Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients with early and advanced Breast Cancer

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Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy in Pre- and Postmenopausal Patients

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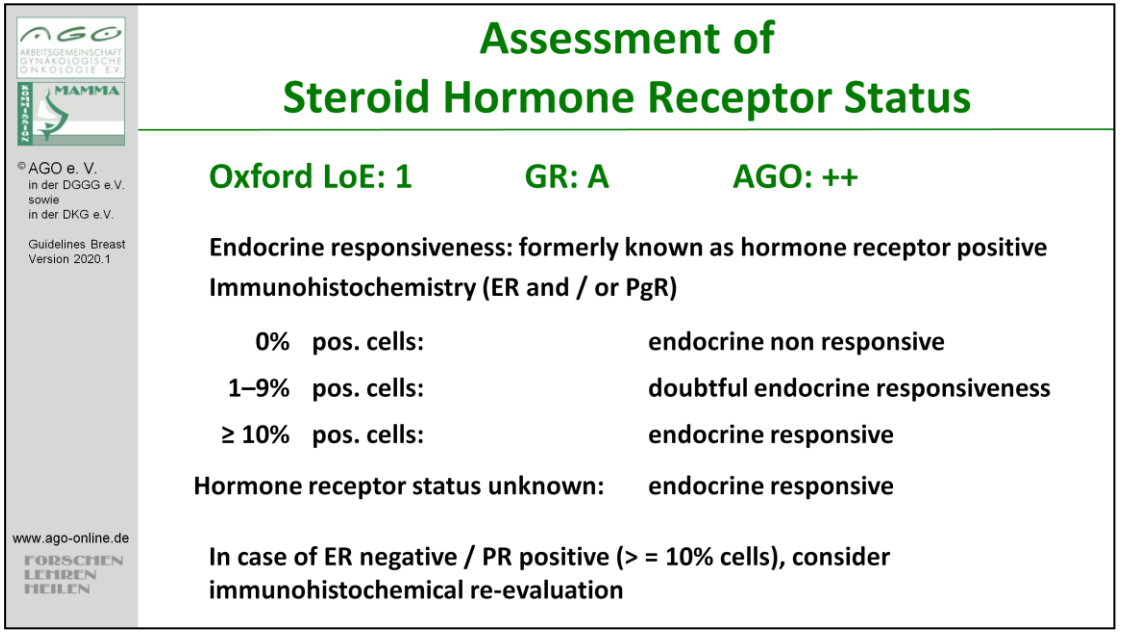


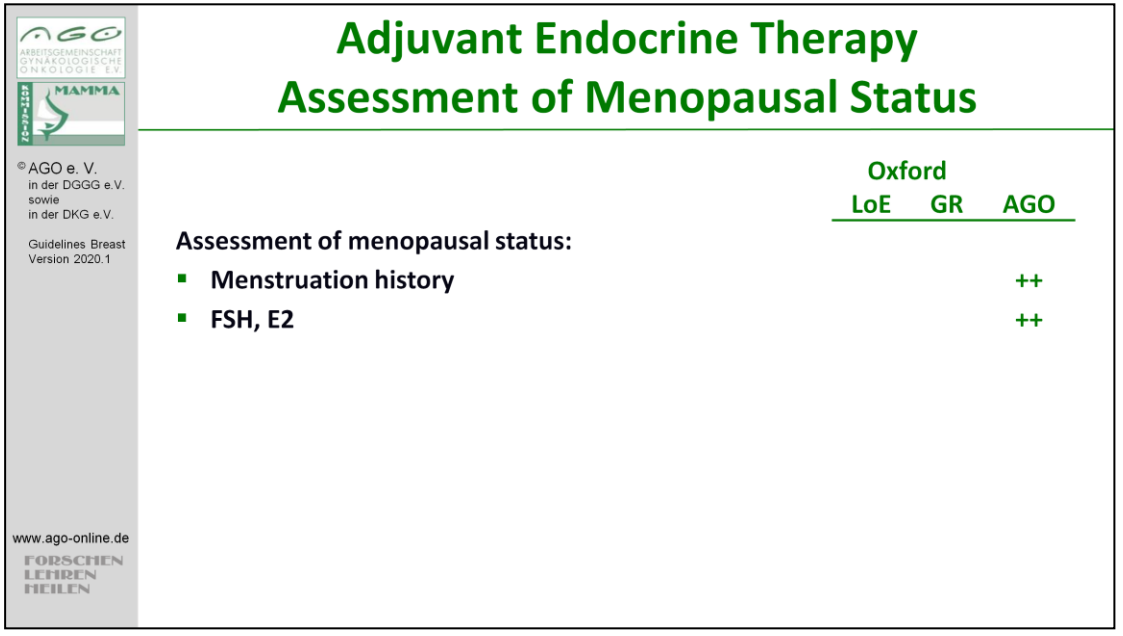
Endocrine responsiveness:

1. Hammond ME , Hayes DF, DowsettM et al. American Society of Clinical Oncology/College Of American Pathologists guideline recommendations for immunohistochemical testing of estrogen and progesterone receptors in breast cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2010 Jun 1;28(16):2784-95. Review. Erratum in: J Clin Oncol. 2010 Jul 20;28(21):3543.
2. Early Breast Cancer Trialists Collaborative Group EBCTCG. Effects of chemotherapy and hormonal therapy for early breast cancer on recurrence and 15-year survival: an overview of the randomised trials. Lancet. 2005;365(9472):1687–717.
3. Traub L, Thill M, Nitschmann S: 20-Jahres-Ergebnisse einer 5−jährigen Hormontherapie bei Mammakarzinom : Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG). Internist (Berl). Springer Medizin 2018;59(4):410–2.
4. Pan H, Gray R, Braybrooke J et al. 20-Year Risks of Breast-Cancer Recurrence after Stopping Endocrine Therapy at 5 Years. N Engl J Med. 2017;377(19):1836–46.

