



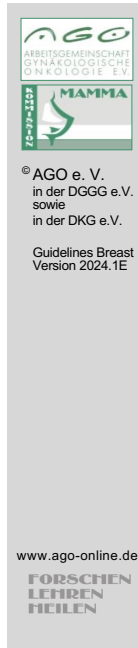
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Guidelines Breast  
Version 2024.1E

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# Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients with early and advanced Breast Cancer

## Adjuvant Radiotherapy



## Adjuvant Radiotherapy (RT)

- **Versions 2002 – 2023:**  
Blohmer / Budach / Friedrich / Friedrichs / Göhring / Huober / Janni / Krug / Kühn / Möbus / Rody / Scharl / Schmidt / Seegenschmiedt / Solbach / Souchon / Thomssen / Untch / Wenz
- **Version 2024:**  
Blohmer / Budach / Krug

### Search Strategy

Search Terms: Radiotherapy Breast Cancer

Source: Pubmed 1/2010 – 1/2024

Radiotherapy to regional nodes in early breast cancer: an individual patient data meta-analysis of 14 324 women in 16 trials.

1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group). Lancet. 2023 Nov 25;402(10416):1991-2003.

Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials

1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C, et al. Lancet. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.

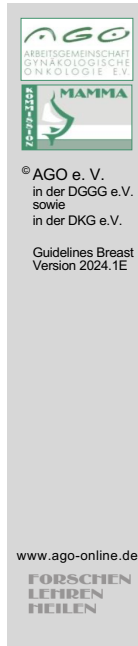
Effect of radiotherapy after breast-conserving surgery on 10-year recurrence and 15-year breast cancer death: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 10,801 women in 17 randomised trials

1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG), Darby S, McGale P, Correa C, et al. Lancet. 2011 Nov 12;378(9804):1707-16.

Overview of the randomized trials of radiotherapy in ductal carcinoma in situ of the breast

1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG), Correa C, McGale P, Taylor C, et al. Natl Cancer Inst Monogr. 2010;2010(41):162-77.

## Preliminary Note



- **The recommendations on adjuvant radiotherapy for breast cancer are based on a consensus discussion between AGO and DEGRO experts.**
- **For technical radiotherapy details, we refer to the corresponding updated DEGRO practical guidelines.**

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7. Duma MN, Baumann R, Budach W, et al; Breast Cancer Expert Panel of the German Society of Radiation Oncology (DEGRO). Heart-sparing radiotherapy techniques in breast cancer patients: a recommendation of the breast cancer expert panel of the German society of radiation oncology (DEGRO). *Strahlenther Onkol.* 2019 Oct;195(10):861-871.
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10. Krug D, Baumann R, Combs SE et al. Moderate hypofractionation remains the standard of care for whole-breast radiotherapy in breast cancer: Considerations regarding FAST and FAST-Forward. *Strahlenther Onkol* 2021 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00066-020-01744-3>

## Radiotherapy (RT) after Breast Conserving Surgery (Invasive Cancer): Whole Breast Irradiation

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Radiotherapy of the affected breast	1a	A	++
▪ Moderately hypofractionated radiotherapy (total dose approx. 40 Gy in 15-16 fractions within 3-5 weeks)	1a	A	++
▪ Ultra-hypofractionated RT (total dose 26 Gy in 5 fractions over one week = 1 fraction/day or 28.5 Gy in 5 fractions over 5 weeks = 1 fraction/week)	1b	B	+/-
▪ Conventionally fractionated radiotherapy (total dose about 50 Gy in approx. 25-28 fractions in 5-6 weeks)	1a	B	+
▪ In case of life expectancy < 10 years and pT1, pN0, R0, ER / PR-positive, HER2-negative, endocrine therapy (all criteria), radiotherapy can be omitted after individual counseling, resulting in an increased risk for in-breast recurrence without impairing survival.	1a	B	+

### Moderate Hypofractionation

1. Haviland JS, Owen JR, Dewar JA, et al; START Trialists' Group. The UK Standardisation of Breast Radiotherapy (START) trials of radiotherapy hypofractionation for treatment of early breast cancer: 10-year follow-up results of two randomised controlled trials. *Lancet Oncol.* 2013 Oct;14(11):1086-94.
2. Whelan TJ, Pignol JP, Levine M et al. Long-term results of hypofractionated radiation therapy for breast cancer. *N Engl J Med.* 2010 Feb 11;362(6):513-20.
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10. Purswani JM, Oh C, Jaros B et al. Breast Conservation in Women with Autoimmune Disease: The Role of Active Autoimmune Disease and Hypofractionation on Acute and Late Toxicity in a Case-Controlled Series. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2021;110(3):783-791.
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12. Meattini I, Becherini C, Boersma L et al. European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology Advisory Committee in Radiation Oncology Practice consensus recommendations on patient selection and dose and fractionation for external beam radiotherapy in early breast cancer. *Lancet Oncol.* 2022;23(1):e21-e31.

#### Ultra-Hypofractionation

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2. Brunt AM, Haviland JS, Wheatley DA et al. Hypofractionated breast radiotherapy for 1 week versus 3 weeks (FAST-Forward): 5-year efficacy and late normal tissue effects results from a multicentre, non-inferiority, randomised, phase 3 trial. *Lancet.* 2020 May 23;395(10237):1613-1626.
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#### Elderly patients with low-risk features

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9. Jagsi R, Griffith KA, Harris EE et al. Omission of Radiotherapy After Breast-Conserving Surgery for Women With Breast Cancer With Low Clinical and Genomic Risk: 5-Year Outcomes of IDEA. *J Clin Oncol.* 2023 Dec 7;JCO2302270. doi: 10.1200/JCO.23.02270.
10. Mann GB, Skandarajah AR, Zdenkowski N et al. Postoperative radiotherapy omission in selected patients with early breast cancer following preoperative breast MRI (PROSPECT): primary results of a prospective two-arm study. *Lancet.* 2023 Dec 5:S0140-



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## Randomized controlled trials of radiotherapy omission after breast-conserving surgery in early breast cancer

Trial	N	Time-frame	Inclusion criteria	Follow up	Local recurrence (no RT)	Local recurrence (RT)	Hazard ratio
Toronto-British Columbia	769	1992-2000	≥ 50 years, T1/2 N0 R0 (ink) 80% HR+	5 y 8 y	7.7% 17.6%	0.6% 3.5%	8.3
BASO-II	204	1992-2000	< 70 J., T1, G1 L0	5 y	0.8% p.a.	0.2% p.a.	7.34
CALGB 9343	636	1994-1999	≥ 70 years, T1 (98%) cN0 ER+ (97%), R0 (ink)	5 y 10 y	4% 8%	1% 2%	5.55
ABCSG-8A	831	1996-2004	Postmenopausal T ≤ 3 cm N0, G1/2, ER+ and/or PR+	5 y 10 y	5.1% 7.5%	0.4% 2.5%	10.2
PRIME II	1326	2003-2009	≥ 65 years, T ≤ 3 cm N0, ER+ and/or PR+, R0 (≥1 mm)	5 y 10 y	4.3% 9.8%	1.3% 0.9%	10.4

1. Fyles A, McCready DR, Manchul MA et al. Tamoxifen with or without breast irradiation in women 50 years of age or older with early breast cancer. *N Engl J Med.* 2004 Sep 2;351(10):963-70.
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## Prospective observational studies of radiotherapy omission incorporating tumor biology and MRI

Trial	N	Time-frame	Inclusion criteria	Follow up	Local recurrence (95%-CI)
LUMINA	500	2013-2017	≥ 55 years, pT1 pN0 R0 (≥1 mm) <b>ER ≥1% PR ≥20% HER2 neg. Ki67 ≤ 13.25% (central lab)</b>	5 y	2.3% (1.2-4.1%)
IDEA	200	2015-2018	50-69 years, pT1 pN0 R0 (≥2 mm) <b>ER/PR pos. HER2 neg., Oncotype Dx RS ≤ 18</b>	5 y	50-59 y. 3.3% 60-69 y. 3.6%
PROSPECT	201	2011-2019	≥50 years, unifocal cT1 cN0, no LVI, no EIC, R0 (≥2 mm), ER/PR pos. and/or HER2-pos., <b>preoperative breast MRI</b>	5 y	1.0% (-5.4%)

- Discussion:
  - Confidence intervals of local recurrence (LR) rates overlap with control arms of previous trials.
  - Uncontrolled trials with limited follow up.
  - CALGB 9343 and PRIME II showed a doubling LR rates after 10 years vs. 5 years in the control arms and an increasing benefit of radiotherapy with longer follow-up.
  - In PRIME II, low ER expression was associated with an increased LR rate in the control arm.
  - Compliance for endocrine therapy was higher than expected in clinical routine.

1. Whelan TJ, Smith S, Parpia S et al. Omitting Radiotherapy after Breast-Conserving Surgery in Luminal A Breast Cancer. *N Engl J Med.* 2023 Aug 17;389(7):612-619.
2. Jagsi R, Griffith KA, Harris EE et al. Omission of Radiotherapy After Breast-Conserving Surgery for Women With Breast Cancer With Low Clinical and Genomic Risk: 5-Year Outcomes of IDEA. *J Clin Oncol.* 2023 Dec 7;JCO2302270. doi: 10.1200/JCO.23.02270.
3. Mann GB, Skandarajah AR, Zdenkowski N et al. Postoperative radiotherapy omission in selected patients with early breast cancer following preoperative breast MRI (PROSPECT): primary results of a prospective two-arm study. *Lancet.* 2023 Dec 5:S0140-6736(23)02476-5. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(23)02476-5.

