

**Phase III trial of standard adjuvant endocrine therapy +/-  
chemotherapy in patients with 1-3 positive nodes,  
Hormone Receptor-positive and HER2-negative:  
SWOG S1007**

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# Disclosures

Spouse, Stock: Grail, Array BioPharma and Pfizer (Prior Employee)

Advisory/Consulting: Eli-Lilly, Pfizer, Novartis, Eisai, AstraZeneca, Immunomedics, Merck, Seattle Genetics, and Cyclocel



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# Breast Cancer Steering Committee Strategic Priorities

- **Decreasing toxicity/treatment/costs associated with therapy with negligible clinically meaningful benefits**
  - TAILORx: HR+/node negative
  - RxPONDER: HR+/node positive
- **Understanding biology and translating biology into diagnostic and therapeutic strategies**
  - NCTN Late Recurrence Project



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# Which patients with HR+/HER2- Breast Cancer Benefit from Adjuvant Chemotherapy?



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# 21 Gene Recurrence Score (RS) Assay (HR+/HER2- only)

PROLIFERATION  
 Ki-67  
 STK15  
 Survivin  
 Cyclin B1  
 MYBL2

ESTROGEN  
 ER  
 PR  
 Bcl2  
 SCUBE2

GSTM1

BAG1

CD68

INVASION  
 Stromolysin 3  
 Cathepsin L2

HER2  
 GRB7  
 HER2

REFERENCE  
 Beta-actin  
 GAPDH  
 RPLPO  
 GUS  
 TFRC

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{RS} = & + 0.47 \times \text{HER2 Group Score} \\
 & - 0.34 \times \text{ER Group Score} \\
 & + 1.04 \times \text{Proliferation Group Score} \\
 & + 0.10 \times \text{Invasion Group Score} \\
 & + 0.05 \times \text{CD68} \\
 & - 0.08 \times \text{GSTM1} \\
 & - 0.07 \times \text{BAG1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Category	RS (0 – 100)
Low risk	RS < 18
Int risk	RS ≥ 18 and < 31
High risk	RS ≥ 31

# TAILORx Methods: Treatment Assignment & Randomization

Accrued between April 2006 – October 2010

Preregister - Oncotype DX RS (N=11,232)



Register (N=10,273)

ARM A: Low RS 0-10  
(N=1629 evaluable)  
ASSIGN  
Endocrine Therapy (ET)

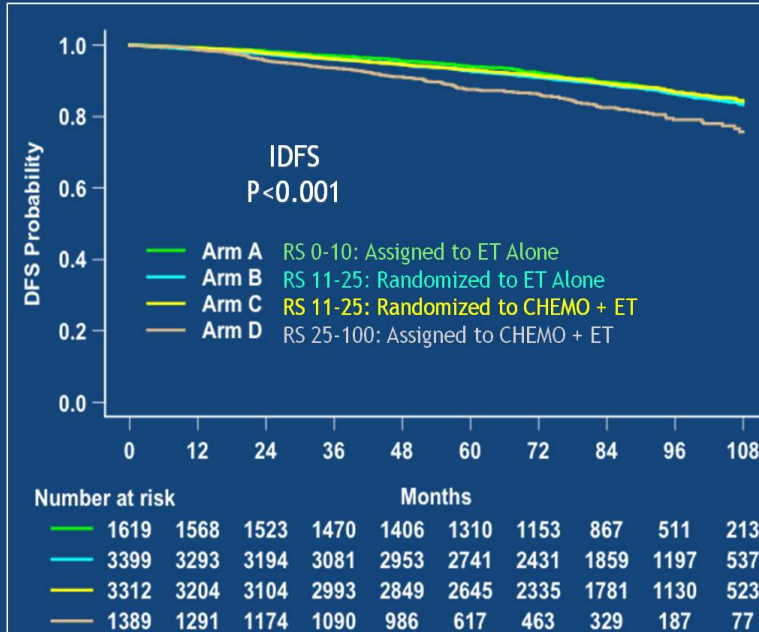
Mid-Range RS 11-25  
(N=6711 evaluable)  
**RANDOMIZE**  
Stratification Factors: Menopausal  
Status, Planned Chemotherapy, Planned  
Radiation, and RS 11-15, 16-20, 21-25