In case of ER negative / PR positive (>10% cells): consider immunohistochemical re-evaluation:

1. Viale G, Regan MM, Maiorano E et al. Prognostic and predictive value of centrally reviewed expression of estrogen and progesterone receptors in a randomized trial comparing letrozole and tamoxifen adjuvant therapy for postmenopausal early

breast cancer: BIG 1-98. J Clin Oncol 2007;25:3846-52.
2. Cserni G, Fracz M, Kalman E et al. Estrogen receptor negative and progesterone receptor positive breast carcinomas-how frequent are they? Pathol Oncol Res 2011;17:663-8.
3. Hefti MM, Hu R, Knblauch NW et al. Estrogen receptor negative/progesterone receptor positive breast cancer is not a reproducible subtype. Breast Cancer Res 2013;15:R68.
4. Yi M, Huo L, Koenig KB et al. Which threshold for ER positivity? a retrospective study based on 9639 patients. Ann Oncol 2014;25:1004-11.



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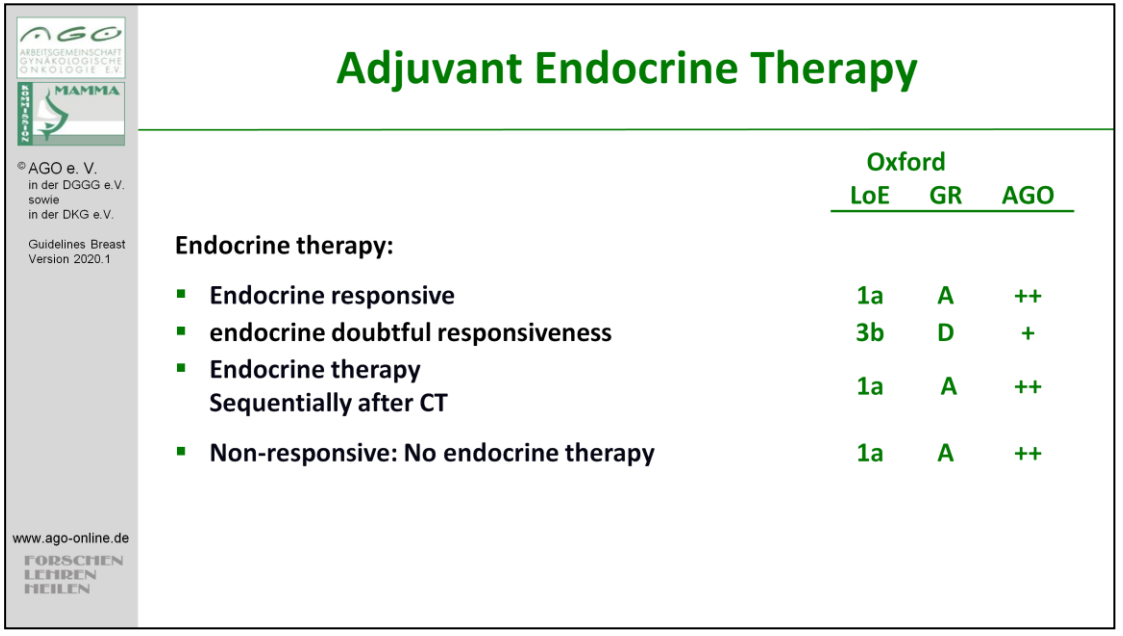

1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group. Effects of chemotherapy and hormonal therapy for early breast cancer on recurrence and 15-year survival: an overview of randomised trials. Lancet 2005;365:1687-717.
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8. Regan MM, Walley BA, Francis PA et al. Concurrent and sequential initiation of ovarian function suppression with chemotherapy

in premenopausal women with endocrine-responsive early breast cancer: an exploratory analysis of TEXT and SOFT. Ann Oncol 2017;28:2225-2232.
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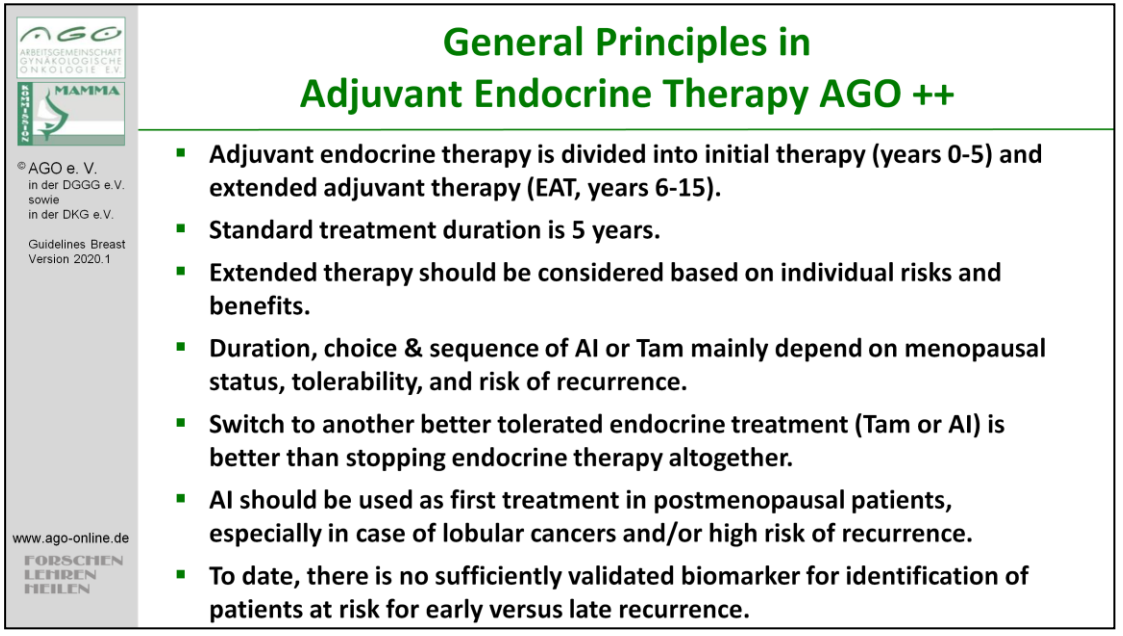

