSG centers were active in this prospective surgical study headed by the University of Rostock. The study investigates whether a sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB) could be refrained from if the axilla is clinically and sonographically normal. The first randomization step (Rando 1) was carried out only in Germany and Salzburg and divided the patients into the arms „no SLNB" or „SLNB" in a 1:4 ratio. In the second randomization step (Rando 2), in which other ABCSG centers in Austria also participated in, those patients who had received an SLNB and had a maximum of one to three macrometastases in the sentinel lymph nodes, were randomized either into an axillary dissection (ALND) arm or waiver on the same. Patients with four or more affected sentinel lymph nodes were completely operated on via ALND. The primary endpoint is invasive disease-free survival (IDFS) after breast-conserving surgery. A total of 158 patients were randomized at Austrian centers, 132 of them in Salzburg who took part in both randomization steps. Patients are currently in follow-up and the final analysis is planned for end of 2024.

ABCSG 48 / POSITIVE

A study evaluating the pregnancy outcomes and safety of interrupting endocrine therapy for young women with endocrine responsive breast cancer who desire pregnancy (POSITIVE)

Coordinating Investigator: **Vesna Bjelic-Radisic** (Graz/Wuppertal)

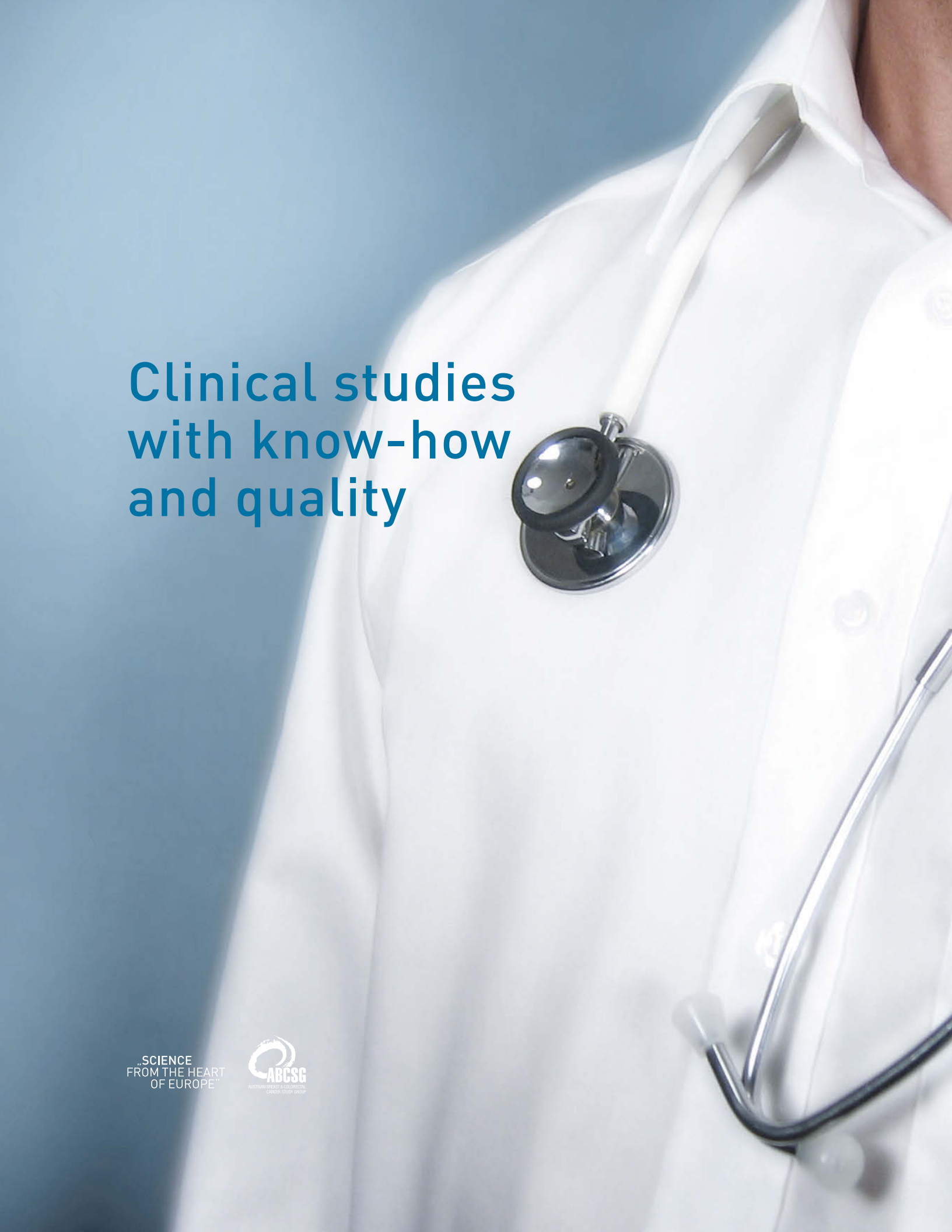
Start of study: **12/2014** (global) **/ 04/2018** (national)