ARM D: High RS 26-100  
(N=1389 evaluable)  
ASSIGN  
ET + Chemo

ARM B: Experimental Arm  
(N=3399)  
ET Alone

ARM C: Standard Arm  
(N=3312)  
ET + Chemo

# TAILORx Results - ITT Population: All Arms (A,B,C & D)



## 9-Year Event Rates

- **RS 0-10 (Arm A)**
  - 3% distant recurrence with ET alone
- **RS 11-25 (Arms B & C)**
  - 5% distant recurrence rate overall
  - $\leq 1\%$  difference for all endpoints
    - IDFS (83.3 vs. 84.3%)
    - DRFI (94.5 vs. 95.0%)
    - RFI (92.2 vs. 92.9%)
    - OS (93.9 vs. 93.8%)
- **RS 26-100 (Arm D)**
  - 13% distant recurrence despite chemo + ET

## TAILORx Results - ITT Population: Potential Chemotherapy Benefit in Women $\leq$ 50 Years (N=2216) in RS 11-25 Arms

- **RS 16-25 - some chemo benefit**
  - **RS 16-20:** 9% fewer IDFS events, including 2% fewer distant recurrences
  - **RS 21-25:** 6% fewer IDFS events, mainly consisting of fewer distant recurrences
- **RS 0-15 - good prognosis with endocrine therapy**
  - 3% distant recurrence with ET alone
  - no evidence for chemo benefit in RS 11-15



# RSClin: Tool Available for patients with HR+/HER2-, LN- Breast Cancer

**RSClin™ Educational Tool**

User Input

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<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Oncotype DX Breast Recurrence Score® Result</p>	<p>Tumor Size (cm): <b>2.2</b></p> <p>Tumor Grade (Differentiation): <b>2</b></p> <p>Planned Hormonal Treatment: <b>Tamoxifen</b></p> <p>Patient Age At Surgery: <b>46</b></p>
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Calculation Estimates

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When patient specific characteristics are added to the Oncotype DX Breast Recurrence Score result, the following risk estimate provide additional information on your patient:

<p>Individualized distant recurrence risk at 10 years <b>7%</b> (95% CI: 5% – 9%)</p>	<p>Individualized absolute chemotherapy benefit <b>&lt;1%</b> (95% CI: -3% – 4%)</p>
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- **What about the role of genomic assays for determination of risk and chemotherapy benefit in patients with HR+/HER2- and lymph node + breast cancer?**

# RxPONDER Schema

## Key Entry Criteria

- Women age  $\geq$  18 yrs
- ER and/or PR  $\geq$  1%, HER2- breast cancer with 1\*-3 LN+ without distant metastasis
- Able to receive adjuvant taxane and/or anthracycline-based chemotherapy\*\*
- Axillary staging by SLNB or ALND

R  
E  
G  
I  
S  
T  
R  
A  
T  
I  
O  
N

Recurrence Score 0-25



Recurrence Score > 25



Off Study  
Chemotherapy Followed by  
Endocrine Therapy  
Recommended



R  
A  
N  
D  
O  
M  
I  
Z  
A  
T  
I  
O  
N

N = 5,000 pts



Arm 1:  
Chemotherapy Followed by  
Endocrine Therapy



Arm 2:  
Endocrine Therapy Alone

## Stratification Factors

Recurrence Score: 0-13 vs. 14-25  
Menopausal Status: pre vs. post  
Axillary Surgery: ALND vs. SLNB



# Statistical Analysis Plan

- **Primary Objective**

- Determine the effect of chemotherapy on invasive disease-free survival (IDFS) in pts with 1-3 LN+ breast cancer and a RS  $\leq 25$  and assess whether the effect depends on the RS

- **Primary Hypothesis**

- Chemotherapy benefit will increase as the RS increases from 0 to 25 in an Intent-to-Treat (ITT) analysis