1. Ingle JN: Overview of adjuvant trials of aromatase inhibitors in early breast cancer. Steroids 2011;76(8):765-7.
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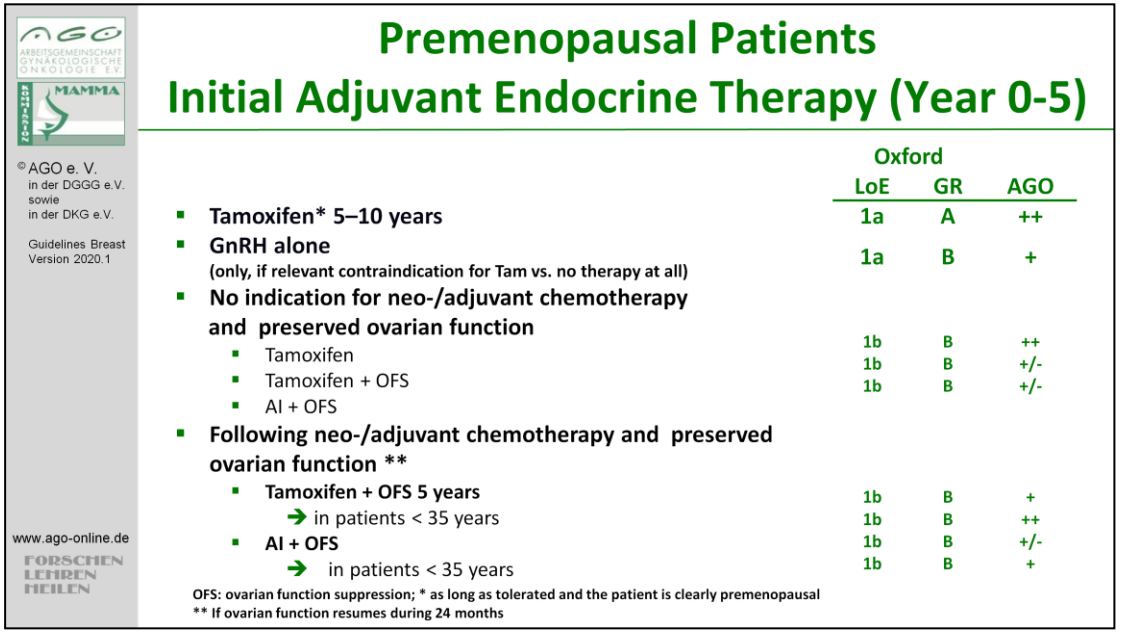

Tamoxifen 5-10 yrs:

1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG). Effects of chemotherapy and hormonal therapy for early breast cancer on recurrence and 15-year survival: an overview of the randomised trials. Lancet 2005;365:1687-717.
2. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG). Relevance of breast cancer hormone receptors and other factors to the efficacy of adjuvant tamoxifen: patient-level meta-analysis of randomised trials. Lancet 2011;378:771-84.
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6. Ruhstaller T, Giobbie-Hurder A: Adjuvant Letrozole and Tamoxifen Alone or Sequentially for Postmenopausal Women With Hormone Receptor–Positive Breast Cancer: Long-Term Follow-Up of the BIG 1-98 Trial JCO 37:105-114

GnRH as monotherapy:

1. Cuzick J, Ambroisine L, Davidson N et al: Use of luteinising-hormone-releasing hormone agonists as adjuvant treatment in premenopausal patients with hormone-receptor-positive breast cancer: a meta-analysis of individual patient data from randomised adjuvant trials. Lancet 2007; 369:1711-23.

Ovarian function suppression (OFS) with Tam/AI and Tam with or without OFS:

1. Goel S, Sharma R, Hamilton A et al: LHRH agonists for adjuvant therapy of early breast cancer in premenopausal women. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 20097;(4):CD004562.
2. Francis PA, Regan MM, Fleming GF et al. The SOFT Investigators and the International Breast Cancer Study Group. Adjuvant Ovarian Suppression in Premenopausal Breast Cancer. N Engl J Med 2015;372(5):436-46.
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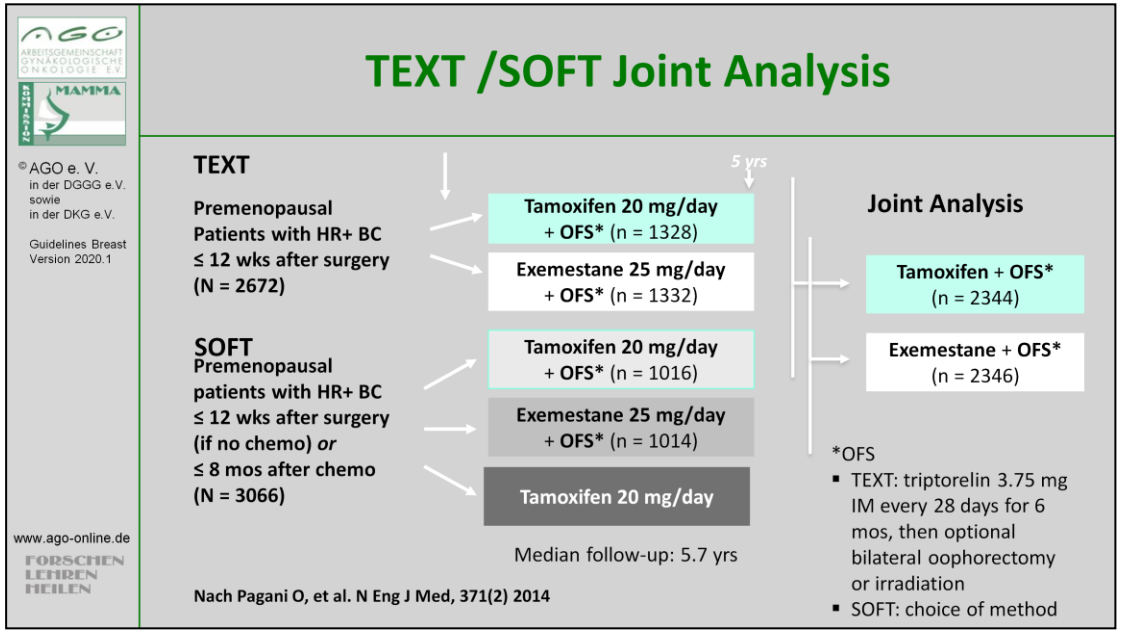
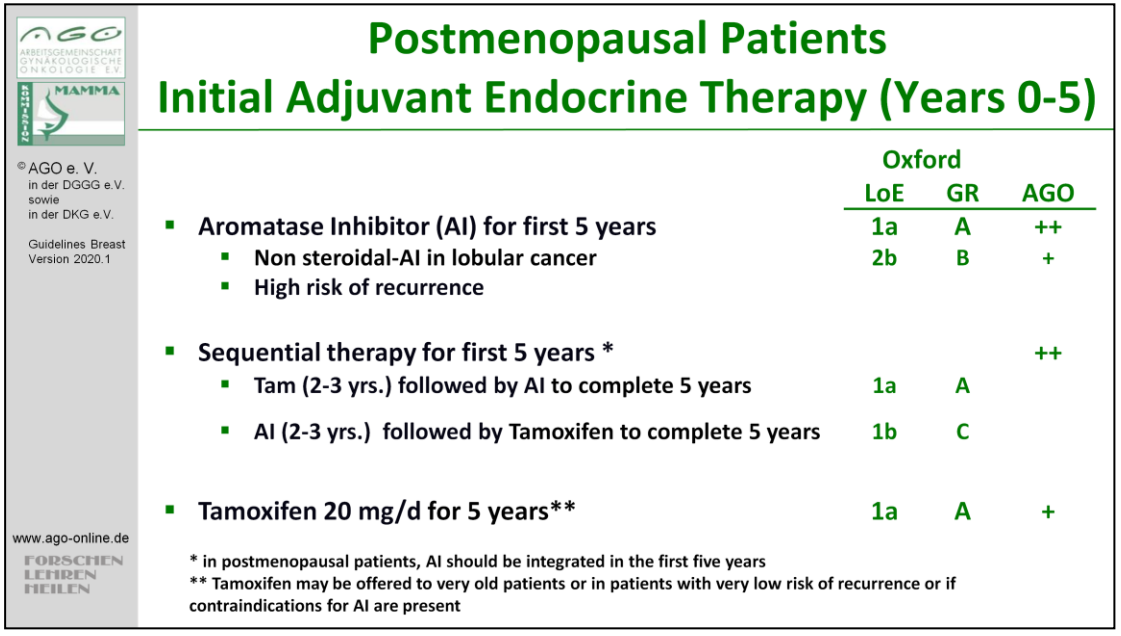


1. Pagani O, Gelber S, Colleoni M, et al. Impact of SERM adherence on treatment effect: International Breast Cancer Study Group Trials 13-93 and 14-93. Breast Cancer Res Treat 2013;142(2):455-9.
2. Francis PA, Regan MM, Fleming GF et al. The SOFT Investigators and the International Breast Cancer Study Group. Adjuvant Ovarian Suppression in Premenopausal Breast Cancer. N Engl J Med 2015;372(5):436-46.



<u>AI for first 5 years:</u>

1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG): Aromatase inhibitors versus tamoxifen in early breast cancer: patient-level meta-analysis of the randomised trials. Lancet 2015;386(10001):1341-52.
2. Rydén L, Heibert Arnlind M, Vitols S et al. Aromatase inhibitors alone or sequentially combined with tamoxifen in postmenopausal early breast cancer compared with tamoxifen or placebo - Meta-analyses on efficacy and adverse events based on randomized clinical trials. Breast 2016;26:106-14.

-Especially in case of lobular cancer

3. Strasser-Weippl K et al. Outcomes in women with invasive ductal or invasive lobular early stage breast cancer treated with anastrozole or exemestane in CCTG (NCIC CTG) MA.27. Eur J Cancer 2018;90:19-25. doi: 10.1016/j.ejca.2017.11.014

-High risk of recurrence:

4. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG): Aromatase inhibitors versus tamoxifen in early breast cancer: patient-level meta-analysis of the randomised trials. Lancet 2015;386(10001):1341-52.

