

# Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients with Primary and Metastatic Breast Cancer

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Guidelines Breast  
Version 2017.1

## Chemotherapy With or Without Targeted Drugs\* in Metastatic Breast Cancer

# Chemotherapy ± Targeted Drugs in Metastatic Breast Cancer

- **Version 2002:**  
**von Minckwitz / Schaller / Untch**
- **Versions 2003–2016:**  
**Bischoff / Dall / Fersis / Friedrichs / Harbeck /  
Jackisch / Janni / von Minckwitz / Möbus / Müller /  
Rody / Scharl / Schmutzler / Schneeweiss /  
Schütz / Stickeler / Thill / Thomssen**
- **Version 2017:**  
**Fehm / Jackisch**

# Disease-Free and Overall Survival in Metastatic Breast Cancer

Oxford / AGO  
LoE / GR

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- **An increase in survival over time in MBC has been shown in some retrospective analyses** **2a**
- **However, patients with MBC today have received more adjuvant treatment and have therefore to be considered more drug resistant** **2a**
- **Multiple lines of sequential therapy are beneficial (at least same efficacy, less toxicity)** **1b**
- **Especially targeted drugs in combination with chemotherapy can induce substantial survival benefits** **1b**

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# Endocrine Resistance in Metastatic Breast Cancer

## Primary endocrine resistance:

- Relapse within 2 years of adjuvant endocrine treatment (ET)
- Progressive disease within first 6 months of first-line ET for MBC

## Secondary endocrine resistance:

- Relapse while on adjuvant ET but after the first 2 years or a relapse within 12 months after completing adjuvant ET
- PD  $\geq$  6 months after initiating ET for MBC

# Treatment of Metastatic Breast Cancer

## Predictive Factors

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Therapy	Factor	Oxford / AGO LoE / GR		
Endocrine therapy	ER / PR (primary tumor, metastasis)	1a	A	++
	previous response	2b	B	++
Chemotherapy	previous response	1b	A	++
Anti-HER2-drugs	HER2 (primary tumor, better metastasis)	1a	A	++
	Bone modifying drugs	1a	A	++
Any therapy	CTC monitoring	1b	A	+*

(other potentially biological factors see chapter „Predictive factors“)

\*Within clinical trials

# Cytotoxic Therapy Goals

**Oxford LoE: 1b**

**GR: A**

**AGO: ++**

## **Mono-Chemotherapy:**

- **Favourable therapeutic index**
- **Indicated in case of**
  - **Slow, not life-threatening progression**
  - **Insensitive to or progression during endocrine therapy**

## **Poly-Chemotherapy:**

- **Unfavourable therapeutic index**
- **Indicated to achieve rapid remission in the case of**
  - **Extensive symptoms**
  - **Imminent life-threatening metastases**
- **Survival benefit in comparison to sequential single-agent therapies with the same compounds not proven**

**Therapeutic index evaluates overall efficacy, toxicity and impact on quality of life**

# Cytotoxic and Targeted Therapy

**GR: A**

**AGO: ++**

- **Evaluate compliance before and during therapy (especially in patients of older age, with reduced performance status, or significant co-morbidities)**
- **Assess subjective and objective toxicities, symptoms, and performance status repeatedly**
- **Use dosages according to published protocols**
- **Assess tumor burden at baseline and approx. every 2 months, i.e. every 2-4 cycles. Assessment of a target lesion might be sufficient. In slowly growing disease, longer intervals are acceptable.**

# Cytotoxic Therapy Duration

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**As long as therapeutic index remains positive**

**1a A ++**

➤ **Treatment until progression**

**2b B +**

➤ **Treatment until best response**

**2b B +/-**

➤ **Change to alternative regimen  
before progression**

**2b B +/-**

➤ **Stop therapy in case of**

**1c A ++**

➤ **Progression**

➤ **Non tolerable toxicity**



# Chemotherapy for MBC – General Considerations: Drug Selection

**AGO: ++**

**The choice of cytotoxic drugs to be used depends on:**

- **ER / PR, HER2; combination with biologicals**
- **Previous treatments (and their toxicities)**
- **Disease-free interval after end of adjuvant treatment**
- **Aggressiveness of disease and localization of metastases**
- **Estimated life expectancy**
- **Co-morbidities (including organ dysfunctions)**
- **Patients preference and expectations**