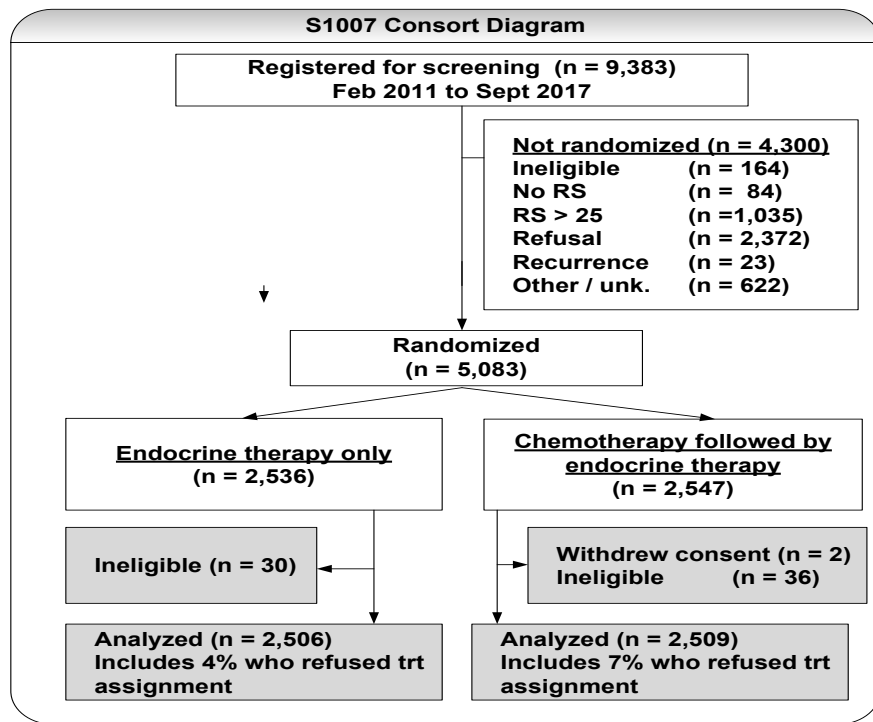
Hudis et al, JCO 2007

# Statistical Analysis Plan

- **Pre-Specified Interim Analysis for IDFS**
  - Sept 2020: Third analysis at 410 events (49% of expected 832 events)
  - Nov 2, 2020: Decision made by independent DSMC and NCI to report data
  
- **Secondary Endpoints**
  - Overall survival
  - Distant DFS and local disease-free interval
  - Toxicity
  - Patient-reported quality of life outcomes



# RxPONDER Results: Accrual and ITT population



- ✓ 50% randomized to chemotherapy received TC (4 or 6 cycles)
- ✓ Ovarian function suppression use in premenopausal pts (6-month post randomization data)
  - 16% in the ET arm and 3% in Chemotherapy + ET arm
- ✓ 2 treatment-related deaths in ET arm (stroke) and 3 in chemotherapy + ET arm (sepsis, typhlitis, and liver necrosis)

ET = Endocrine Therapy

# Pre-specified Analysis by Menopausal Status

## Chemotherapy benefit for IDFS is different depending on menopausal status

Term	Hazard ratio	2-sided p-value	95% CI
Chemotherapy	0.53	<0.001	0.37 – 0.76
RS (per unit change)	1.06	<0.001	1.04 – 1.08
Menopausal status	0.79	0.08	0.60-1.03
<b>Chemo x Menopause Interaction</b>	1.79	0.008	1.17-2.74

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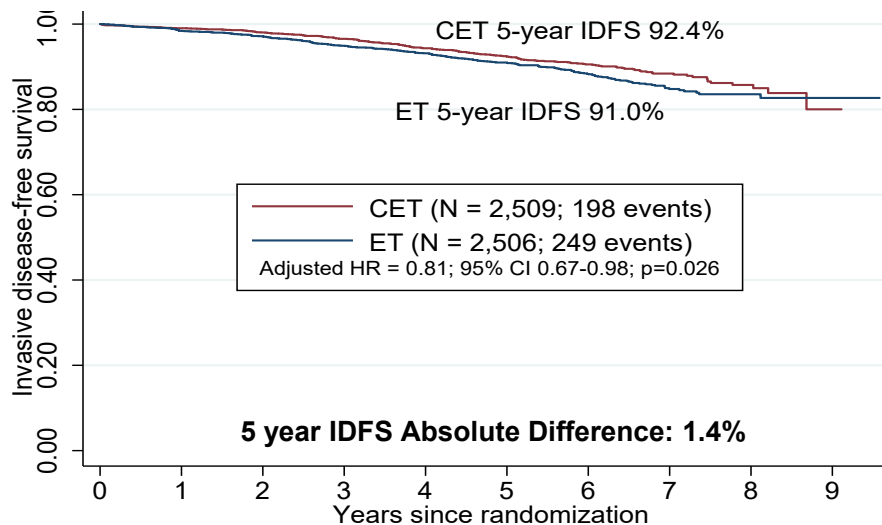
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# Baseline Characteristics by Treatment Arm