Sequential therapy for first 5 years:

Tam (2-3 yrs.) followed by AI to complete 5 years

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1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG): Aromatase inhibitors versus tamoxifen in early breast cancer: patient-level meta-analysis of the randomised trials. Lancet 2015;386(10001):1341-52.
2. Rydén L, Heibert Arnlind M, Vitols S et al. Aromatase inhibitors alone or sequentially combined with tamoxifen in postmenopausal early breast cancer compared with tamoxifen or placebo - Meta-analyses on efficacy and adverse events based on randomized clinical trials. Breast 2016;26:106-14.
3. Derks MGM, Blok EJ, Seynaeve C et al. Adjuvant tamoxifen and exemestane in women with postmenopausal early breast cancer (TEAM): 10-year follow-up of a multicentre, open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol 2017;18:1211-1220.
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Tamoxifen 20 mg/d for first 5 yrs:

1. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG), et al. Relevance of breast cancer hormone receptors and other factors to the efficacy of adjuvant tamoxifen: patient-level meta-analysis of randomised trials. Lancet 378:771-84, 2011
2. Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG) et al. Aromatase inhibitors versus tamoxifen in early breast cancer: patient-level meta-analysis of the randomised trials. Lancet 2015;386:1341-52.
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Patient care/ adherence and side effects

1. Inwa ld EC, Koller M, Klinkhammer-Schalke M et al. Adjuvant endocrine therapy in pre- versus postmenopausal patients with steroid hormone receptor-positive breast cancer: results from a large population-based cohort of a cancer registry. J Cancer Res Clin Oncol 2015;141(12):2229-40.
2. Markopoulos C, Koukouras D, Venizelos V et al. Impact of chemotherapy followed by aromatase inhibitors on bone health of women with ER-positive early breast cancer in real world clinical settings in Greece: Results of the POCHARBI trial conducted by the Hellenic Society of Breast Surgeons. Breast 2016 ;27:27-34.
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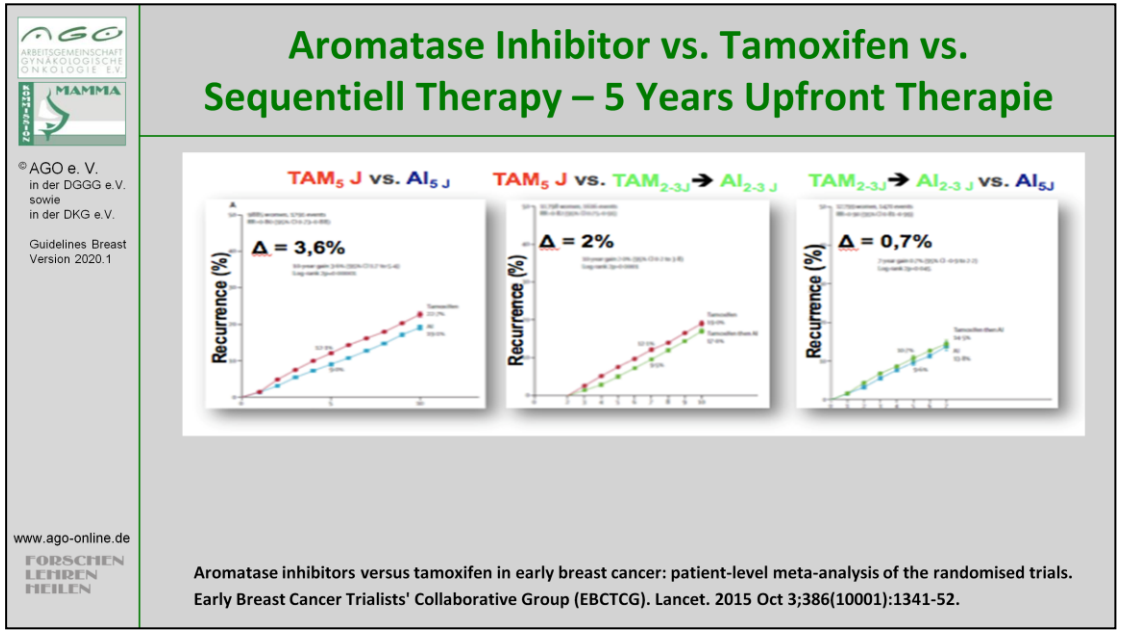

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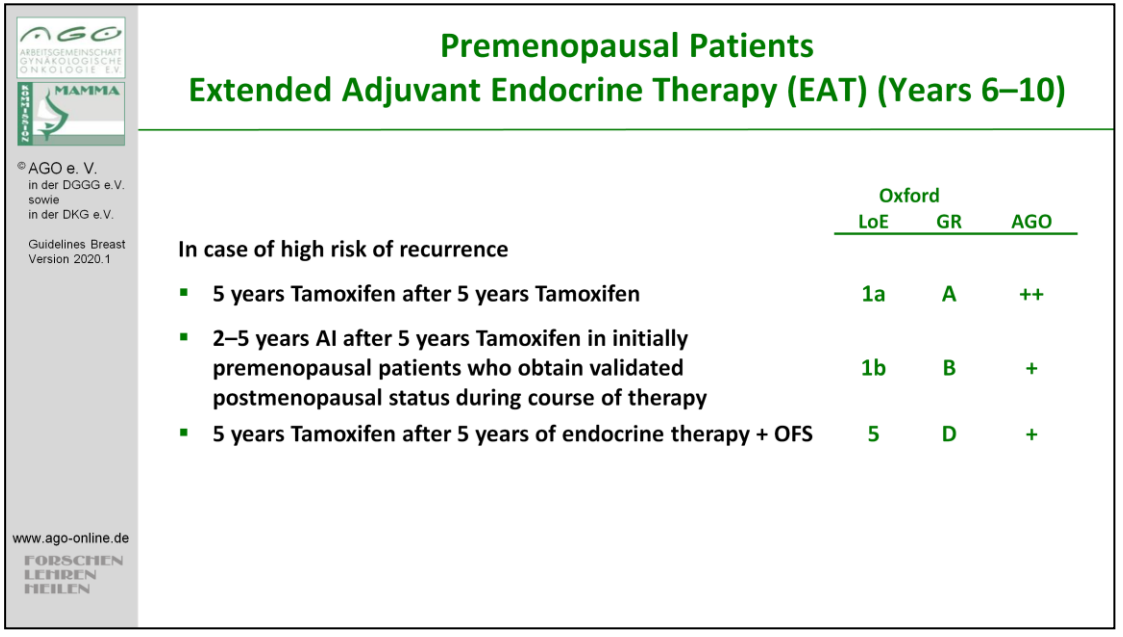