## Radiotherapy (RT) after Breast Conserving Surgery (Invasive Cancer) – Boost Irradiation

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Boost-RT (improves local control, no survival benefit)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Premenopausal</li> <li>▪ Postmenopausal, if &gt; T1<sup>+</sup>G3, HER2-positive, triple negative, EIC (at least 1 factor)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1b	B	++
	2b	B	+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Techniques</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Percutaneous boost (photons, electrons) as sequential boost</li> <li>▪ Multicatheter brachytherapy-boost</li> <li>▪ Percutaneous boost as simultaneous integrated boost (with hypofractionated whole-breast irradiation)</li> <li>▪ Percutaneous boost as simultaneous integrated boost (with conventionally fractionated whole-breast irradiation)</li> <li>▪ Intraoperative boost irradiation (followed by whole-breast irradiation)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1a	A	++
	1a	A	++
	1b	B	+
	1b	B	+
	2b	B	+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Intraoperative clip placement at the tumor bed if boost irradiation is indicated</b></li> </ul>	2b	B	+

\* continuous parameter with regard to risk of relapse

### Boost in general (EBRT/Brachytherapy, sequential)

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### Boost-RT in premenopausal p.

### Boost-RT in postmenopausal p.

1. Bartelink H, Maingon P, Poortmans P et al; European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer Radiation Oncology and Breast Cancer Groups. Whole-breast irradiation with or without a boost for patients treated with breast-conserving surgery for early breast cancer: 20-year follow-up of a randomised phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2015 Jan;16(1):47-56. Including Supplementary appendix.
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#### Simultaneous-integrated boost (conventionally fractionated RT)

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5. Bantema-Joppe EJ, Schilstra C, de Bock GH, et al (2012) Simultaneous integrated boost irradiation after breast-conserving surgery: physician-rated toxicity and cosmetic outcome at 30 months' follow-up. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys* 83:e471–7.

#### Simultaneous-integrated boost (hypofractionated RT)

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cancer, early toxicities of a randomized clinical trial. *Radiat Oncol* 7:80–10.

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#### Intraoperative irradiation (IORT/IOERT)

##### As boost-irradiation followed by WBI

1. Ciabattini A, Gregucci F, Fastner G et al. IOERT versus external beam electrons for boost radiotherapy in stage I/II breast cancer: 10-year results of a phase III randomized study. *Breast Cancer Res*. 2021;23(1):46.
2. Fastner G, Reitsamer R, Urbański B et al. Toxicity and cosmetic outcome after hypofractionated whole breast irradiation and boost-IOERT in early stage breast cancer (HIOB): First results of a prospective multicenter trial (NCT01343459). *Radiother Oncol*. 2020 May;146:136-142.
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- (HIOB): First Clinical Results of a Prospective Multicenter Trial (NCT01343459). *Cancers (Basel)*. 2022 Mar 9;14(6):1396.
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  5. Fastner G, Reitsamer R, Ziegler I et al. IOERT as anticipated tumor bed boost during breast-conserving surgery after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in locally advanced breast cancer--results of a case series after 5-year follow-up. *Int J Cancer*. 2015 Mar 1;136(5):1193-201.
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#### Clip placement

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3. Aldosary G, Caudrelier J-M, Arnaout A, et al (2021) Can we rely on surgical clips placed during oncoplastic breast surgery to accurately delineate the tumor bed for targeted breast radiotherapy? *Breast Cancer Res Tr* 186:343–352.
4. Mourik AM van, Elkhuizen PHM, Minkema D, et al (2010) Multiinstitutional study on target volume delineation variation in breast radiotherapy in the presence of guidelines. *Radiother Oncol* 94:286–291.
5. Major T, Gutiérrez C, Guix B, et al (2015) Interobserver variations of target volume delineation in multicatheter partial breast brachytherapy after open cavity surgery. *Brachytherapy* 14:925–932.

6. Major T, Gutiérrez C, Guix B, et al (2016) Recommendations from GEC ESTRO Breast Cancer Working Group (II): Target definition and target delineation for accelerated or boost partial breast irradiation using multicatheter interstitial brachytherapy after breast conserving open cavity surgery. *Radiother Oncol* 118:199–204.
7. Strnad V, Hannoun-Levi J-M, Guinot J-L, et al (2015) Recommendations from GEC ESTRO Breast Cancer Working Group (I): Target definition and target delineation for accelerated or boost Partial Breast Irradiation using multicatheter interstitial brachytherapy after breast conserving closed cavity surgery. *Radiother Oncol* 115:342–348.





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## EORTC 22881-10882: Boost vs no Boost (Endpoint: Ipsilateral Breast Recurrence)

@20 yrs (95% C.I.)	Boost (n = 2.661)	No boost (n = 2.657)	Hazard Ratio (95% C.I.)
<b>Overall Survival</b> ( $\Delta$ = -1.4%)	59.7% (56.3–63.0)	61.1% (57.6–64.3)	HR 1.05 (0.92–1.19) n.s.
<b>Cumulative Risk of Ipsilateral Breast Tumour Recurrence</b>			
All patients	12.0% (9.8–14.4)	16.4% (14.1–18.8)	HR=0.65 (0.52–0.81); p < 0.0001
≤ 40 years ( $\Delta$ = 11.6%)	24.4% (14.9–33.8)	36.0% (25.8–46.2)	HR=0.56 (0.34–0.92); p = 0.003
41–50 years ( $\Delta$ = 5.9%)	13.5% (9.5–17.5)	19.4% (14.7–24.1%)	HR=0.66 (0.45–0.98); p = 0.007
51–60 years ( $\Delta$ = 2.96%)	10.3% (6.3–14.3)	13.2% (9.8–16.7)	HR=0.69 (0.46–1.04); p = 0.020
> 60 years ( $\Delta$ = 3.0%)	9.7% (5.0–14.4)	12.7% (7.4–18.0)	HR=0.66 (0.42–1.04); p = 0.019

(Median F/U 17.2 y)

acc. to: Bartelink et al. Lancet Oncol 2015; 16: 47–56

1. Bartelink H, Maingon P, Poortmans P et al: European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer Radiation Oncology and Breast Cancer Groups. Whole-breast irradiation with or without a boost for patients treated with breast-conserving surgery for early breast cancer: 20-year follow-up of a randomised phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol. 2015 Jan;16(1):47-56.
2. Vrieling C et al. European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer, Radiation Oncology and Breast Cancer Groups. Prognostic Factors for Local Control in Breast Cancer After Long-term Follow-up in the EORTC Boost vs No Boost Trial: A Randomized Clinical Trial. JAMA Oncol. 2017 Jan 1;3(1):42-48



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## EORTC 22881-10882: Boost vs. no Boost (Endpoint: Any First Recurrence)

@15 yrs/20 yrs (95% C.I.)	Boost (n = 2.661)		No boost (n = 2.657)		Hazard Ratio (95% C.I.)
<b>Overall Survival</b> ( $\Delta$ = - 1.4%)	59.7% (56.3–63.0)		61.1% (57.6–64.3)		HR 1.05 (0.92–1.19) n.s.
<b>Cumulative Risk of Any First Recurrence</b>					
All patients ( $\Delta \geq 4\%$ )	@15y @20y	28.1% 32,8%	32.1% 38.7%	HR = 0.92 (0.81-1.04), n.s.	
$\leq 40$ years ( $\Delta > 6\%$ )	@15y @20y	41.5% 49.5%	48.1% 56.8%	HR = 0.80 (0.56-1.15), n.s.	
41–50 years	@15y @20y	34.0% 38.6%	35.6% 44.2%	HR = 0.91 (0.71-1.16), n.s.	
51–60 years	@15y @20y	28.5% 34.7%	28.7% 36.2%	HR = 0.96 (0.76-1.21), n.s.	
> 60 years	@15y @20y	27.4% 32.1%	29.1% 32.8%	HR = 0.94 (0.74-1.19), n.s.	

(Median F/U 17.2 y)

acc. Bartelink et al. Lancet Oncol 2015; 16: 47–56. Suppl.

1. Bartelink H, Maingon P, Poortmans P, et al; European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer Radiation Oncology and Breast Cancer Groups. Whole-breast irradiation with or without a boost for patients treated with breast-conserving surgery for early breast cancer: 20-year follow-up of a randomised phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol. 2015 Jan;16(1):47-56.
2. Vrieling C et al. European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer, Radiation Oncology and Breast Cancer Groups. Prognostic Factors for Local Control in Breast Cancer After Long-term Follow-up in the EORTC Boost vs No Boost Trial: A Randomized Clinical Trial. JAMA Oncol. 2017 Jan 1;3(1):42-48



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## Moderate hypofractionation with simultaneous-integrated boost

	RTOG 1005 (ASTRO 2022)	IMPORT-HIGH (Lancet 2023)
Patient number	2262	2617
Schedule Breast	40 Gy in 15 fx	36 Gy in 15 fx 40 Gy in 15 fx
Schedule Boost	48 Gy in 15 fx	48 Gy in 15 fx vs. 53 Gy in 15 fx
Ipsilateral in-breast recurrence at 5 years	HR 1.32 (0.8-2.1) → Non-inferiority for SIB	HR 1.04 (0.56-1.92) → Non-inferiority for 48 Gy (absolute diff.)  HR 1.76 (1.01-3.04) → Inferiority for SIB 53 Gy (absolute + relat.)
Toxicity	Toxicity grade $\geq 3$ (ROTG)  p = 0.79	Any moderate / marked breast AE  p = 0.041 for SIB 48 Gy vs. sequential boost (less toxicity with SIB) p = 0.823 for SIB 53 Gy vs. sequential boost

1. Coles C, Haviland JS, Kirby AM, et al OC-0291 IMPORT HIGH trial: Dose escalated simultaneous integrated boost radiotherapy in early breast cancer. Radiother Oncol 2021. 161:S197–S1992.
2. Coles CE, Haviland JS, Kirby AM et al. Dose-escalated simultaneous integrated boost radiotherapy in early breast cancer (IMPORT HIGH): a multicentre, phase 3, non-inferiority, open-label, randomised controlled trial. Lancet. 2023 Jun 24;401(10394):2124-2137.