Sample size: **500**

Sponsor: **IBCSG**

Description and status:

For the first time in Austria, it is being examined whether an interruption of endocrine breast cancer therapy is possible without disadvantages for the patient in order to pursue the wish to become pregnant. The study is led by the International Breast Cancer Study Group (IBCSG) with a total of 20 countries involved, such as the US, Canada, the Netherlands, Ireland, Greece and Austria, among others. Four ABCSG sites are participating in this trial: centers in Graz, Salzburg, Vienna and Innsbruck are contributing to this project. 518 patients were enrolled, thereof seven in Austria. Of note, the POSITIVE study already counted almost 300 pregnancies and almost 200 babies were born in the course of study participation. Data, collected in the trial, are of high relevance to all physicians, as they are often confronted with the patient's wish to become pregnant without any evidence-based information being available for that setting. The trial is already closed for enrollment, pregnant patients and patients who have already given birth are currently pausing treatment before the follow-up phase begins with the resumption of endocrine therapy.



Clinical studies with know-how and quality

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Translational Studies and Projects

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Translational Studies and Projects

Translational studies, which aim at developing, testing, and validating new biomarkers, tumor signatures or assays, are increasingly gaining significance within modern oncology. These studies are often the basis for novel diagnostic tools and thereby for targeted and personalized therapies, which are becoming more common in clinical trials and daily practice. ABCSG is involved in – and operationally conducts – numerous translational research projects and collaborations as the extensive collection of biosamples and data from former ABCSG trials is a valuable resource for such projects.

The GIANTESS project, in cooperation with Agendia, was conducted in the ABCSG-8 cohort and was aimed at evaluating the predictive and prognostic performance of breast cancer signatures by Agendia. Within this project, MammaPrint®, BluePrint®, Indolent Signature and Tamoxifen Resistence Signature(s) were evaluated using available tissue samples from the ABCSG-8 cohort. All laboratory analyses were conducted in the ABCSG biobank at the Medical University of Vienna and statistical analyses were done by the ABCSG statistical team. The main data analysis has already been concluded and is currently being prepared for publication.

The TraX&Vields project in collaboration with Cepheid is one of ABCSG's largest endeavors, as it includes work packages for multiple former ABCSG trial patient cohorts. The main aim of all work packages is twofold: the Cepheid GeneXpert Breast Cancer STRAT4 is a novel test to reliably, reproducibly, and quantitatively test common tumor markers using their mRNA expression levels. This test is to be validated in a number of ABCSG trial patient cohorts and has already achieved CE-certification in some countries. Secondly, a prognostic breast cancer signature to predict the recurrence risk of early breast cancer patients is to be developed and validated. In 2020, a new predictive breast cancer signature (Xpert Insight) has come into focus and is planned to be validated in various ABCSG cohorts as well.

Work is continuing on a number of Cepheid work packages in parallel: for the Trax&Vields-05 project (ABCSG-34 cohort), clinical follow-up data is currently being collected from former ABCSG-34 patients. This data will be used to validate a prognostic breast cancer signature and for further explorative analysis of the STRAT4 test. All laboratory work on available tumor samples stored from this cohort in the ABCSG biobank has been completed already and the validation of STRAT4 concordance data is already complete as well. Data analysis using the extended clinical follow-up data will be the final step int this cohort planned for 2021.

Great progress was also made in the TraX&Vields-01 work package (ABCSG-6 cohort): all laboratory work and analysis regarding the concordance data for the STRAT4 test have been concluded successfully and the promising data is currently being prepared for a scientific publication. A formerly tested breast cancer signature was also trained and re-trained in this cohort, however, did not yield re-assuring results.

Also, the work packages concerning ABCSG-8 and ABCSG-12 cohorts are progressing: the protocols for validating the STRAT4 and new breast cancer signature are currently being developed and finalized to be submitted to respective Ethics Committees in 2021.

Another exciting translational project is being conducted in cooperation with OncoMark. This project includes biosamples and data available in the ABCSG-8 cohort to validate the OncoMasTR Test. The OncoMasTR Test is a novel, prognostic breast cancer signature to predict the recurrence risk of early breast cancer patients. It uses a combination of analysis of mRNA expression of tumor markers and clinical data and is ultimately developed to be a supportive diagnostic tool for treating clinicians. The reliable estimation of recurrence risk of a patient can be extremely helpful in choosing the most promising therapy for a patient, and thereby increasing a patient's quality of life significantly. The protocol was finalized in 2019, laboratory analyses in the ABCSG biobank were completed in mid-2020 and statistical analysis was performed by the ABCSG statisticians. Preliminary, yet very promising results, were presented at the ABCSG Annual Meeting in November 2020 and a publication is planned for 2021.