# MBC HER2-negative/HR-positive Cytotoxic 1<sup>st</sup>-Line Therapy\*

## Oxford / AGO LoE / GR

### Monotherapy:

- Paclitaxel (q1w), Docetaxel (q3w)
- Doxorubicin, epirubicin, mitoxantrone (A)  
Peg. liposomal doxorubicin (A<sub>lip</sub>)
- Vinorelbine
- Capecitabine
- Nab-paclitaxel

1a	A	++
1b	A	++
3b	B	+
2b	B	+
2b	B	+

### Polychemotherapy:

- A + T
- Paclitaxel + capecitabine
- Docetaxel + capecitabine after adj. A
- T + gemcitabine after adj. A
- A + C or A<sub>lip</sub> + C

1b	A	++
2b	B	+
1b	A	+
2b	B	++
1b	B	++

# MBC HER2-negative/HR-pos: Cytotoxic Therapy after Anthracycline Treatment\*

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➤ Paclitaxel q1w	1a	A	++
➤ Docetaxel q3w	1a	A	++
➤ Capecitabine	2b	B	++
➤ Nab-paclitaxel	2b	B	++
➤ Peg-liposomal doxorubicin	2b	B	+
➤ Eribulin	1b	B	+
➤ Vinorelbine	2b	B	+
➤ Docetaxel + Peg-liposomal Doxo	1b	B	+/-

\*Independent whether anthracyclines were used in adjuvant or 1<sup>st</sup> line metastatic situation

# MBC HER2-negative/HR-positive: Cytotoxic Therapy after adjuvant Taxane and Anthracycline Treatment

	Oxford / AGO LoE / GR		
➤ <b>Experimental therapies within studies</b>			++
➤ <b>Capecitabine</b>	2b	B	++
➤ <b>Eribulin</b>	1b	B	++
➤ <b>Vinorelbine</b>	2b	B	++
➤ <b>(Peg)-liposomal Doxorubicin</b>	2b	B	+
➤ <b>Taxane re-challenge*</b>	2b	B	+
➤ <b>Anthracycline re-challenge*</b>	3b	C	+
➤ <b>Metronomic therapy (eg. cyclophos. + MTX)</b>	2b	B	+
➤ <b>Gemcitabine + Cisplatin / Carboplatin</b>	2b	B	+/-
➤ <b>Gemcitabine + Capecitabine</b>	2b	B	+/-
➤ <b>Gemcitabine + Vinorelbine</b>	1b	B	-

\*At least one year disease-free after adjuvant treatment

# Triple Negative Metastatic Breast Cancer

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- |  |                       |          |            |
|--|-----------------------|----------|------------|
| ➤ <b>Experimental therapies within studies</b>                         |                       |          | <b>++</b>  |
| ➤ <b>Cytotoxic therapy as for patients with HR pos / HER2 neg. mBC</b> |                       |          | <b>+</b>   |
| ➤ <b>Carboplatin (vs. Docetaxel)</b>                                   | <b>1b<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>B</b> | <b>+/-</b> |
| ➤ <b>in gBRCA mutation</b>   | <b>1b<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>B</b> | <b>+</b>   |
| ➤ <b>Gemcitabine/Cisplatin (vs. Gem/Pac)</b>                           | <b>1b</b>             | <b>A</b> | <b>+</b>   |
| ➤ <b>Nab-Paclitaxel/Carboplatin (vs. Carbo/Gem)</b>                    | <b>2b<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>B</b> | <b>+</b>   |
| ➤ <b>Bevacizumab added to first line cytotoxic therapy</b>             | <b>1b</b>             | <b>B</b> | <b>+</b>   |

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# Bevacizumab Treatment in HER2-neg. Metastatic Breast Cancer

## Oxford / AGO LoE / GR

### ➤ 1<sup>st</sup> line in combination with:

- Paclitaxel (q1w)
- Capecitabine
- Anthracyclines
- Nab-Pac
- Docetaxel (q3w)

1b	B	+
1b	B	+
2b	B	+/-
2b	B	+/-
1b	B	+/-

### ➤ Cap+Bev as maintenance after Doc+Bev

1b <sup>a</sup>	B	+/-
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### ➤ 2<sup>nd</sup> line in combination with:

- Taxanes
- Capecitabine
- Gemcitabine or vinorelbine

1b	B	+/-
1b	B	+/-
1b	B	-

### ➤ 2<sup>nd</sup> line as treatment through multiple lines

1b	B	-
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# First Line Therapy of HER2 Overexpressing Metastatic Breast Cancer