## Partial Breast Irradiation (PBI) after Breast Conserving Surgery (Invasive Cancer)

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only for pT1 pN0 R0 G1-2, HR+, non-lobular, &gt; 50 years, no extensive DCIS. For definition of target volume and practical conduct see DEGRO practical guidelines</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Postoperative partial breast irradiation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interstitial Multicatheter-Brachytherapy</li> <li>Intracavitary balloon-technique</li> <li>Intensity-modulated radiotherapy (IMRT) (5 x 6 Gy in 1.5 weeks)</li> <li>3D-conformal radiotherapy (15 x 2.67 Gy in 3 weeks)</li> <li>3D-conformal radiotherapy (10 x 3.85 Gy in 1 week)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Intraoperative Radiotherapy               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As sole radiotherapy, during first breast surgery (IORT 50 kV, IOERT)                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; 50 years</li> <li>&gt; 70 years</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Intraoperative clip placement at the tumor bed if partial breast irradiation is indicated</li> </ul>	1b 2b 1b 1b 1b  1b 1b 2b	A B A A A  A A B	+ - + ++ -  +/- + +

### General guidelines

- Shaitelman SF, Anderson BM, Arthur DW et al. Partial Breast Irradiation for Patients With Early-Stage Invasive Breast Cancer or Ductal Carcinoma In Situ: An ASTRO Clinical Practice Guideline. *Pract Radiat Oncol.* 2023 Nov 14;S1879-8500(23)00296-5. doi: 10.1016/j.prro.2023.11.001.
- Anderson B, Arthur D, Hannoun-Levi JM et al. Partial breast irradiation: An updated consensus statement from the American brachytherapy society. *Brachytherapy.* 2022 Nov-Dec;21(6):726-747.
- Strnad V, Krug D, Sedlmayer F et al. DEGRO practical guideline for partial-breast irradiation. *Strahlenther Onkol.* 2020 Sep;196(9):749-763.
- Major T, Gutiérrez C, Guix B, et al (2016) Recommendations from GEC ESTRO Breast Cancer Working Group (II): Target definition and target delineation for accelerated or boost partial breast irradiation using multicatheter interstitial brachytherapy after breast conserving open cavity surgery. *Radiother Oncol* 118:199–204.
- Strnad V, Hannoun-Levi J-M, Guinot J-L, et al (2015) Recommendations from GEC ESTRO Breast Cancer Working Group (I): Target definition and target delineation for accelerated or boost Partial Breast Irradiation using multicatheter interstitial brachytherapy after breast conserving closed cavity surgery. *Radiother Oncol* 115:342–348.

### Postoperative partial breast irradiation as sole radiotherapy modality (ABPI)

#### Interstitial brachytherapy

1. Aristei C, Palumbo I, Capezzali G, et al. Outcome of a phase II prospective study on partial breast irradiation with interstitial multi-catheter highdose rate brachytherapy. *Radiother Oncol* 2013;108:236-241.
2. Strnad V, Ott OJ, Hildebrandt G, et al: Groupe Européen de Curiethérapie of European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (GEC-ESTRO). 5-year results of accelerated partial breast irradiation using sole interstitial multicatheter brachytherapy versus whole-breast irradiation with boost after breast-conserving surgery for low-risk invasive and in-situ carcinoma of the female breast: a randomised, phase 3, non-inferiority trial. *Lancet*. 2016 Jan 16;387(10015):229-38.
3. Schäfer R, Strnad V, Polgár C et al. Quality-of-life results for accelerated partial breast irradiation with interstitial brachytherapy versus whole-breast irradiation in early breast cancer after breast-conserving surgery (GEC-ESTRO): 5-year results of a randomised, phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2018 Jun;19(6):834-844.
4. Polgár C, Ott OJ, Hildebrandt G et al. Late side-effects and cosmetic results of accelerated partial breast irradiation with interstitial brachytherapy versus whole-breast irradiation after breast-conserving surgery for low-risk invasive and in-situ carcinoma of the female breast: 5-year results of a randomised, controlled, phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2017 Feb;18(2):259-268.
5. Strnad V, Major T, Polgar C et al. ESTRO-ACROP guideline: Interstitial multi-catheter breast brachytherapy as Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation alone or as boost - GEC-ESTRO Breast Cancer Working Group practical recommendations. *Radiother Oncol*. 2018 Sep;128(3):411-420.
6. Polgár C, Major T, Takácsi-Nagy Z et al. Breast-Conserving Surgery Followed by Partial or Whole Breast Irradiation: Twenty-Year Results of a Phase 3 Clinical Study. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2020 Nov 10;S0360-3016(20)34492-8.
7. Strnad V, Polgár C, Ott OJ et al. Accelerated partial breast irradiation using sole interstitial multicatheter brachytherapy compared with whole-breast irradiation with boost for early breast cancer: 10-year results of a GEC-ESTRO randomised, phase 3, non-inferiority trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2023 Mar;24(3):262-272.

#### Intracavity balloon technique

1. Benitez PR, Keisch ME, Vicini F, et al.: Five-year results: the initial clinical trial of MammoSite balloon brachytherapy for partial breast irradiation in early-stage breast cancer. *Am J Surg*. 2007 Oct;194(4):456-62.

### IMRT (5x6 Gy)

1. Livi L, Meattini I, Marrazzo L, et al. Accelerated partial breast irradiation using intensity-modulated radiotherapy versus whole breast irradiation: 5-year survival analysis of a phase 3 randomised controlled trial. *Eur J Cancer*. 2015 Jan 17. pii: S0959-8049(15)00002-7.
2. Meattini I, Saieva C, Miccinesi G et al. Accelerated partial breast irradiation using intensity modulated radiotherapy versus whole breast irradiation: Health-related quality of life final analysis from the Florence phase 3 trial. *Eur J Cancer*. 2017 May;76:17-26.
3. Meattini I, Marrazzo L, Saieva C et al. Accelerated Partial-Breast Irradiation Compared With Whole-Breast Irradiation for Early Breast Cancer: Long-Term Results of the Randomized Phase III APBI-IMRT-Florence Trial. *J Clin Oncol*. 2020 Dec 10;38(35):4175-4183.

### 3D-conformal RT (15x2.67 Gy over two weeks)

1. Coles CE, Griffin CL, Kirby AM et al. Partial-breast radiotherapy after breast conservation surgery for patients with early breast cancer (UK IMPORT LOW trial): 5-year results from a multicentre, randomised, controlled, phase 3, non-inferiority trial. *Lancet*. 2017 Sep 9;390(10099):1048-1060.
2. Bhattacharya IS, Haviland JS, Kirby AM et al. Patient-Reported Outcomes Over 5 Years After Whole- or Partial-Breast Radiotherapy: Longitudinal Analysis of the IMPORT LOW (CRUK/06/003) Phase III Randomized Controlled Trial. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019 Feb 1;37(4):305-317.
3. Offersen BV, Alsner J, Nielsen HM, et al (2022) Partial Breast Irradiation Versus Whole Breast Irradiation for Early Breast Cancer Patients in a Randomized Phase III Trial: The Danish Breast Cancer Group Partial Breast Irradiation Trial. *J Clin Oncol* 40:4189–4197.
4. Thomsen MS, Alsner J, Nielsen HM, et al (2022) Volume matters: Breast induration is associated with irradiated breast volume in the Danish Breast Cancer Group phase III randomized Partial Breast Irradiation trial. *Radiother Oncol* 177:231–235.
5. Kirby AM, Griffin C, Finneran L et al. Partial Breast Radiotherapy for Women with Early Breast Cancer: 10-Year Outcomes from IMPORT LOW (CRUK/06/003). Presented at ASTRO Annual Meeting 2023 (LBA 10). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijrobp.2023.08.034>

### 3D-conformal RT (10x3.85-4 Gy over two weeks)

1. Ott OJ, Strnad V, Stillkrieger W et al. Accelerated partial breast irradiation with external beam radiotherapy : First results of the German phase 2 trial. *Strahlenther Onkol*. 2017 Jan;193(1):55-61.

2. Boutrus RR, Sherif SE, Abdelazim Y, et al (2021) Once Daily Versus Twice Daily External Beam Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation: A Randomized Prospective Study. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biology Phys* 109:1296–1300.
3. Song Y-C, Sun G-Y, Fang H, et al (2021) Quality of Life After Partial or Whole-Breast Irradiation in Breast-Conserving Therapy for Low-Risk Breast Cancer: 1-Year Results of a Phase 2 Randomized Controlled Trial. *Frontiers Oncol* 11:738318.