Outlook and planned studies 2021

Despite the pandemic having severely impacted some activities across the clinical research landscape in 2020, there are several new projects in the pipeline and their launch at ABCSG is planned for 2021.

Another ABCSG initiated and legally sponsored clinical study will be the non-interventional study (NIS) ABCSG 55 N. The study is designed as a single-arm, two cohort, multicenter NIS, collecting data of patients with HER2-positive early breast cancer that receive pertuzumab and trastuzumab in Austria. The previously published results from the APHINITY trial (BIG 4-11 / BO25126) did not only show that pertuzumab significantly improved the rates of invasive-disease–free survival (IDFS) among patients with HER2-positive, operable breast cancer when added to trastuzumab and chemotherapy in the adjuvant setting; it was also demonstrated that the absolute benefit of adjuvant pertuzumab was higher in patients with axillary lymph node metastases, suggesting that the identification of high-risk patients harbors significant potential for improving the targeted indication of pertuzumab in the adjuvant setting. It is therefore planned to retrospectively as well as prospectively include a total of 500 patients treated with dual HER2-blockade in the neoadjuvant setting and the aim of this ambispective analysis is to develop a dynamic composite risk score to predict the risk of distant recurrence.

In addition, global collaborations in large clinical trials will be further strengthened in 2021.

For example, it is planned to participate in the international phase III trial ALPHABET within the BIG network under the sponsorship of the Spanish GEICAM study group. This randomized trial of trastuzumab + alpelisib +/- fulvestrant versus trastuzumab + chemotherapy will include 300 patients with previously treated HER2-positive advanced breast cancer, harboring PIK3CA mutations. Patients will be stratified per their hormone receptor status and subsequently randomized into either experimental or control arm in a 1:1 manner. The primary aim of this trial is to determine whether the PIK3CA inhibitor alpelisib + trastuzumab improve efficacy, as measured by progression-free survival (PFS), compared to trastuzumab + chemotherapy in previously treated HER2-positive, PIK3CA mutated advanced breast cancer patients.

In the course of our well-established cooperation with various pharmaceutical partners, additional study proposals are being developed within the ABCSG board and executive committees, primarily focusing on mamma and colorectal carcinoma entities.

Continuing Education and Activities

Continuing Education and Activities

In 2020, the ABCSG offered a total of nine DFP-approved*, on-site and digital educational formats on various topics related to state-of-the-art breast cancer diagnosis and therapy. Due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, a particularly large number of formats were implemented digitally and can be accessed for the most part without time constraints via the new ABCSG Members Area on the ABCSG website abcsg.at. In addition to the training and continuing education of investigators, the focus was also on the continuing education of study personnel. Here, digital channels were used for the dissemination of information as well as conventional training courses were implemented virtually. The digital presence of the ABCSG on social media and websites, as well as traditional press relations, are the cornerstones of ABCSG communication and will be further intensified in the future.

7. Post-SABCS

About one month after the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS), the most important data from this important breast cancer conference are summarized by ABCSG rapporteurs at the annual post-SABCS educational event in Vienna and presented to a constant regular audience of about 200 participants. On the 10th of January 2020, the ABCSG, together with the medical publishing house Universimed, hosted this popular educational event for the seventh time. The afternoon was led by ABCSG Vice President Marija Balic and ABCSG President Michael Gnant. At that time, the participants had no idea that this ABCSG educational event would be the last on-site event for for many months to come.

* "Diplom-Fortbildungs-Programm" – a continuing education program of the Austrian Medical Chamber

eTreat

After the COVID-19 pandemic hit our country this spring, many ABCSG continuing education formats shifted to live digital streams and e-learnings. eTreat was the first planned ABCSG-owned e-learning in the ABCSG continuing education pipeline as early as 2019 and DFP-approved in May 2020. The decision-based Learning tool allows physicians to test their breast cancer knowledge through four excellently crafted case studies and subsequent quizzes. The exciting e-learning was available to interested physicians as online training until the end of 2020.