Baseline variable	Endocrine Therapy (n=2,506)	Chemotherapy (n=2,509)	Overall (n=5,015)
<b>Race</b>			
White	64.9%	66.4%	65.7%
Black	4.8%	5.1%	5.0%
Asian	6.8%	6.1%	6.5%
Other/Unknown	23.5%	22.3%	22.9%
<b>Hispanic</b>			
Yes	13.0%	11.9%	12.4%
No	67.6%	68.9%	68.3%
Unknown	19.4%	19.3%	19.3%
<b>Menopausal status</b>			
Premenopausal	33.2%	33.2%	33.2%
Postmenopausal	66.8%	66.8%	66.8%
<b>Recurrence Score</b>			
RS 0-13	42.7%	42.9%	42.8%
RS 14-25	57.3%	57.1%	57.2%
<b>Nodal Dissection</b>			
Full ALND	62.7%	62.5%	62.6%
Sentinel nodes only	37.4%	37.5%	37.4%
<b>Positive Nodes</b>			
1 node	65.9%	65.0%	65.5%
2 nodes	24.9%	25.7%	25.3%
3 nodes	9.2%	9.2%	9.2%
<b>Grade</b>			
Low	24.6%	24.7%	24.7%
Intermediate	64.1%	66.1%	65.1%
High	11.3%	9.2%	10.3%
<b>Tumor size</b>			
T1	58.5%	57.7%	58.1%
T2/T3	41.5%	42.3%	41.9%



# IDFS in Overall Population by Treatment Arm



Number at risk

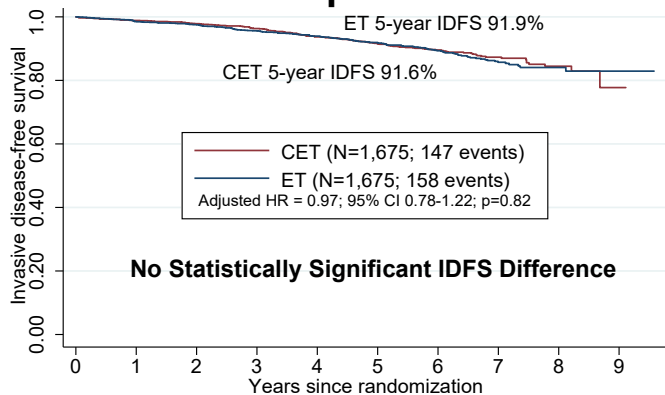
CET	2509	2277	2104	1893	1648	1397	857	403	122	4
ET	2506	2327	2161	1910	1696	1404	846	397	135	11

CET = Chemotherapy + Endocrine Therapy; ET = Endocrine Therapy Alone

**447 observed IDFS events (54% of expected at final analysis) at a median follow-up of 5.1 years**

# IDFS Stratified by Menopausal Status

## Postmenopausal



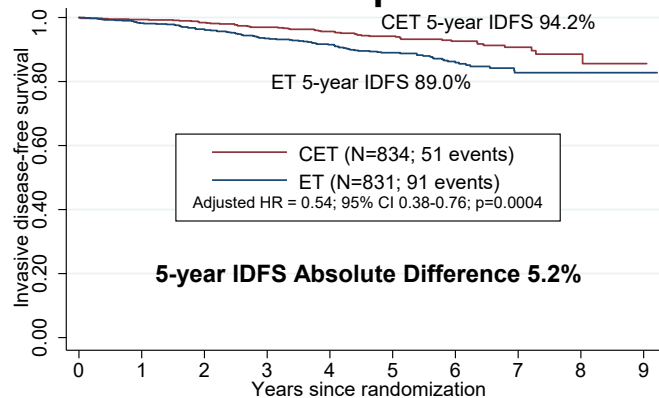
Number at risk

CET	1675	1514	1400	1268	1113	943	585	287	88	3
ET	1675	1567	1462	1308	1167	975	601	298	104	9

IDFS Event	CET	ET	Total (%)
<b>Distant</b>	39	44	83 (27%)
<b>Local-Regional</b>	10	14	24 (8%)
<b>Contralateral</b>	10	9	19 (6%)
<b>Non-Breast Primary</b>	44	47	91 (30%)
<b>Recurrence Not Classified</b>	9	7	16 (5%)
<b>Death not due to Recurrence or Second Primary</b>	35	37	72 (24%)