#### 3D-conformal RT (10x3.85 Gy over one week)

1. Olivotto IA, Whelan TJ, Parpia S, et al. Interim cosmetic and toxicity results from RAPID: a randomized trial of accelerated partial breast irradiation using three-dimensional conformal external beam radiation therapy. *J Clin Oncol*. 2013 Nov 10;31(32):4038-45.
2. Whelan TJ, Julian JA, Berrang TS et al. External beam accelerated partial breast irradiation versus whole breast irradiation after breast conserving surgery in women with ductal carcinoma in situ and node-negative breast cancer (RAPID): a randomised controlled trial. *Lancet*. 2019 Dec 14;394(10215):2165-2172.
3. Vicini FA, Cecchini RS, White JR et al. Long-term primary results of accelerated partial breast irradiation after breast-conserving surgery for early-stage breast cancer: a randomised, phase 3, equivalence trial. *Lancet*. 2019 Dec 14;394(10215):2155-2164.
4. Ganz PA, Cecchini RS, White JR et al. Patient-reported outcomes (PROs) in NRG oncology/NSABP B-39/RTOG 0413: A randomized phase III study of conventional whole breast irradiation (WBI) versus partial breast irradiation (PBI) in stage 0, I, or II breast cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 37, no. 15\_suppl (May 20, 2019) 508-508. Presented at ASCO Annual Meeting 2019.
5. Meduri B, Baldissera A, Iotti C et al. Cosmetic Results and Side Effects of Accelerated Partial-Breast Irradiation Versus Whole-Breast Irradiation for Low-Risk Invasive Carcinoma of the Breast: The Randomized Phase III IRMA Trial. *J Clin Oncol*. 2023 Apr 20;41(12):2201-2210.

#### Intraoperative irradiation (IORT/IOERT)

##### IORT using 50 kV or IOERT (pT1 pN0 R0 G1-2, non-lobular, age >50 y, no extensive DCIS, IORT during first surgery, HR+)

1. Vaidya JS, Bulsara M, Baum M et al. Long term survival and local control outcomes from single dose targeted intraoperative radiotherapy during lumpectomy (TARGIT-IORT) for early breast cancer: TARGIT-A randomised clinical trial. *BMJ*. 2020 Aug 19;370:m2836.
2. Vaidya JS, Bulsara M, Saunders C et al. Effect of Delayed Targeted Intraoperative Radiotherapy vs Whole-Breast Radiotherapy on Local

Recurrence and Survival: Long-term Results From the TARGIT-A Randomized Clinical Trial in Early Breast Cancer. *JAMA Oncol.* 2020 Jul 1;6(7):e200249.

3. Vaidya JS, Bulsara M, Baum M et al. New clinical and biological insights from the international TARGIT-A randomised trial of targeted intraoperative radiotherapy during lumpectomy for breast cancer *Brit J Cancer.* 2021. 125:380–389.
4. Orecchia R, Veronesi U, Maisonneuve P et al., Intraoperative irradiation for early breast cancer (ELIOT): long-term recurrence and survival outcomes from a single-centre, randomised, phase 3 equivalence trial. *Lancet Oncol.* 2021. 22:597–608.

#### >70 yrs

1. Abbott AM, Dossett LA, Loftus L, et al: Intraoperative radiotherapy for early breast cancer and age: clinical characteristics and outcomes. *Am J Surg.* 2015 Oct;210(4):624-8.
2. Vaidya JS, Wenz F, Bulsara M, et al: TARGIT trialists' group. Risk-adapted targeted intraoperative radiotherapy versus whole-breast radiotherapy for breast cancer: 5-year results for local control and overall survival from the TARGIT-A randomised trial. *Lancet.* 2014 Feb 15;383(9917):603-13.
3. Veronesi U, Orecchia R, Maisonneuve P, et al. Intraoperative radiotherapy versus external radiotherapy for early breast cancer (ELIOT): a randomised controlled equivalence trial. *Lancet Oncol.* 2013 Dec;14(13):1269-77.
4. Vaidya JS, Wenz F, Bulsara M et al. An international randomised controlled trial to compare TARGETed Intraoperative radioTherapy (TARGIT) with conventional postoperative radiotherapy after breast-conserving surgery for women with early-stage breast cancer (the TARGIT-A trial). *Health Technol Assess* 2016;20(73).

#### Clip placement

1. Freitas TB de, Lima KML de B, Carvalho H de A, et al (2018) What a difference a clip makes! Analysis of boost volume definition in radiation therapy for conservative breast surgery. *Eur J Surg Oncol* 44:1312–1317.
2. Dzhugashvili M, Tournay E, Pichenot C, et al (2009) 3D-conformal Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation treatment planning: the value of surgical clips in the delineation of the lumpectomy cavity. *Radiat Oncol* 4:70.
3. Aldosary G, Caudrelier J-M, Arnaout A, et al (2021) Can we rely on surgical clips placed during oncoplastic breast surgery to accurately delineate the tumor bed for targeted breast radiotherapy? *Breast Cancer Res Tr* 186:343–352.
4. Mourik AM van, Elkhuizen PHM, Minkema D, et al (2010) Multiinstitutional study on target volume delineation variation in breast radiotherapy in the presence of guidelines. *Radiother Oncol* 94:286–291.



5. Major T, Gutiérrez C, Guix B, et al (2015) Interobserver variations of target volume delineation in multicatheter partial breast brachytherapy after open cavity surgery. *Brachytherapy* 14:925–932.
6. Major T, Gutiérrez C, Guix B, et al (2016) Recommendations from GEC ESTRO Breast Cancer Working Group (II): Target definition and target delineation for accelerated or boost partial breast irradiation using multicatheter interstitial brachytherapy after breast conserving open cavity surgery. *Radiother Oncol* 118:199–204.
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## Meta-analyses on partial-breast irradiation

**Meta-analysis of 13 studies with 15,561 patients comparing partial breast irradiation (PBI) and whole-breast irradiation (WBI), median follow-up 8.6 years; Odds Ratio (95%-confidence interval)**

	Overall	EBRT	EBRT/BT	BT	IORT	Absolute diff.
Local recurrence (primary site)	1.01 (0.65-1.59)	0.85 (0.52-1.39)	0.84 (0.56-1.27)	0.87 (0.25-3.02)	<b>3.51</b> <b>(1.36-9.11)</b>	+0.02%
Local recurrence (elsewhere)	<b>2.21</b> <b>(1.53-3.20)</b>	<b>2.26</b> <b>(1.12-4.55)</b>	<b>2.07</b> <b>(1.31-3.27)</b>	7.88 (0.42-146)	3.06 (0.1-91.59)	+0.64%

**Meta-analysis of 11 studies with 15,438 patients comparing partial breast irradiation (PBI) and whole-breast irradiation (WBI); Hazard Ratio (95%-confidence interval)**

	Overall	EBRT	EBRT/BT	BT	IORT
Overall survival	1.02 (0.89-1.16)	1.06 (0.83-.37)	1.10 (0.90-1.35)	0.64 (0.36-.12)	0.95 (0.72-1.24)

EBRT = external beam RT; BT = brachytherapy, IORT = intraoperative RT; EBRT/BT = both techniques were allowed on trial

1. Hausmann J, Budach W, Strnad V et al. Comparing Local and Systemic Control between Partial- and Whole-Breast Radiotherapy in Low-Risk Breast Cancer-A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Trials. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2021 Jun 13;13(12):2967.
2. Hausmann J, Budach W, Corradini S et al. No Difference in Overall Survival and Non-Breast Cancer Deaths after Partial Breast Radiotherapy Compared to Whole Breast Radiotherapy-A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Trials. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2020 Aug 17;12(8):2309.



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## Comparison of different techniques for partial breast irradiation

	Intraoperative radiotherapy	Multicatheter interstitial brachytherapy	External-beam radiotherapy
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortest possible treatment time</li> <li>• Direct visualization of the tumor bed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High conformality</li> <li>• Longest available follow-up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broad availability</li> <li>• Reproducibility</li> </ul>
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of complete knowledge of risk factors (e.g. margin status, lympho-vascular invasion)</li> <li>• Potentially increased risk of fibrosis with additional whole-breast irradiation</li> <li>• Availability limited to specialized centers</li> <li>• Prolongation of anesthesia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability limited to specialized centers with high expertise</li> <li>• Additional invasive procedure</li> <li>• Additional hospital stay</li> <li>• Risk of target miss due to visualization of the tumor bed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of target miss due to visualization of the tumor bed</li> <li>• Larger irradiated volume due to intra- and interfractional motion</li> </ul>

## Postmastectomy Radiotherapy (PMRT)\* to the Chest Wall – Indication

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ > 3 tumor infiltrated lymph nodes (LN)	1a	A	++
▪ 1–3 tumor infiltrated LN (high-risk)	1a	A	+
▪ 1–3 tumor infiltrated LN (low-risk*)	5	D	+/-
▪ T3 / T4	1a	A	++
▪ pT3 pN0 R0 (and no additional risk factors)	2b	B	+/-
▪ If R0 is impossible to reach (for invasive tumor)	1a	A	++
▪ In young pts with high-risk features	2b	B	++
<b>The indications for PMRT and regional RT are independent of adjuvant systemic treatment</b>	1a	A	
<b>Inflammatory breast cancer: PMRT and regional nodal irradiation</b>	2c	B	++

\* For definition of low-risk, see next slide Radiotherapy of the Chest Wall After Mastectomy (PMRT)

1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C, et al. Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. *Lancet*. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.
2. Overgaard M, Hansen PS, Overgaard J, et al. Postoperative radiotherapy in high-risk premenopausal women with breast cancer who receive adjuvant chemotherapy. Danish Breast Cancer Cooperative Group 82b Trial. *N Engl J Med*. 1997 Oct 2;337(14):949-55.
3. Overgaard M, Jensen MB, Overgaard J, et al. Postoperative radiotherapy in high-risk postmenopausal breast-cancer patients given adjuvant tamoxifen: Danish Breast Cancer Cooperative Group DBCG 82c randomised trial. *Lancet*. 1999 May 15;353(9165):1641-8.
4. Truong PT, Olivotto IA, Kader HA, et al. Selecting breast cancer patients with T1-T2 tumors and one to three positive axillary nodes at high postmastectomy locoregional recurrence risk for adjuvant radiotherapy. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2005 Apr 1;61(5):1337-47.
5. Jagsi R. Postmastectomy radiation therapy: an overview for the practicing surgeon. *ISRN Surg*. 2013 Sep 11;2013:212979.
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Postmastectomy Radiotherapy (PMRT) to the Chest Wall in pts. with > 3 tumor infiltrated lymph nodes (Lnn.)