Experts on Tour®

Shortly after the launch of the first ABCSG e-learning, the successful EXPERTS ON TOUR® educational series was also converted to a DFP-approved e-learning. In the first edition, Marija Balic brought an update on the state-of-the-art therapy in HER2-positve breast carcinoma, Stephanie Kacerovsky-Strobl spoke about de-escalation in early breast carcinoma, and Georg Pfeiler presented an exciting summary of known and new targets in the therapy of HER2-negative breast carcinoma. The presentations were discussed in a virtual discussion with renowned ABCSG experts such as ABCSG President Michael Gnant and Kathrin Strasser-Weippl. The e-learning was accessed over 100 times by the end of 2020.

Due to the already very positive response to the first digital EXPERTS ON TOUR® format at the launch of the e-learning, a second talk was developed in September. In the first edition, Rupert Bartsch presented the status quo on TKIs and ADCs in HER2 positive breast carcinoma, followed by a surgical lecture by Florian Fitzal on surgery in primary metastatic patients. The final presentation was by Theresa Czech, with the topic of breast cancer and bone health, which is of particular importance to the ABCSG (see ABCSG 18 ZA study). The virtual discussion afterwards was again led by ABCSG President Michael Gnant, and he joined Christian Singer, Marija Balic and the presenters in discussing their presentation content. The e-learning was accessed over 50 times by the end of 2020.

Both e-learnings will also be available in the ABCSG Members Area in 2021. A continuation of the EXPERTS ON TOUR® e-learning series is planned.

Science and Cases Breast Cancer

On the 10th of September 2020, the ABCSG ventured to hold an on-site educational event in Klagenfurt under strict safety precautions. In the very popular Science and Cases format, real breast cancer cases are presented by ABCSG experts with concrete questions about therapy, which the audience, divided into interdisciplinary working groups, then devotes itself to answering. Participants benefited from the discussions within these groups as well as from the audience discussions following each case. This time Harald Weiß, Gregor Huber as well as Klaus Unterrieder presented exciting cases, chaired by Hans Jörg Neumann and ABCSG President Michael Gnant. An off-topic lecture on „Additional complementary medicine treatments in oncology" by Julia Tscherpel, rounded off the event. The beautiful weather and high temperatures for September facilitated the implementation, many program items took place outdoors or with the hall doors open to the terrace. Indoors, the 30 participants were wearing masks and were keeping distance. Participation was limited to 30 participants, and this number of participants was achieved. Despite adverse conditions, the event was a complete success. However, it was again to remain the last physical event of the ABCSG for the time being until the end of 2020.

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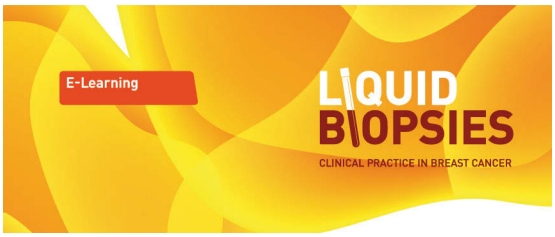
14th Interdisciplinary Mamma Discourse

On the 14th of October 2020, the 14th Interdisciplinary Mamma Discourse took place, this year exclusively virtually. Due to the occasion, the program had a COVID-19 focus, which was very well received: almost 140 people followed the two-hour program consisting of lectures and classic case reports as well as discussions on the scientific content presented. Following the educational session, the Mamma Discourse was uploaded as e-learning to ABCSG Members Area, an internal area on the ABCSG website that offers the opportunity to view mostly DFP-approved digital educational content, conveniently and on demand.

29th Annual Meeting of the ABCSG

The 29th Annual Meeting of the ABCSG took place during the week of November 2-7, 2020, for the first time completely virtually. During the "Annual Meeting" week, it was possible to view the online lecture program on „ABCSG Study Specials & Educationals" without time constraints. The on-demand papers were viewed almost 1000 times by the end of 2020 – a sensational success. On



Friday the 6th of November 2020, the live program on „Spotlights & Discussions". Selected ABCSG core topics from the most important breast, colorectal and pancreatic cancer studies were given a stage here. Nearly 200 participants attended the virtual live stream, which offered more than eight hours of exciting program.

Virtual live event and e-learning on CDK 4/6 inhibitors

In autumn 2020, four experts (Rupert Bartsch, Ursula Pluschnig, Sabine Danzinger, Christine Brunner) presented the ESMO highlights on the topic of CDK 4/6 inhibitors in individual, short video statements. Then, on the 30th of October 2020, a virtual discussion on the presentations was held in a panel of experts (Michael Gnant, Marija Balic, Christian Singer, Günther Steger). The video statements and the virtual panel discussion were subsequently made available in the ABCSG Members Area as DFP-approved e-learning and viewed about 40 times by the end of the year.