- Docetaxel + trastuzumab + pertuzumab
- Paclitaxel (wk) + trastuzumab + pertuzumab
- Nab-Paclitaxel + trastuzumab + pertuzumab
- Vinorelbine + Trastuzumab + Pertuzumab
- T-DM 1 (relapse within 6 months after taxane and trastuzumab-pretreatment)
- 1<sup>st</sup> line chemotherapy\* + trastuzumab
- Trastuzumab mono
- Taxanes + lapatinib
- Taxanes + trastuzumab + everolimus
  
- Trastuzumab + aromatase inhibitors (if ER+)
- Lapatinib + aromatase inhibitors (if ER+)

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1b	A	++
2b	B	++
3b <sup>a</sup>	C	+
3b	B	+
2b	B	+
1b	B	+
2b	B	+/-
1b	B	+/-
1b	B	-
2b	B	+/-**
2b	B	+/-**

\*Taxanes; vinorelbine; paclitaxel/carboplatin; capecitabine/docetaxel

\*\*see chapter Endocrine +/- targeted

# 2<sup>nd</sup> line Therapy of HER2-positive mBC (If Pretreatment with Trastuzumab)

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➤ T-DM 1	1b	A	++
➤ TBP: 2 <sup>nd</sup> line chemotherapy + trastuzumab	2b	B	+
➤ TBP: 2 <sup>nd</sup> line chemotherapy + trastuzumab + pertuzumab	5	D	+/-
➤ Any other 2 <sup>nd</sup> line chemotherapy* + trastuzumab + pertuzumab	5	D	+/-
➤ Taxane + trastuzumab + pertuzumab	5	D	+
➤ Capecitabine + trastuzumab + pertuzumab	1b <sup>a</sup>	B	+/-
➤ Capecitabine + lapatinib	1b	B	+
➤ Trastuzumab + lapatinib (HR neg. disease)	2b	B	+

\*e.g. vinorelbine; taxane/carboplatin; capecitabine/docetaxel (toxicity!)



# Further Lines of Therapy of HER2-Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer

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## Pretreatment with Trastuzumab

➤ T-DM 1	1b	A	++
➤ Capecitabine + lapatinib	1b	B	+
➤ Vinorelbine + lapatinib	2b	B	+/-
➤ Trastuzumab + lapatinib (HR neg. disease)	2b	B	+
➤ Chemotherapy + trastuzumab („ <i>treatment beyond progression</i> “)	2b	B	+
➤ Trastuzumab + pertuzumab	2b	B	+
➤ Vinorelbine + trastuzumab + everolimus ( <i>trastuzumab resistant, taxane pretreated</i> )	1b	B	+/-

Neither data for patients pretreated with trastuzumab and pertuzumab nor data for treatment beyond progression available.

➤ Experimental anti-HER2-regimen	5	D	+
➤ For patients pretreated with trastuzumab and pertuzumab treatment according to the recommendations above.	5	D	+

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# Lapatinib in HER2-positive Metastatic Breast Cancer

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## In combination with

- |  |    |   |     |
|--|----|---|-----|
| ➤ Trastuzumab for heavily pre-treated pts (HR negative)                                | 2b | B | +   |
| ➤ Paclitaxel in 1 <sup>st</sup> line   | 1b | B | +/- |
| ➤ Capecitabine in > 2 <sup>nd</sup> line   | 1b | B | +   |
| ➤ Vinorelbine  | 2b | B | +/- |
| ➤ AI in ER positive disease  | 2b | B | +/- |
| ➤ In patients with brain metastases (radioresistance) in combination with capecitabine | 2b | B | +/- |

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# Immunodiagnostic Tests and Immunotherapy\*

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## Immunodiagnostic tests:

**Immunological parameters in peripheral blood**

5 D --

## Local immunotherapy

➤ **Imiquimod topically for skin metastases**

4 C +/-

**Systemic immunotherapy - including items below –  
only within clinical trials:**

++

- **HER2-vaccination in high risk population**
- **Immunomodulation (e.g. addition of Nov-2 to AC –T)**
- **Dendritic cell intradermal vaccination**
- **Active vaccination**
- **Passive vaccination**
- **Therapy with oncolytic viruses**
- **Cytokines**
- **Checkpoint inhibitors (PD1; PDL-1;...)**

\*Study participation recommended