1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C, et al.: Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. *Lancet*. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.

#### Postmastectomy Radiotherapy (PMRT) to the Chest Wall in pts. with 1–3 tumor infiltrated lymph nodes (Lnn.) high risk

1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C et al: Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. *Lancet*. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.
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2. Valli MC; Association of Radiotherapy and Oncology of the Mediterranean arEa (AROME). Controversies in loco-regional treatment: post-mastectomy radiation for pT2-pT3N0 breast cancer arguments in favour. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol.* 2012 Dec;84 Suppl 1:e70-4.

#### Postmastectomy Radiotherapy (PMRT) to the Chest Wall in pts. with pT3 pN0 R0 breast cancer (and no additional risk factors)

1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C, et al. Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. *Lancet.* 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.
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3. Truong PT, Olivotto IA, Speers CH, et al: A positive margin is not always an indication for radiotherapy after mastectomy in early breast cancer. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2004 Mar 1;58(3):797-804.
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#### Postmastectomy Radiotherapy (PMRT) to the Chest Wall in young pts with high risk features

1. Garg AK, Oh JL, Oswald MJ, et al. Effect of postmastectomy radiotherapy in patients <35 years old with stage II-III breast cancer treated with doxorubicin-based neoadjuvant chemotherapy and mastectomy. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys* 2007; 69: 1478–83.
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5. van der Sangen MJ, van de Wiel FM, Poortmans PM, et al. Are breast conservation and mastectomy equally effective in the treatment of young women with early breast cancer? Long-term results of a population-based cohort of 1,451 patients aged ≤ 40 years. *Breast Cancer Res Treat* 2011;127:207-15.

#### Indications for Postmastectomy Radiotherapy (PMRT) to the Chest Wall and regional RT are independent of adjuvant systemic treatment

1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C, et al: Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. *Lancet*. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.

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## Postmastectomy Radiotherapy (PMRT)\* to the Chest Wall\* – Fractionation

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Moderately hypofractionated radiotherapy (total dose approx. 40 Gy in 15-16 fractions within 3-5 weeks)	1a	A	++
▪ After breast reconstruction	1b	B	+
▪ Ultra-hypofractionated RT (total dose 26 Gy in 5 fractions over one week = 1 fraction/day or 28.5 Gy in 5 fractions over 5 weeks = 1 fraction/week)	1b	B	+/-
▪ Conventionally fractionated radiotherapy (total dose about 50 Gy in approx. 25-28 fractions in 5-6 weeks)	1a	B	+

\* Regarding fractionation for regional nodal irradiation, refer to slide „Fractionation of Radiotherapy in Case of Regional Nodal Irradiation“.

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1. Haviland JS, Owen JR, Dewar JA, et al; START Trialists' Group. The UK Standardisation of Breast Radiotherapy (START) trials of radiotherapy hypofractionation for treatment of early breast cancer: 10-year follow-up results of two randomised controlled trials. *Lancet Oncol.* 2013 Oct;14(11):1086-94.
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5. Wong JS, Uno H, Tramontano A et al. Patient-Reported and Toxicity Results from the FABREC Study: A Multicenter Randomized Trial of Hypofractionated vs. Conventionally-Fractionated Postmastectomy Radiation Therapy after Implant-Based Reconstruction. Presented at ASTRO Annual Meeting 2023 (LBA 5) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijrobp.2023.08.029>

### Moderate hypofractionation and breast reconstruction

1. Kim D-Y, Park E, Heo CY, et al (2022) Influence of Hypofractionated Versus Conventional Fractionated Postmastectomy Radiation Therapy in Breast Cancer Patients With Reconstruction. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biology Phys* 112:445–456.
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### Ultra-Hypofractionation

1. Brunt AM, Haviland JS, Wheatley DA et al. Hypofractionated breast radiotherapy for 1 week versus 3 weeks (FAST-Forward): 5-year efficacy and late normal tissue effects results from a multicentre, non-inferiority, randomised, phase 3 trial. *Lancet*. 2020 May 23;395(10237):1613-1626.
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**Radiotherapy of the Chest Wall After Mastectomy (PMRT) in Case of 1-3 Axillary Lymph Node Metastases**

PMRT can be omitted LoE 3b B AGO +	PMRT to be discussed LoE 3b B AGO +/-	PMRT recommended LoE 3b B AGO +
<p>ER pos, G1, HER2 neg, pT1 (at least 3 criteria present)</p> <p>Kyndi et al. 2009</p>	<p>Patients, who don't fulfill the mentioned criteria for high or low risk</p>	<p>≥ 45 y. AND &gt; 25% pos. ax. Lnn in case of axillary dissection OR &lt;45 y. AND (ER neg. OR &gt;25% pos. ax. Lnn in case of axillary dissection OR medial tumor location)</p> <p>Truong et al. 2005</p> <p>&lt; 40 y. OR HER2 pos. OR lymphovascular invasion</p> <p>Shen H et al. 2015</p> <p>G3 OR lymphovascular invasion OR triple negative</p> <p>Different publications</p>

**Comment:** In case of an indication for radiotherapy of regional lymph nodes, radiotherapy of the chest wall should also be administered

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1. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C, et al: Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. *Lancet*. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.
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7. NCCN Guidelines for Treatment of Cancer by Site  
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## Boost in PMRT

- An additional boost irradiation to a part of the chest wall has not been shown to improve DSS and overall survival
- An additional boost irradiation to a part of the chest wall should be given in case of R1 / R2-resection, if secondary resection is not feasible
- In case of tumor extension to the pectoral resection margin, but no clinical signs of extension beyond the fascia, the resection margin should be regarded as R0 (provided, that the pectoral fascia was resected). A boost radiotherapy is not required in this situation

Oxford		
LoE	GR	AGO
2a	B	
5	D	++
5	D	++

### Thoracic wall boost irradiation

1. Mayadev J, Fish K, Valicenti R et al. Utilization and impact of a postmastectomy radiation boost for invasive breast cancer, Pract Radiat Oncol. 2014 Nov-Dec;4(6):e269-78



## Radiotherapy of Axillary Lymph Nodes in Patients with Positive Sentinel-Lymph Nodes\*\*, Who Did not Undergo Axillary Dissection

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
BCS and ACOSOG Z0011-criteria <sup>+</sup> met ▪ Radiotherapy of the breast including LN level 1 + 2 to 5 mm below the axillary vein (PTV)	2b	B	+*
BCS and ACOSOG Z0011-criteria <sup>+</sup> <u>not</u> met ▪ Radiotherapy of the axillary lymph nodes (analog AMAROS)	1b	B	++*
ME and chest wall RT indicated and ACOSOG Z0011-criteria <sup>+</sup> <u>not</u> met or ME and chest wall RT <u>not planned</u> ▪ Radiotherapy of the axillary lymph nodes (analog AMAROS)	1b	B	++
<u>≥ 3 pos. SLN</u> ▪ Radiotherapy of the axillary lymph nodes (analog AMAROS)	1b	B	+

\* Study participation recommended  
\*\* Macrometastases  
+ < T3, no palpable LN, R0, 1-2 positive SN, no NACT

### 1-2 pos SLN: BCT: No further treatment to the axilla neither axillary dissection nor RT of the axilla (criteria according ACOSOG Z011)

1. Giuliano AE, Hunt KK, Ballmann KV, et al Axillary dissection vs no axillary dissection in women with breast invasive cancer and sentinel node metastasis. A randomised clinical trial. JAMA 2011;305(6):569-575.
2. Galimberti V, Cole BF, Zurrada S, et al: International Breast Cancer Study Group Trial 23-01 investigators. Axillary dissection versus no axillary dissection in patients with sentinel-node micrometastases (IBCSG 23-01): a phase 3 randomised controlled trial. Lancet Oncol. 2013 Apr;14(4):297-305.
3. Jagsi R, Manjoet C, Moni J, et al. Radiation field design in the ACOSOG Z0011 (Alliance) trial. J Clin Oncol 2014;Nov 10;32(32): 3600-6

### 1-2 pos SLN: BCT: Axillary dissection

1. Giuliano AE, Hunt KK, Ballmann KV, et al. Axillary dissection vs no axillary dissection in women with breast invasive cancer and sentinel node metastasis. A randomised clinical trial. JAMA 2011;305(6):569-575.
2. Jagsi R, Manjoet C, Moni J, et al. Radiation field design in the ACOSOG Z0011 (Alliance) trial. J Clin Oncol 2014;Nov 10;32(32): 3600-6

### 1-2 pos SLN: BCT: radiotherapy of the axilla

1. Donker M, Tienhoven G, Straver ME et al. Radiotherapy or surgery of the axilla after a positive sentinel node in breast cancer (EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS) a randomised, multicenter open label, phase 3 non inferiority trial. Lancet Oncol 2014;15:1333-10

2. Bartels SAL, Donker M, Poncet C, et al (2022) Radiotherapy or Surgery of the Axilla After a Positive Sentinel Node in Breast Cancer: 10-Year Results of the Randomized Controlled EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS Trial. J Clin Oncol JCO2201565.  
<https://doi.org/10.1200/jco.22.01565>

1-2 pos SLN: Mastectomy: If RT of chestwall is indicated, axillary dissection or radiotherapy of the axilla

1. Donker M, Tienhoven G, Straver ME et al: Radiotherapy or surgery of the axilla after a positive sentinel node in breast cancer (EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS) a randomised, multicenter open label, phase 3 non inferiority trial. Lancet Oncol 2014;15:1333-10.
2. Bartels SAL, Donker M, Poncet C, et al (2022) Radiotherapy or Surgery of the Axilla After a Positive Sentinel Node in Breast Cancer: 10-Year Results of the Randomized Controlled EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS Trial. J Clin Oncol JCO2201565.  
<https://doi.org/10.1200/jco.22.01565>

1-2 pos SLN: Mastectomy: If RT of chestwall is indicated, no axillary treatment (criteria ACOSOG Z011)

EXPERT OPINION, extrapolated from:

1. Giuliano AE, Hunt KK, Ballmann KV, et al. Axillary dissection vs no axillary dissection in women with breast invasive cancer and sentinel node metastasis. A randomised clinical trial. JAMA 2011;305(6):569-5753.
2. Galimberti V, Cole BF, Zurrada S et al: International Breast Cancer Study Group Trial 23-01 investigators. Axillary dissection versus no axillary dissection in patients with sentinel-node micrometastases (IBCSG 23-01): a phase 3 randomised controlled trial. Lancet Oncol. 2013 Apr;14(4):297-305.