E-learnig on liquid biopsies in routine clinical practice in breast cancer

At the end of December 2020, the ABCSG published a particularly innovative e-learning on the current topic of liquid biopsies. Three experts (Marija Balic, Ellen Heitzer, and Stephan Jahn) discussed in a 2-hour on-demand training the extent to which liquid biopsy has arrived in routine clinical practice in breast cancer and the future prospects of the technology. The DFP-approved video education is available in the ABCSG Members area and has been viewed about 40 times by the end of the year.

Science News

The Science News give our network of Investigators the opportunity to view the highlights of the most important congresses in the field of breast cancer, but also GI cancer, as a compact video summary, on demand. ABCSG experts regularly summarize the most important results of the congresses; together with information slides, these are made available during or shortly after the event via the ABCSG website and mailings. In 2020, there were again video reports of the Annual Meetings ASCO, ESMO, EBCC, SABCS and ASCO-GI.

Forum Study Nurses & Coordinators and Advanced Study & Care Program

In cooperation with the Forum Study Nurses & Coordinators, information specifically for this professional field is available on the website studynurses.at/studycoordinators.at. Furthermore, 3-day training courses for Study Nurses & Coordinators are offered every year and are well received. In 2020, these courses were conducted virtually. The Advanced Study and Care Program includes one or more continuing education vouchers for this professional group: support is provided for participation in international congresses, master courses, teaching excursions and much more. This training voucher was presented to Carmen Albertini, from the Department of Gynaecology in Innsbruck and Karin Schlegel, from the Hanusch Hospital in Vienna, virtually during the 29th Annual Meeting of the ABCSG.

Podcast series „Medizin im Kontext“

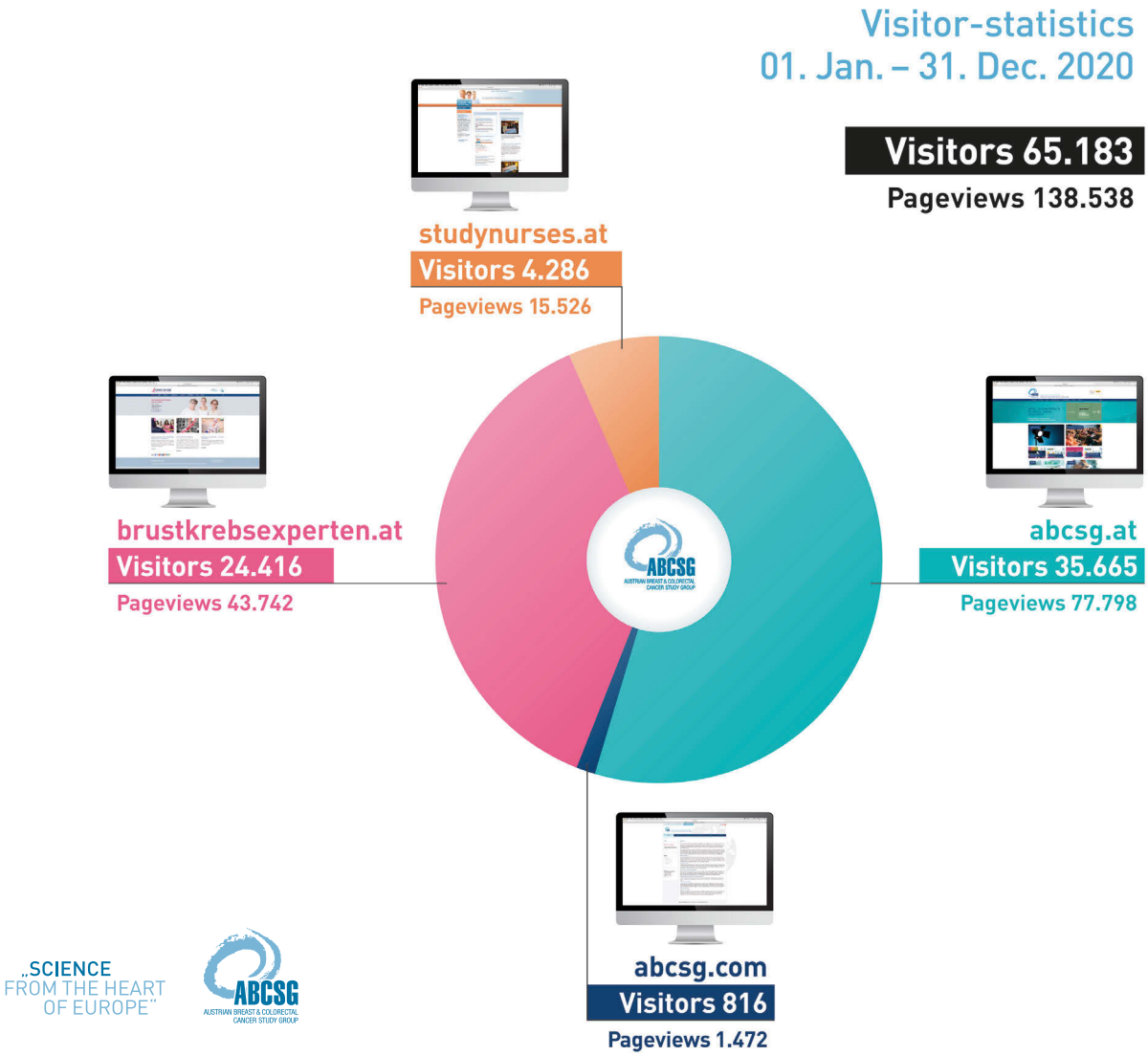
In the ABCSG podcast series „Medicine in Context“, selected experts talk about the social aspects of medicine. The first three episodes of the new podcast series were recorded in 2020 on the topics of „Solidarity in the Health Care System“ (Michael Gnant and Barbara Prainsack), „Doctor-Patient Communication: Theory and Practice“ (Georg Pfeiler and Birgit Hladschik-Kermer) and „Doctor-Patient Communication: Best Practice“ (Marija Balic and her former patient Martina Hagspiel). The podcasts had been listened to over 100 times by the end of 2020, and the series will continue with new episodes in 2021.