**Absolute Difference in Distant Recurrence as 1<sup>st</sup> site: 0.3% (2.3% CET vs. 2.6% ET)**

## Premenopausal



Number at risk

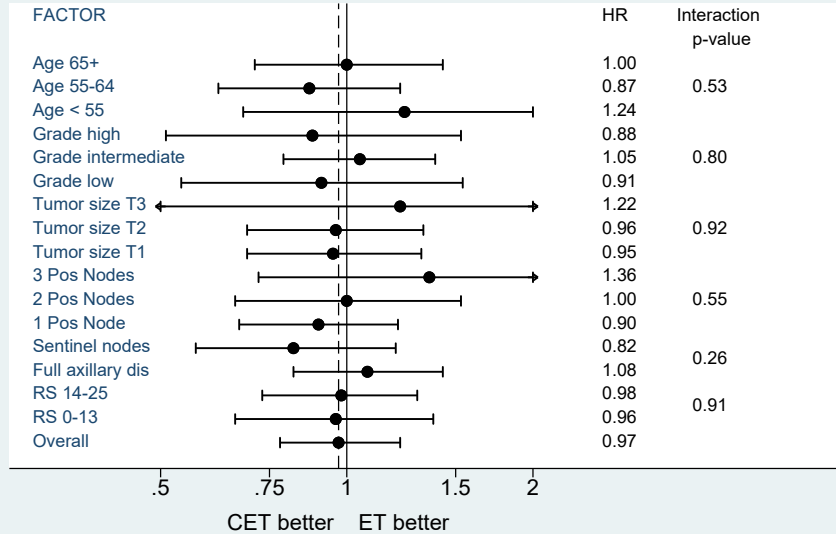
CET	834	763	704	625	535	454	272	116	34	1
ET	831	760	699	602	529	429	245	99	31	2

IDFS Event	CET	ET	Total (%)
<b>Distant</b>	26	50	76 (54%)
<b>Local-Regional</b>	8	17	25 (18%)
<b>Contralateral</b>	4	8	12 (8%)
<b>Non-Breast Primary</b>	10	10	20 (14%)
<b>Recurrence Not Classified</b>	1	1	2 (1%)
<b>Death not due to Recurrence or Second Primary</b>	2	5	7 (5%)

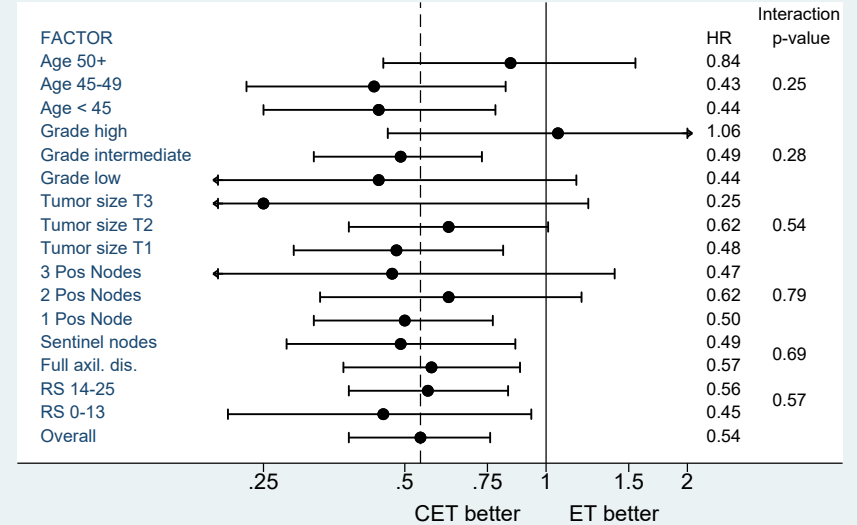
**Absolute Difference in Distant Recurrence as 1<sup>st</sup> site: 2.9% (3.1% CET vs. 6.0% ET)**