1-2 pos SLN: Mastectomy: If RT of chestwall is not planned, axillary dissection or radiotherapy of the axilla

EXPERT OPINION, extrapolated from:

1. Donker M, Tienhoven G, Straver ME, et al. Radiotherapy or surgery of the axilla after a positive sentinel node in breast cancer (EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS) a randomised, multicenter open label, phase 3 non inferiority trial. Lancet Oncol 2014;15:1333-10.
2. Bartels SAL, Donker M, Poncet C, et al (2022) Radiotherapy or Surgery of the Axilla After a Positive Sentinel Node in Breast Cancer: 10-Year Results of the Randomized Controlled EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS Trial. J Clin Oncol JCO2201565.  
<https://doi.org/10.1200/jco.22.01565>

>=3 positive SLN: Axillary LN dissection

1. Giuliano AE, Hunt KK, Ballmann KV, et al. Axillary dissection vs no axillary dissection in women with breast invasive cancer and

sentinel node metastasis. A randomised clinical trial. JAMA 2011;305(6):569-575.

2. Donker M, Tienhoven G, Straver ME, et al. Radiotherapy or surgery of the axilla after a positive sentinel node in breast cancer (EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS) a randomised, multicenter open label, phase 3 non inferiority trial. Lancet Oncol 2014;15:1333-10.
3. Bartels SAL, Donker M, Poncet C, et al (2022) Radiotherapy or Surgery of the Axilla After a Positive Sentinel Node in Breast Cancer: 10-Year Results of the Randomized Controlled EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS Trial. J Clin Oncol JCO2201565.  
<https://doi.org/10.1200/jco.22.01565>
4. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C et al: Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. Lancet. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.

#### >=3 positive SLN: Radiotherapy of the axilla

1. Giuliano AE, Hunt KK, Ballmann KV, et al: Axillary dissection vs no axillary dissection in women with breast invasive cancer and sentinel node metastasis. A randomised clinical trial. JAMA 2011;305(6):569-575.
2. Donker M, Tienhoven G, Straver ME, et al: Radiotherapy or surgery of the axilla after a positive sentinel node in breast cancer (EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS) a randomised, multicenter open label, phase 3 non inferiority trial. Lancet Oncol 2014;15:1333-10.
3. Bartels SAL, Donker M, Poncet C, et al (2022) Radiotherapy or Surgery of the Axilla After a Positive Sentinel Node in Breast Cancer: 10-Year Results of the Randomized Controlled EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS Trial. J Clin Oncol JCO2201565.  
<https://doi.org/10.1200/jco.22.01565>
4. EBCTCG (Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group), McGale P, Taylor C, Correa C, et al: Effect of radiotherapy after mastectomy and axillary surgery on 10-year recurrence and 20-year breast cancer mortality: meta-analysis of individual patient data for 8135 women in 22 randomised trials. Lancet. 2014 Jun 21;383(9935):2127-35.

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Additional RT of the Axilla after Primary Surgery</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(in case of an indication for RT of the breast/chest wall<sup>1</sup> +/- supra-/infraclavicular and internal mammary node RT<sup>2</sup>)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Expansion of the PTV (planning target volume) to level I-II<sup>3</sup></b></p>			
pN-status			
pN0(sn) / pN1mic(sn)	1b	B	--
pN0/+ after ALND	1a	A	--
pN+(sn) in analogy to ACOSOG Z0011 (no ALND)	2b	B	+
pN+(sn) not fitting ACOSOG Z0011-criteria → RT in analogy to AMAROS <sup>4</sup> (no ALND)	1b	B	++
Extensive perinodal soft tissue involvement in the axilla	2b	B	+
Residual tumor in the axilla after ALND	5	D	++

<sup>1</sup>Incidental dose to parts of level I/II is inevitable. <sup>2</sup>The indication for supra-/infraclavicular and internal mammary node RT has to be assessed separately. <sup>3</sup>Cranial border 5 mm below the axillary vein. <sup>4</sup>< T3, no palpable LN, R0, 1-2 positive SN, no NACT, always in conjunction with supra-/infraclavicular RT

### Sentinel node negative

1. Krag DN, Anderson SJ, Julian TB, et al: Sentinel-lymph-node resection compared with conventional axillary-lymph-node dissection in clinically node-negative patients with breast cancer: overall survival findings from the NSABPB-32 randomised phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol 2010; 11: 927–33.
2. Galimberti V, Manika A, Maisonneuve P, et al. Long-term follow-up of 5262 breast cancer patients with negative sentinel node and no axillary dissection confirms low rate of axillary disease. Eur J Surg Oncol. 2014 Oct;40(10):1203-8.

### Complete Axillary lymph node dissection after positive sentinel lymph node may be omitted in certain cases due to lack of benefit in prospectively randomized studies

1. Galimberti V, Cole BF, Zurrada S, et al. International Breast Cancer Study Group Trial 23-01 investigators. Axillary dissection versus no axillary dissection in patients with sentinel-node micrometastases (IBCSG 23-01): a phase 3 randomised controlled trial. Lancet Oncol. 2013 Apr;14(4):297-305.
2. Giuliano AE, Ballman KV, McCall L, et al. Effect of Axillary Dissection vs No Axillary Dissection on 10-Year Overall Survival Among Women With Invasive Breast Cancer and Sentinel Node Metastasis: The ACOSOG Z0011 (Alliance) Randomized Clinical Trial. JAMA. 2017 Sep 12;318(10):918-926.
3. Jagsi R, Manjoet C, Moni J, et al. Radiation field design in the ACOSOG Z0011 (Alliance) trial. J Clin Oncol 2014;Nov 10;32(32): 3600-6

#### Regional nodal irradiation without ALND in non-Z0011-eligible patients

1. Donker M, Tienhoven G, Straver ME et al. Radiotherapy or surgery of the axilla after a positive sentinel node in breast cancer (EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS) a randomised, multicenter open label, phase 3 non inferiority trial. Lancet Oncol 2014;15:1333-10
2. Bartels SAL, Donker M, Poncet C, et al (2022) Radiotherapy or Surgery of the Axilla After a Positive Sentinel Node in Breast Cancer: 10-Year Results of the Randomized Controlled EORTC 10981-22023 AMAROS Trial. J Clin Oncol JCO2201565.  
<https://doi.org/10.1200/jco.22.01565>

#### Axillary soft tissue involvement

1. Naoum GE, Oladeru O, Ababneh H et al. Pathological Exploration of the Axillary Soft Tissue Microenvironment and Its Impact on Axillary Management and Breast Cancer Outcomes. J Clin Oncol 2023 Nov 15;JCO2301009. doi: 10.1200/JCO.23.01009.

#### Tumor residuals after axillary dissection

1. Interdisziplinäre S3-Leitlinie für die Diagnostik, Therapie und Nachsorge des Mammakarzinoms, Aktualisierung 2017 Version 4.2. Herausgeber: Leitlinienprogramm Onkologie der AWMF, Deutschen Krebsgesellschaft e.V. und Deutschen Krebshilfe e.V.

		Oxford		
		LoE	GR	AGO
<b>Additional RT of the Axilla after Neoadjuvant Therapy</b>				
(in case of an indication for RT of the breast/chest wall <sup>1</sup> +/- supra- / infraclavicular and internal mammary node RT <sup>2</sup> )				
Expansion of the PTV (planning target volume) to level I-II <sup>3</sup>				
N-status pre/post NACT	pN-status			
cN0 / ycN0	ypN0(sn)	5	D	-
cN0 / ycN0	ypN1mic(sn) / ypN+(sn) (no ALND)	5	D	+ <sup>4</sup>
cN+ <sup>cNB</sup> / ycN0	ypN0 / ypN0(i+) (sn/TAD)	5	D	+/- <sup>4</sup>
cN+ <sup>cNB</sup> / ycN0	ypN1mic(sn/TAD) / ypN+(sn/TAD) (no ALND)	5	D	+ <sup>4</sup>
cN0/cN+	ypN0/+ after ALND	2b	B	-
cN0/cN+	Extensive perinodal soft tissue involvement in the axilla	2b	B	+
cN0/cN+	Residual tumor in the axilla after ALND	5	D	++

<sup>1</sup>Incidental dose to parts of level I/II is inevitable. <sup>2</sup>The indication for supra-/infraclavicular and internal mammary node RT has to be assessed separately. <sup>3</sup>Cranial border 5 mm below the axillary vein. <sup>4</sup>Study participation recommended.