Social Media

The ABCSG's digitalization initiative, which received an additional boost in 2020 from the restrictions imposed by the COVID 19 pandemic, also plans to increasingly extend digital communication to social media. As a result, an ABCSG LinkedIn account (https://www.linkedin.com/company/abcsg) was created, which by year's end already had more than 200 followers. The existing Twitter account (https://twitter.com/ABCSGVienna) is also increasingly used to disseminate exciting news about ABCSG publications, educational events or collaborations. Further expansion and promotion of these digital channels is planned.

Press and Print

Every year, the scientific work of the ABCSG, as well as the commitment and contributions of ABCSG board members and members, is followed by the media. In Austrian daily newspapers and relevant journals of medical publishers, nearly 60 articles appeared in 2020 in which the ABCSG was mentioned. In addition, the ABCSG itself has been the publisher of a professional journal for over 20 years: the krebs:hilfe!. In 2020, the publication of the krebs:hilfe! was handed over to the MedMedia GmbH, which will in future publish the journal in close cooperation with MEDahead G.m.b.H.. The ABCSG is responsible for the content together with the Austrian Cancer Aid. In addition to the print edition, the digital presence of krebs:hilfe! in the form of a digital magazine and a newsletter was also worked on in 2020. The ABCSG is furthermore involved – also in close cooperation with Austrian Cancer Aid, in the production of interesting and up-to-date brochure material for breast cancer and colorectal cancer patients.



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Websites and Patient portal

In addition to the websites abcsg.at and abcsg.com, which provide information on study-related content as well as on activities of the association in German and English, the website brustkrebsexperten.at, which is maintained by the ABCSG, has also been available for several years. This site provides information on breast cancer and ongoing studies for patients. In addition, the site studynurses.at/studycoordinators.at is also co-maintained by the ABCSG. In 2020, work began to revise and modernize these existing websites, and this project is scheduled for completion in 2021.

Publications 2020 and Study Overview

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ABCSG
AUSTRIAN BREAST & COLORECTAL CANCER STUDY GROUP

Publications 2020

Influence of a Structured Exercise Training on Patients Reported Quality of Life in Colorectal Cancer Patients After Adjuvant Chemotherapy: A Pilot Study.

Gudrun Piringer, Bernhard Holzner, Beate Mayrbaeurl, Sonja Heibl, Monika Sztankay, Sophie Frantal, Michael Gnant, Josef Thaler, Oberösterreichische Krebshilfe & Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group (ABCSG)

Integrative Cancer Therapies, published online on July 31, 2020

Prognostic Value of EndoPredict in Women with Hormone Receptor-Positive, HER2-Negative Invasive Lobular Breast Cancer

Ivana Sestak, Martin Filipits, Richard Buus, Margaretha Rudas, Marija Balic, Michael Knauer, Ralf Kronenwett, Florian Fitzal, Jack Cuzick, Michael Gnant, Richard Greil, Mitch Dowsett, Peter Dubsky

Clinical Cancer Research, published online on June 19, 2020

Predictive Value of Molecular Subtypes in Premenopausal Women with Hormone Receptor-positive Early Breast Cancer: Results from the ABCSG Trial 5.