5 years Tamoxifen after 5 years Tamoxifen:

1. Davies C, Pan H, Godwin J et al. Adjuvant Tamoxifen: Longer Against Shorter (ATLAS) Collaborative Group. Long-term effects of continuing adjuvant tamoxifen to 10 years versus stopping at 5 years after diagnosis of oestrogen receptor-positive breast cancer: ATLAS, a randomised trial. Lancet 2013;381(9869):805-16. Erratum in: Lancet. 2013;381(9869):804.
2. Gray RG, Rea D, Handley K et al. ATTom: long-term effects of continuing adjuvant tamoxifen to 10 years versus stopping at 5 years in 6953 women with early breast cancer. J Clin Oncol 2013; 31 (18 suppl):5.
3. Petrelli F, Coinu A, Cabiddu M et al. Five or more years of adjuvant endocrine therapy in breast cancer: a meta-analysis of published randomised trials. Breast Cancer Res Treat 2013;140(2):233-40.
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2–5 years AI after 5 years Tamoxifen in initially premenopausal patients with validated postmenopausal status in the course of therapy:

1. Goss PE, Ingle JN, Martino S et al. Randomized trial of letrozole following tamoxifen as extended adjuvant therapy in receptor-positive breast cancer: updated findings from NCIC CTG MA.17. J Natl Cancer Inst 2005;97(17):1262-71.
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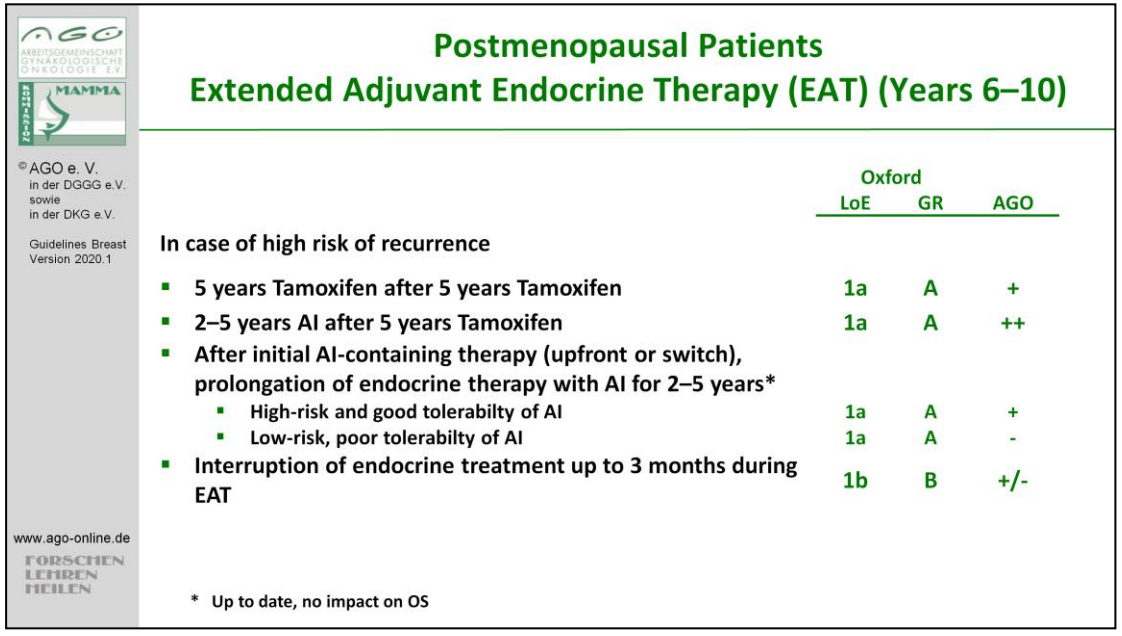

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4. Mamounas EP, Jeong JH, Wickerham DL et al. Benefit from exemestane as extended adjuvant therapy after 5 years of adjuvant tamoxifen: intention-to-treat analysis of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast And Bowel Project B-33 trial. J Clin Oncol 2008;26(12):1965-71.
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10. Del Mastro L, Masutti M: Benefit from letrozole as extended adjuvant therapy after sequential endocrine therapy: a randomized phase III trial of the Gruppo Italiano Mammella, ASCO 2019, abstract 505
11. Mamounas EP, Bandos H: Ten year results from NRG/NSABP – B42: a randomized , double blinded placebo controlle clinical trial of extended adjuvant endocrine therapy with letrozole in postmenopuasal women with hormone receptor + breast cancer who have completed prevoius adjuvant therapy with an aromatase inhibitor after initial AI containing therapy (upfront or switch) further prolongation of endocrine therapy with AI 2-5years. SABCS 2019, GS4-01