### Statement surgical intervention in the axilla before or after neoadjuvant chemotherapy

- Ryu JM, Lee SK, Kim JY, et al. Predictive Factors for Nonsentinel Lymph Node Metastasis in Patients With Positive Sentinel Lymph Nodes After Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy: Nomogram for Predicting Nonsentinel Lymph Node Metastasis. Clin Breast Cancer. 2017 Nov;17(7):550-55
- Galimberti V, Ribeiro Fontana SK, Maisonneuve P. Sentinel node biopsy after neoadjuvant treatment in breast cancer: five-year follow-up of patients with clinically node-negative or node-positive disease before treatment. Eur J Surg Oncol 2016;42(3) 361-8
- Martelli G, Miceli R, Folli S, et al. Sentinel node biopsy after primary chemotherapy in cT2 N0/1 breast cancer patients: Long-term results of a retrospective study. Eur J Surg Oncol. 2017 Nov;43(11):2012-2020.
- Kahler-Ribeiro-Fontana S, Pagan E, Magnoni F, et al.: Long-term standard sentinel node biopsy after neoadjuvant treatment in breast cancer: a single institution ten-year follow-up, Eur J Surg Oncol. 2020 Oct 15;S0748-7983(20)30846-5.

### Axillary intervention after PST

- Tee SR, Devane LA, Evoy D et al. Meta-analysis of sentinel lymph node biopsy after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in patients with initial biopsy-proven node-positive breast cancer. Br J Surg. 2018 Nov;105(12):1541-1552.
- Balic M, Thomssen C, Würstlein R, Gnant M, Harbeck N. St. Gallen/Vienna 2019: A Brief Summary of the Consensus Discussion on the Optimal Primary Breast Cancer Treatment. Breast Care (Basel). 2019 Apr;14(2):103-110.

3. Classe JM, Loaec C, Gimbergues P et al. Sentinel lymph node biopsy without axillary lymphadenectomy after neoadjuvant chemotherapy is accurate and safe for selected patients: the GANEA 2 study. *Breast Cancer Res Treat.* 2019 Jan;173(2):343-352.
4. Moo TA, Edelweiss M, Hajiyeva S, et al. Is Low-Volume Disease in the Sentinel Node After Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy an Indication for Axillary Dissection? [published correction appears in *Ann Surg Oncol.* 2020 Feb 21;:]. *Ann Surg Oncol.* 2018;25(6):1488–1494.
5. Wong SM , Almana N , Choi J et al: Prognostic Significance of Residual Axillary Nodal Micrometastases and Isolated Tumor Cells After Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy for Breast Cancer, *Ann Surg Oncol.* 2019 Oct;26(11):3502-3509.

#### Axillary soft tissue involvement

1. Naoum GE, Oladeru O, Ababneh H et al. Pathological Exploration of the Axillary Soft Tissue Microenvironment and Its Impact on Axillary Management and Breast Cancer Outcomes. *J Clin Oncol* 2023 Nov 15;JCO2301009. doi: 10.1200/JCO.23.01009.

#### Tumor residuals after axillary dissection

1. Interdisziplinäre S3-Leitlinie für die Diagnostik, Therapie und Nachsorge des Mammakarzinoms, Aktualisierung 2017 Version 4.2. Herausgeber: Leitlinienprogramm Onkologie der AWMF, Deutschen Krebsgesellschaft e.V. und Deutschen Krebshilfe e.V.



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## Impact of axillary soft tissue involvement on regional recurrence

**Naoum et al. J Clin Oncol 2023 Nov 15;JCO2301009. doi: 10.1200/JCO.23.01009.**

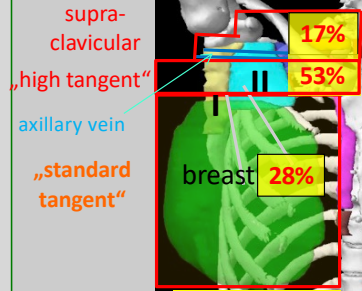
- Retrospective single center analysis, 2162 pat. with node-positive breast cancer treated 2000-2020.
- Analysis according to extracapsular extension (ECE) and axillary soft tissue involvement (AXT).
  - No ECE or AXT in 57.7%
  - ECE only in 24.9%
  - AXT only in 2.6%
  - ECE and AXT in 13.9%
- On multivariate analysis, AXT was significantly associated with distant failure (HR 1.61,  $p < 0.001$ ), locoregional failure (HR 2.31,  $p < 0.001$ ) and axillary failure (HR 3.33,  $p = 0.003$ ).
- Regional nodal irradiation improved locoregional control in patients with ECE and/or AXT (HR 0.5,  $p = 0.03$ ). Delivering a dose of  $< 50$  Gy with conventional fractionation was associated with a higher risk of axillary failure.
- AXT was also associated with distant failure, locoregional failure and axillary failure in patients that underwent neoadjuvant chemotherapy.

Naoum GE, Oladeru O, Ababneh H et al. Pathological Exploration of the Axillary Soft Tissue Microenvironment and Its Impact on Axillary Management and Breast Cancer Outcomes. J Clin Oncol 2023 Nov 15;JCO2301009. doi: 10.1200/JCO.23.01009.



## Dose in the Axillary LN-levels I + II Using Different RT-Techniques

ACOSOG Z0011 Trial  
45% micrometast. in the exp. arm



2% no RT

Data from 228/856 pat.

RT-volume  
% of patients

AMAROS

LN level	mean dose*	encompassed volume**
<b>LN level 1</b>		
AMAROS	> 95%	> 95%
high tangent	86%	79%
standard tangent	66%	51%
IMRT <sup>+</sup>	29%	1%
<b>LN-level 2</b>		
AMAROS	> 95%	> 95%
high tangent	71%	51%
standard tangent	44%	26%
IMRT <sup>+</sup>	7%	0%

\* in relation to the prescribed dose in the breast

\*\* % volume receiving the prescribed dose

+ Lee et al. Medicine 2016 (3)

**Jagsi (2):** "The results of Z0011 should not be extrapolated to patients who receive RT using partial-breast or prone techniques, in which substantially less of the axilla is included"

1. Giuliano et al. Effect of Axillary Dissection vs No Axillary Dissection on 10-Year Overall Survival Among Women With Invasive Breast Cancer and Sentinel Node Metastasis: The ACOSOG Z0011 (Alliance) Randomized Clinical Trial. JAMA. 2017 Sep 12;318(10):918-926
2. Jagsi R et al. Radiation field design in the ACOSOG Z0011 (Alliance) Trial. J Clin Oncol. 2014 Nov 10;32(32):3600-6
3. Lee J et al.. Dosimetric evaluation of incidental irradiation to the axilla during whole breast radiotherapy for patients with left-sided early breast cancer in the IMRT era. Medicine (Baltimore). 2016 Jun;95(26):e403

## Regional nodal irradiation

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
<b><u>RT to the supra-/ infraclavicular and internal mammary region</u></b>			
▪ ≥ 4 involved axillary lymph nodes <sup>1</sup>	1a	A	++
▪ 1–3 involved axillary lymph nodes <sup>1</sup>	1a	A	+
• Central or medial tumor			
• HR-negative			
▪ pN0 and premenopausal with central or medial tumor and G3 and HR-negative	1a	B	+
▪ Clinical involvement of the above mentioned regions	2b	B	+
▪ In case of left-sided breast cancer with elevated cardiac risk or if simultaneous HER2-targeted therapy is given	2b	A	-

<sup>1</sup> not applicable for micrometastases

1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG). Radiotherapy to regional nodes in early breast cancer: an individual patient data meta-analysis of 14 324 women in 16 trials. *Lancet*. 2023 Nov 25;402(10416):1991-2003.
2. Poortmans PM, Collette S, Kirkove C et al. Internal Mammary and Medial Supraclavicular Irradiation in Breast Cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2015 Jul 23;373(4):317-27.
3. Poortmans PM, Weltens C, Fortpied C, et al. Internal mammary and medial supraclavicular lymph node chain irradiation in stage I-III breast cancer (EORTC 22922/10925): 15-year results of a randomised, phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2020 Dec;21(12):1602-1610.
4. Poortmans PM, Struikmans H, De Brouwer P et al., Side Effects 15 Years After Lymph Node Irradiation in Breast Cancer: Randomized EORTC Trial 22922/10925. *J Nat Cancer Inst*. 2021;113:1360-1368.
5. Whelan TJ, Olivotto IA, Parulekar WR et al. Regional Nodal Irradiation in Early-Stage Breast Cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2015 Jul 23;373(4):307-16.
6. Kim YB, Byun HK, Kim DY et al. Effect of Elective Internal Mammary Node Irradiation on Disease-Free Survival in Women With Node-Positive Breast Cancer: A Randomized Phase 3 Clinical Trial. *JAMA Oncol*. 2021;e216036. doi: 10.1001/jamaoncol.2021.6036.
7. Thorsen LBJ, Overgaard J, Matthiessen LW, et al (2022) Internal Mammary Node Irradiation in Patients With Node-Positive Early Breast Cancer: Fifteen-Year Results From the Danish Breast Cancer Group Internal Mammary Node Study. *J Clin Oncol* JCO2200044. <https://doi.org/10.1200/jco.22.00044>

8. Hennequin C, Bossard N, Servagi-Vernat S, et al. Ten-Year Survival Results of a Randomized Trial of Irradiation of Internal Mammary Nodes After Mastectomy. *Int J Radiation Oncol Biol Phys* 2013; 86 (5): 860-866.