Zsuzsanna Bago-Horvath, Margaretha Rudas, Christian F Singer, Richard Greil, Marija Balic, Sigurd F Lax, Werner Kwasny, Wolfgang Hulla, Michael Gnant, Martin Filipits

Clinical Cancer Research, published online on June 16, 2020

The EndoPredict Score Predicts Response to Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy and Neoendocrine Therapy in Hormone Receptor-Positive, Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2-negative Breast Cancer Patients From the ABCSG-34 Trial

Peter C Dubsky, Christian F Singer, Daniel Egle, Viktor Wette, Edgar Petru, Marija Balic, Angelika Pichler, Richard Greil, Andreas L Petzer, Zsuzsanna Bago-Horvath, Christian Fesl, Stephanie M Meek, Ralf Kronenwett, Margaretha Rudas, Michael Gnant, Martin Filipits, Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group

European Journal of Cancer, published online on June 2, 2020

Primary surgery versus no surgery in synchronous metastatic breast cancer: patient-reported quality-of-life outcomes of the prospective randomized multicenter ABCSG-28 Posytive Trial

Vesna Bjelic-Radisic, Florian Fitzal, Michael Knauer, Günther Steger, Daniel Egle, Richard Greil, Peter Schrenk, Marija Balic, Christian Singer, Ruth Exner, Lidja Soelkner, Michael Gnant, Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group (ABCSG)

BMC Cancer, published online on May 6, 2020

Efficacy and Safety of the Therapeutic Cancer Vaccine Tecemotide (L-BLP25) in Early Breast Cancer: Results from a Prospective, Randomised, Neoadjuvant Phase II Study (ABCSG 34)

Christian F Singer, Georg Pfeiler, Michael Hubalek, Rupert Bartsch, Herbert Stöger, Angelika Pichler, Edgar Petru, Vesna Bjelic-Radisic, Richard Greil, Margaretha Rudas, Muy-Kheng Maria Tea, Viktor Wette, Andreas L Petzer, Paul Sevelda , Daniel Egle , Peter C Dubsky , Martin Filipits, Florian Fitzal, Ruth Exner, Raimund Jakesz , Marija Balic , Christoph Tinchon, Zsuzsanna Bago-Horvath, Sophie Frantal, Michael Gnant, Austrian Breast & Colorectal Cancer Study Group

European Journal of Cancer, published online on April 20, 2020

Endocrine therapy with or without whole breast irradiation in low-risk breast cancer patients after breastconserving surgery: 10-year results of the Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group 8A trial

Gerd Fastner, Felix Sedlmayer, Joachim Widder, Martina Metz, Hans Geinitz, Karin Kapp, Christian Fesl, Lidija Sölkner, Richard Greil, Raimund Jakesz, Werner Kwasny, Dietmar Heck, Vesna Bjelic-Radisic, Marija Balic, Herbert Stöger, Ursula Wieder, Ronald Zwrtek, Dagmar Semmler, Wilfried Horvath, Elisabeth Melbinger-Zeinitzer, Martin Wiesholzer, Viktor Wette, Michael Gnant

European Journal of Cancer, published online on January 18, 2020

Conference-Presentations 2020

PALLAS: A randomized phase III trial of adjuvant palbociclib with endocrine therapy versus endocrine therapy alone for HR+/HER2- early breast cancer

Presentation by Erica Mayer

European Society for Medical Oncology Annual Conference 2020 (ESMO 2020, virtual), September 2020

LM02-trial perioperative treatment with panitumumab and FOLFIRI in patients with wild-type RAS, potentially resectable colorectal cancer liver metastases

Presentation by Gudrun Piringer

American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Conference 2020 (ASCO 2020, virtual) conference, June 2020