low risk, poor tolerabilty of the AI

1. Blok EJ, Kroep JR, Meershoek-Klein Kranenbarg E et al. Optimal Duration of Extended Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy for early breast cancer; results of the IDEAL trial (BOOG 2006-05). J Natl Cancer Inst 2018;110(1): djx134
2. Mamounas EP, Bandos H, Lembersky BC et al. Use of letrozole after aromatase inhibitor-based therapy in postmenopausal breast cancer (NRG Oncology/NSABP B-42): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol 2019;20(1):88-99.
3. Tjan-Heijnen VCG, van Hellemond IEG, Peer PGM et al. Extended adjuvant aromatase inhibition after sequential endocrine therapy (DATA): a randomised, phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol 2017;18(11):1502-1511.
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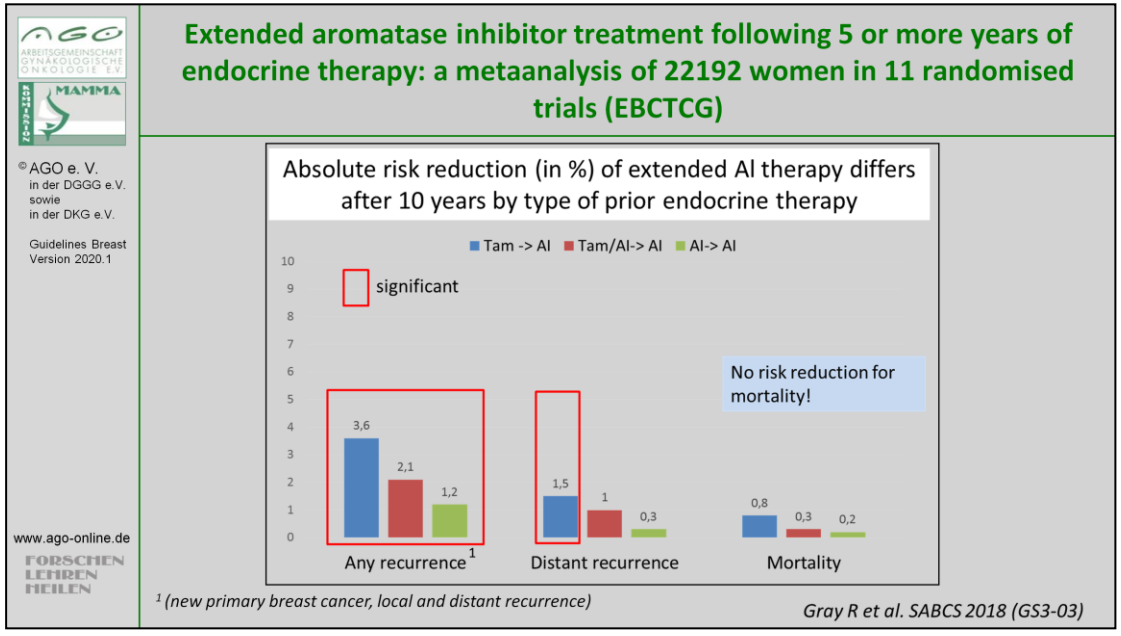

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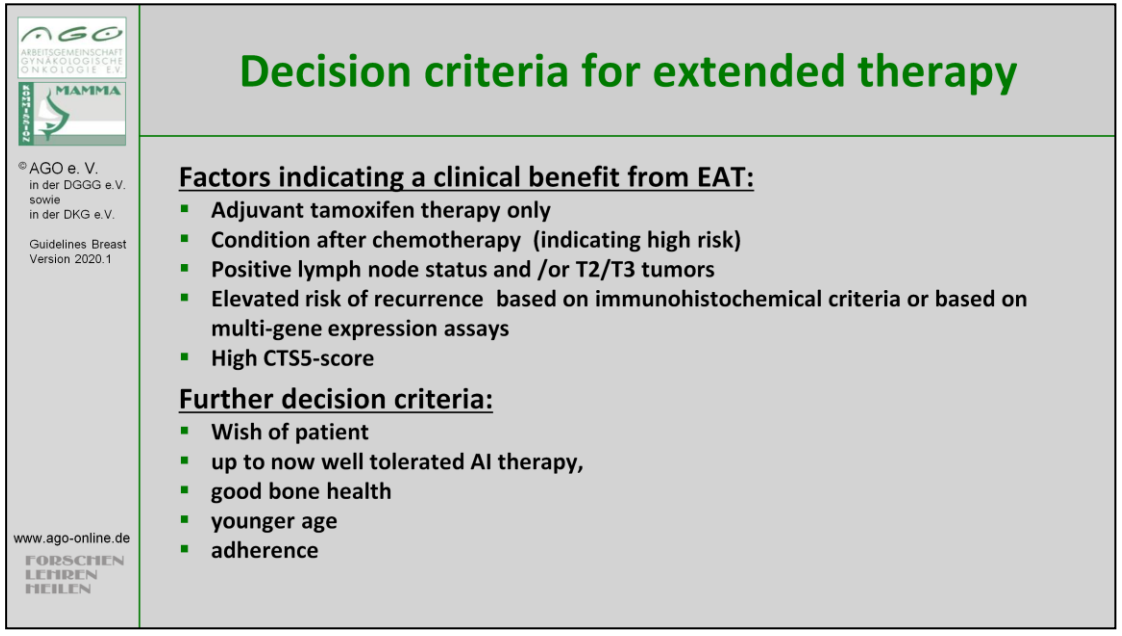