#### RT plus concurrent Trastuzumab +/- Pertuzumab

1. Bachir B, Anouti S, Jaoude JA et al. Evaluation of Cardiotoxicity in HER-2 Positive Breast Cancer Patients Treated with Radiation Therapy and Trastuzumab. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2022;S0360-3016(21)03432-5.
2. Belkacemi and J. Gligorov, Concurrent trastuzumab — internal mammary irradiation for HER2 positive breast cancer: “It hurts to be on the cutting edge”. *Radiother Oncol* 2010;94:119-20 (Letter to the editor).
3. Belkacémi Y, Gligorov J, Ozsahin M, et al. Concurrent trastuzumab with adjuvant radiotherapy in HER2-positive breast cancer patients: acute toxicity analyses from the French multicentric study. *Ann Oncol* 2008;19:1110-6.
4. Halyard MY, Pisansky TM, Dueck AC, et al. Radiotherapy and adjuvant trastuzumab in operable breast cancer: tolerability and adverse event data from the NCCTG Phase III Trial N9831. *J Clin Oncol* 2009;27:2638-44.
5. Jacob J, Belin L, Pierga JY, et al: Concurrent administration of trastuzumab with locoregional breast radiotherapy: long-term results of a prospective study. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2014 Nov;148(2):345-53.
6. Kirova YM, Causa L, Granger B, et al. [Monocentric evaluation of the skin and cardiac toxicities of the concomitant administration of trastuzumab and radiotherapy]. *Cancer Radiother* 2009;13:276-80.
7. Shaffer R, Tyldesley S, Rolles M, et al. Acute cardiotoxicity with concurrent trastuzumab and radiotherapy including internal mammary chain nodes: A retrospective single-institution study. *Radiother Oncol* 2009;90:122-126
8. Aboudaram A, Loap P, Loirat D, et al (2021) Pertuzumab and Trastuzumab Combination with Concomitant Locoregional Radiotherapy for the Treatment of Breast Cancers with HER2 Receptor Overexpression. *Cancers* 13:4790.

#### RT to Supra-/infraclavicular lymphatic regions after NACT/NAT (indications as for PMRT)

1. Please check slide on radiotherapy after NACT



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## Regional nodal irradiation: EBCTCG-metaanalysis 2023

		EBCTCG-metaanalysis („newer trials“, recruitment 1989 onwards)	
Patient number		12,167	
Median FU		13.7 years	
Design		7 randomized controlled trials and 1 national prospective cohort study	
Target volume		92% in the experimental arm had internal mammary irradiation	
Results		Absolute reduction at 15 years	Relative reduction
Any recurrence		2.6%	RR 0.88 (95%-CI 0.81-0.95)
pN0		2.3%	
pN1-3		2.9%	
pN4+		4.3%	
Breast-cancer mortality		3.0%	RR 0.87 (95%-CI 0.80-0.94)
pN0		1.6%	
pN1-3		2.7%	
pN4+		4.5%	
Mortality w/o recurrence		-3.0%	RR 0.90 (95%-CI 0.84-0.96)
Any death		-3.0%	RR 0.90 (95%-CI 0.84-0.96)

Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG). Radiotherapy to regional nodes in early breast cancer: an individual patient data meta-analysis of 14 324 women in 16 trials. *Lancet*. 2023 Nov 25;402(10416):1991-2003.

## Fractionation of Radiotherapy in Case of Regional Nodal Irradiation

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conventionally fractionated radiotherapy (total dose about 50 Gy in approx. 25-28 fractions within 5–6 weeks)</li> </ul>	1a	A	++
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderately hypofractionated radiotherapy (total dose approx. 40–43.5 Gy in 15-16 fractions within 3–5 weeks)</li> </ul>	1b	B	+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ultra-hypofractionated RT (total dose 26 Gy in 5 fractions over one week = 1 fraction/day)</li> </ul>	2b	B	-

- Poortmans PM, Collette S, Kirkove C et al. Internal Mammary and Medial Supraclavicular Irradiation in Breast Cancer. N Engl J Med. 2015 Jul 23;373(4):317-27.
- Whelan TJ, Olivotto IA, Parulekar WR et al. Regional Nodal Irradiation in Early-Stage Breast Cancer. N Engl J Med. 2015 Jul 23;373(4):307-16.
- Wang SL, Fang H, Song YW et al. Hypofractionated versus conventional fractionated postmastectomy radiotherapy for patients with high-risk breast cancer: a randomised, non-inferiority, open-label, phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol. 2019 Mar;20(3):352-360.
- Bellefqih S, Elmajjaoui S, Aarab J et al. Hypofractionated Regional Nodal Irradiation for Women With Node-Positive Breast Cancer. Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2017 Mar 1;97(3):563-570.
- Badiyan SN, Shah C, Arthur D et al. Hypofractionated regional nodal irradiation for breast cancer: examining the data and potential for future studies. Radiother Oncol. 2014 Jan;110(1):39-44.
- Haviland JS, Mannino M, Griffin C et al. Late normal tissue effects in the arm and shoulder following lymphatic radiotherapy: Results from the UK START (Standardisation of Breast Radiotherapy) trials. Radiother Oncol. 2018 Jan;126(1):155-162.
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## Hypofractionated regional nodal irradiation

	START-P/A/B subgroups	Wang et al.	DBCG Skagen 1 (Abstract)	HypoG-01
Patient number	864	820	2963	1265
Fractionation	39-42.9 Gy in 13-15 fx	43.5 Gy in 15 Fx	40 Gy in 15 Fx	40 Gy in 15 Fx
Median FU	10 years	58.5 months	3 years	3 years
Primary endpoint	Late normal tissue effects	Locoregional recurrence	Lymphedema at 3 years	Lymphedema at 3 years
Statistical design	Retrospective analysis	Non-inferiority	Non-inferiority	Non-inferiority
Results	No statistically significant differences for LRR or late normal tissue effects	Non-inferiority for LRR (primary analysis)	No increased risk of lymphedema or LRR (primary analysis)	Non-inferiority for lymphedema Superiority for LRR, DFS, OS

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## Radiotherapy after NACT

Pretherapeutic	Posttherapeutic	RT-BCS	PMRT	RNI*	Oxford	
		AGO	AGO	AGO	LoE	GR
Locally advanced	pCR / no pCR	++	++	++	1a/1a/1a	A/A/A
cT1-3 cN1**	ypT+ ypN0	++	+	+/- <sup>1</sup>	1a/1b/1b	A/B/B
cT1-3 cN1**	ypT0/is ypN0	++	+/- <sup>1</sup>	+/- <sup>1</sup>	1a/1b/1b	A/B/B
cT1-3 cN0 / cN1** (Sonogr. obligatory)	ypN+ o. ypT3/4	++	+	+	1a/2b/2b	A/B/B
cT1-3 cN0 (Sonogr. obligatory)	ypT0/is ypN0	++	-	-	1a/2b/2b	A/B/B
cT1-3 cN0 (Sonogr. obligatory)	ypT1-2 ypN0	++	-	-	1a/2b/2b	A/B/B

Locally advanced: T4 or cN2-N3

<sup>1</sup> Criteria for increased risk of relapse / benefit of locoregional radiotherapy:

- Central/medial tumor, HR-negative, premenopausal, non-pCR in the breast, residual micrometastases in the axillary nodes, cT3

\* Regarding coverage of axilla level I/II please also see slides „Additional RT of the axilla after primary surgery“ and „Additional RT of the axilla after neoadjuvant therapy“. \*\* = confirmed by core biopsy

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## Role of locoregional radiotherapy after neoadjuvant chemotherapy

### Mamounas et al. SABCs 2023 – GS02-07 (NSABP B-51/RTOG 1304)

- Prospective randomized controlled trial, 1641 pts., 2013-2020, median follow-up 59.5 months
- cT1-3 cN1 (FNA/CNB) → ypN0 (SLNB/ALND) after standard neoadjuvant chemotherapy
- Randomization:
  - BCS: RT breast vs. RT breast + regional nodal irradiation
  - Mastectomy: No RT vs. Post-mastectomy RT + regional nodal irradiation
- Primary endpoint: Invasive breast cancer recurrence-free interval
  - 80% power to detect 4.6% absolute reduction (HR 0.65) – superiority trial, 172 events
- Patient characteristics: 80% cT1-2, 58% BCS, 55% SLNB, 78% pCR in breast, 20% TNBC, 20% Lum
- Results:
  - No improvement in BCRFI (HR 0.88), isolated locoregional recurrence-free interval (HR 0.37), distant recurrence-free interval (HR 1.00), DFS (1.06) and OS (HR 1.12)
- Discussion:
  - Short follow-up (benefit of RNI appeared in EBCTCG-metaanalysis after 10-15 years)
  - Underpowered for primary analysis (109/172 planned events)
  - Trial should have been designed as a non-inferiority trial
  - Underrepresented subgroups: cT3, ypT+
  - Not applicable to: cT4 cN2-3

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## Use of Concomitant Systemic Therapy with Adjuvant Locoregional Radiotherapy

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Trastuzumab / Pertuzumab*	1a	A	++
▪ T-DM1	1b	A	+
▪ Tamoxifen	2b	B	+
▪ Aromatase inhibitors	2b	B	+
▪ Checkpoint inhibitors	2b	C	+
▪ Capecitabine**	2b	B	+
▪ CDK4/6-inhibitors***	4	C	+/-
▪ Olaparib****	2b	C	+/-

\* Simultaneous parasternal RT should be avoided in patients with HER2-positive tumors and tumor-localisation on the left side

\*\* With hypofractionated RT approx. 40 Gy, consider dose reduction of Capecitabine, Pat. with high risk for locoregional recurrence

\*\*\* In currently available phase III-trials (monarchE, PALLAS, Penelope-B) RT was given before initiation of CDK4/6-inhibitors. No definitive signs of significantly increased toxicity with concomitant RT in the palliative setting.

\*\*\*\* In currently available phase III-trials, RT was given before initiation of Olaparib.

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## Smoking and Risk of Secondary Lung Cancer

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Increased risk of lung cancer secondary to breast cancer radiotherapy in smokers</b></li> <li>■ <b>Inform patients about risk</b></li> <li>■ <b>Recommend smoking cessation</b></li> </ul>	1a	A	++  ++

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