Study Overview

Study	Sponsor	Title	Status
ABCSG 18	Amgen	A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center Phase 3 Study to Determine the Treatment Effect of Denosumab in Subjects With Non-Metastatic Breast Cancer Receiving Aromatase Inhibitor Therapy	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 18 ZA Substudy		Zoledronic Acid (ZA) substudy to evaluate the impact of a single intravenous (IV) ZA administration on bone mineral density, fracture incidence, and bone turnover markers	open for enrollment
ABCSG 22R-QoL	ABCSG	A survey conducted on the quality of life of breast cancer patients registered in ABCSG 22R	open for enrollment
ABCSG 25 / PANTHER	ABCSG (Co-Sponsor) and Scandinavian Breast Group (SBG)	A randomized phase III study comparing biweekly and tailored epirubicin + cyclophosphamide followed by biweekly tailored docetaxel (dtEC→dtT) (A-arm) versus three weekly epirubicin + cyclophosphamide, 5-fluorouracil followed by docetaxel (FEC→T) (B-arm) in lymph node positive or high-risk lymph node negative breast cancer patients – a continuation of the feasibility part of the SBG 2004-1 study	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 28 / POSYTIVE	ABCSG	Primary Operation in SYnchronous meTastasized InVasivE breast cancer, a multicenter prospective randomized study to evaluate the use of local therapy.	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 31 / ALTTO	Novartis	A randomized, multi-center, open-label, phase III study of adjuvant lapatinib, trastuzumab, their sequence and their combination in patients with HER2/ErbB2 positive primary breast cancer	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 36 / PENELOPE[B]	GBG	Phase III trial to evaluate palbociclib (PD-0332991), a cyclin kinase 4/6 inhibitor, in patients with hormone receptor positive, HER2-negativ primary breast cancer and a high risk of relapse following neoadjuvant chemotherapy	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 39 / APHINITY	Roche	A randomized multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled comparison of chemotherapy plus trastuzumab plus placebo versus chemotherapy plus trastuzumab plus pertuzumab as adjuvant therapy in patients with operable HER2-positive primary breast cancer	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 41 / OLYMPIA	AstraZeneca	A randomised, double-blind, parallel group, placebo-controlled multi-centre Phase III study to assess the efficacy and safety of olaparib vs placebo as adjuvant treatment in patients with germline BRCA 1/2 mutations and high risk HER2-negative breast cancer who have completed definitive local treatment and neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 42 / PALLAS	ABCSG (20 countries); AFT (US)	PALbociclib CoLlaborative Adjuvant Study: A randomized phase III trial of Palbociclib with standard adjuvant endocrine therapy versus standard adjuvant endocrine therapy alone for hormone receptor positive (HR+) / human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative early breast cancer	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 43 / INSEMA	University of Rostock	Comparison of axillary sentinel lymph node biopsy versus no axillary surgery in patients with stage I and II invasive breast cancer and breast-conserving surgery: a randomized prospective surgical trial	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 45	ABCSG	A prospective, open, randomized, phase II study of carboplatin/olaparib in the pre-operative treatment of patients with triple-negative primary breast cancer which exhibit the features of positive homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) status	open for enrollment
ABCSG 47 / IMpassion030 / ALEXANDRA	Roche	A Phase III, multicenter, randomized, open-label study comparing Atezolizumab (Anti PD-L1 Antibody) in combination with adjuvant anthracycline/taxane-based chemotherapy versus chemotherapy alone in patients with operable triple-negative breast cancer	open for enrollment

Study	Sponsor	Title	Status
ABCSG 48 / POSITIVE	IBCSG	A study evaluating the pregnancy outcomes and safety of in-ter-rupting endocrine therapy for young women with endocrine responsive breast cancer who desire pregnancy (POSITIVE)	treatment / follow-up
ABCSG 49 / POLAR	IBCSG	A phase III open-label, multicenter, randomized trial of adjuvant palbociclib in combination with endocrine therapy versus endo-crine therapy alone for patients with hormone receptor positive / HER2-negative resected isolated locoregional recurrence of breast cancer	open for enrollment
ABCSG 50 / BRCA-P	ABCSG (Austria, Germany), other national sponsors in Australia, Israel, Spain, UK, US	A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center International Phase 3 Study to determine the Preventive Effect of Denosumab on Breast Cancer in Women carrying a BRCA1 Germline Mutation	open for enrollment
ABCSG 51 / AURORA	BIG	Aiming to Understand the Molecular Aberrations in Metastatic Breast Cancer: The AURORA Program	open for enrollment
ABCSG 52 / ATHENE	ABCSG	An open-label, two-arm, randomized, single-stage phase II study of ATezolizumab in combination with dual HER2 blockade plus epirubicin as NEoadjuvant therapy for HER2-positive early breast cancer	open for enrollment
ABCSG 53 / TAXIS	SAKK	Tailored axillary surgery with or without axillary lymph node dissection followed by radiotherapy in patients with clinically node-positive breast cancer (TAXIS): a multicenter randomized phase III trial	open for enrollment (on hold)
C 08 / Exercise II	ABCSG	Randomized Trial of Endurance Exercise following adjuvant Chemotherapy for Colorectal Cancer	open for enrollment
P 02	ABCSG	A prospective randomized phase II trial of FOLFIRINOX alone versus FOLFIRINOX followed by radiochemotherapy in patients with locally advanced, primarily inoperable pancreatic cancer	open for enrollment
GiAntEss	Agendia	GiAntEss: Gene expression Analysis to iNvestigate survival outcomes in ER+ breaSt cancerS	translational research project
TraX&Vields	Cepheid	TraX&Vields: Training GeneXpert Tools and Validation in ABCSG Biomarker Cohorts	translational research project
OncoMark	OncoMark	In-vitro performance evaluation of OncoMasTR prognostic algorithm in the ABCSG-8 cohort	translational research project

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