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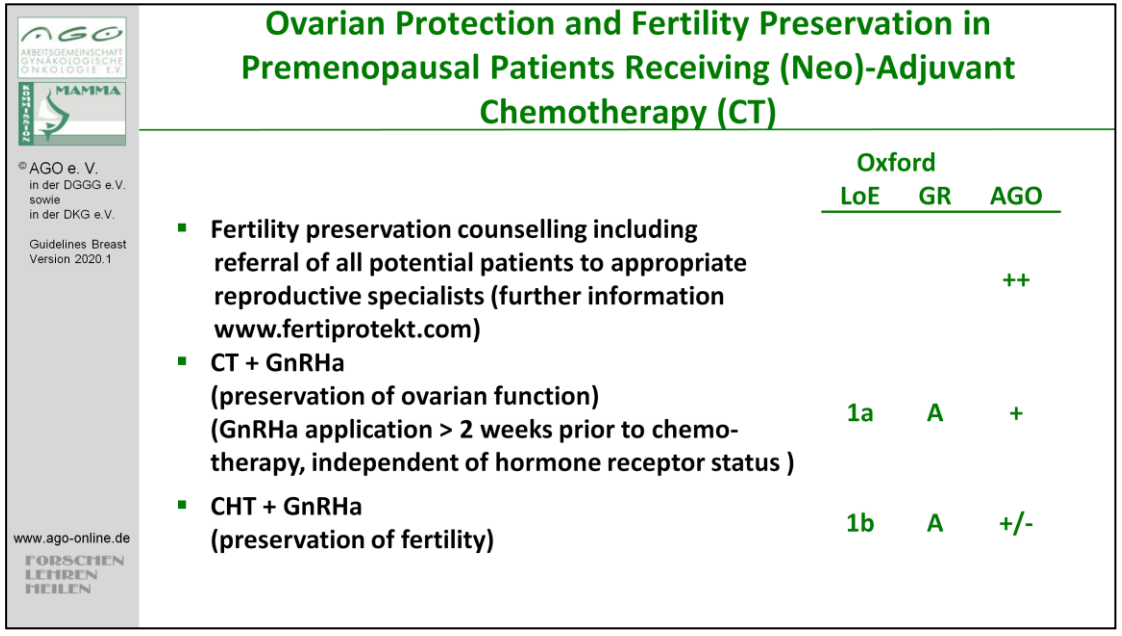

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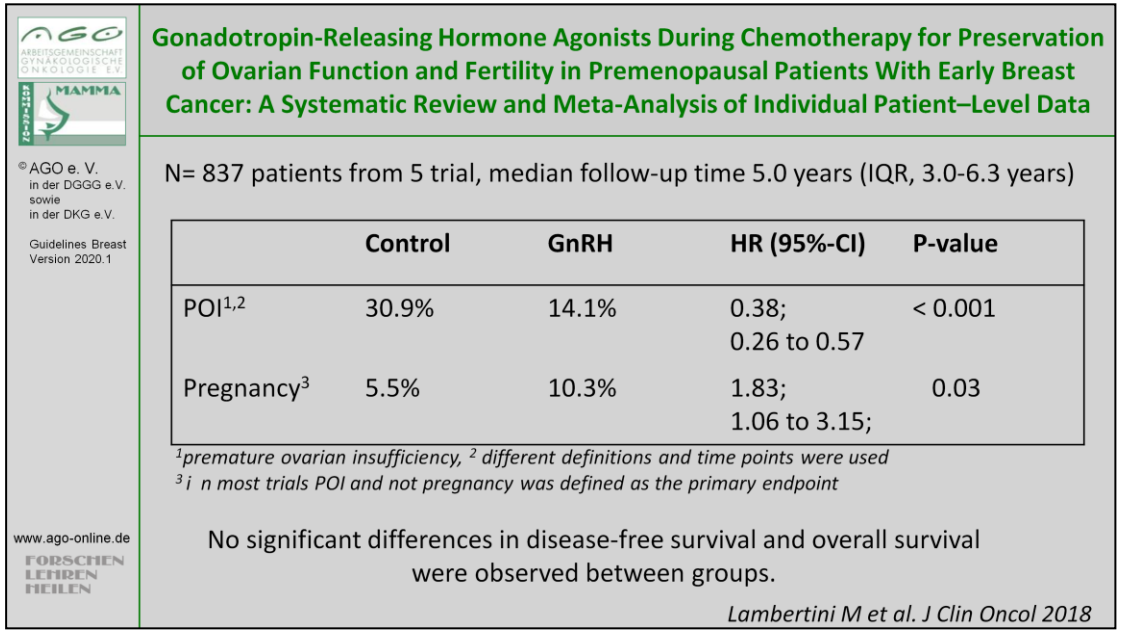

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Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy

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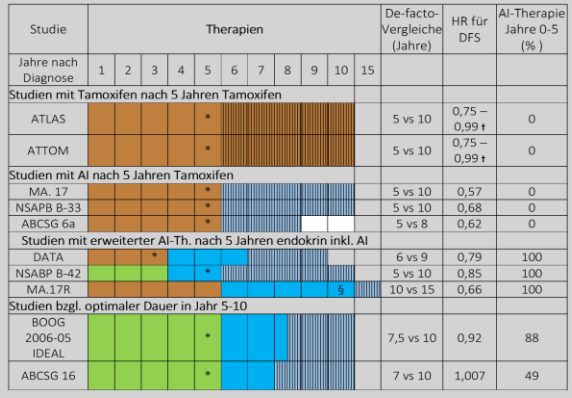

Studie	Jahre nach Diagnose 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	15	De-facto-Vergleiche (Jahre)	HR für DFS	AI-Therapie Jahre 0-5 (%)
Studien mit Tamoxifen nach 5 Jahren Tamoxifen														
ATLAS					*							5 vs 10	0,75 – 0,99 †	0
ATTOM					*							5 vs 10	0,75 – 0,99 †	0
Studien mit AI nach 5 Jahren Tamoxifen														
MA. 17					*							5 vs 10	0,57	0
NSAPB B-33					*							5 vs 10	0,68	0
ABCSG 6a					*							5 vs 8	0,62	0
Studien mit erweiterter AI-Th. nach 5 Jahren endokrin inkl. AI														
DATA			*									6 vs 9	0,79	100
NSABP B-42					*							5 vs 10	0,85	100
MA.17R										§		10 vs 15	0,66	100
Studien bzgl. optimaler Dauer in Jahr 5-10														
BOOG 2006-05 IDEAL					*							7,5 vs 10	0,92	88
ABCSG 16					*							7 vs 10	1,007	49

Braun: Tamoxifen,

Grün: Tamoxifen oder AI,

Blau: AI

Gestreift: Zeit der randomisierten Intervention vs keine Therapie od. Plazebo,

*: Randomisierungs-zeitpunkt,

§ : MA17R nach 5 Jahren AI mit /ohne Tam zuvor

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