# Forest Plots of IDFS by Menopausal Status

Forest Plot of IDFS CET vs. ET Hazard Ratio and 95% CI  
Postmenopausal Women



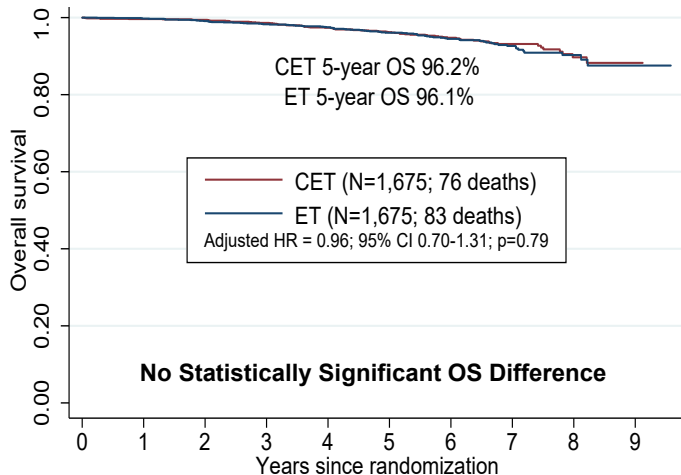
Forest Plot of IDFS CET vs. ET Hazard Ratio and 95% CI  
Premenopausal Women



**Landmarked Exploratory Analysis for IDFS in Premenopausal Women on Endocrine Therapy arm:  
Ovarian Function Suppression (n=126) vs. no Ovarian Function Suppression (n=647) at 6 months: HR 0.73 (95% CI: 0.39-1.37), p=0.33**

# Overall Survival by Menopausal Status

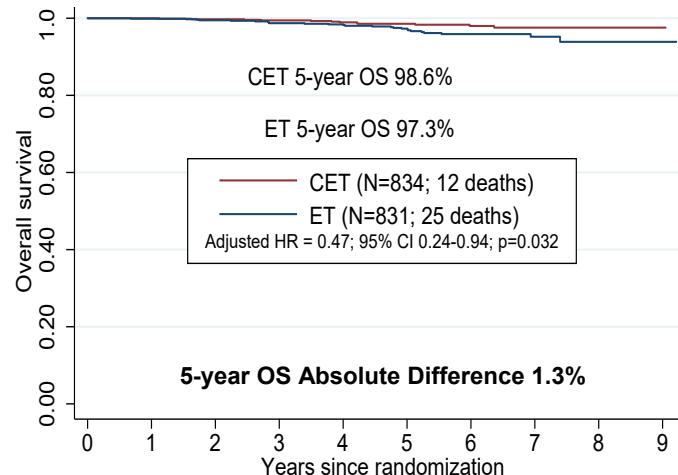
## Postmenopausal



Number at risk

CET	1675	1524	1418	1296	1156	988	618	313	98	4
ET	1675	1584	1484	1346	1213	1021	639	325	110	9

## Premenopausal



Number at risk

CET	834	768	714	642	552	473	290	126	39	1
ET	831	772	722	635	565	467	275	117	34	2

## RxPONDER Conclusions

- ✓ **Postmenopausal women with 1-3 positive nodes and RS 0-25 can likely safely forego adjuvant chemotherapy without compromising IDFS**
  - ✓ **This will save tens of thousands of women the time, expense, and potentially harmful side effects that can be associated with chemotherapy infusions**
- ✓ **Premenopausal women with positive nodes and RS 0-25 likely benefit significantly from chemotherapy**

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## Limitations

- ✓ **Still awaiting ~ 50% of the population to experience events**
  - ✓ **Unclear whether subgroup data will change with mature data?**
- ✓ **Is chemotherapy benefit in premenopausal women exclusively due to amenorrhea?**
- ✓ **Minority of patients underwent ovarian function suppression at 6 months**
- ✓ **Did not capture rate of pathologically or clinically node + breast cancer prior to surgery**
- ✓ **Generalizability**
  - ✓ **Only 9.2% of patients had 3 LN+. 5.8% had T3 tumors**



# TransATAC: Not All Genomic Assay are the Same!

Table 3. Univariate HRs and C Indexes for All Prognostic Signatures According to Nodal Status During Years 5 to 10

Gene Signature	Patient Group			
	Node-Negative Disease (n = 535)		Node-Positive Disease (n = 154)	
	HR (95% CI) <sup>a</sup>	C Index (95% CI)	HR (95% CI) <sup>a</sup>	C Index (95% CI)
CTS	1.95 (1.43-2.65)	0.721 (0.654-0.788)	1.61 (1.05-2.47)	0.644 (0.534-0.753)
IHC4	1.59 (1.16-2.16)	0.660 (0.576-0.745)	1.20 (0.79-1.81)	0.579 (0.460-0.697)
RS	1.46 (1.09-1.96)	0.585 (0.467-0.702)	1.24 (0.81-1.90)	0.555 (0.418-0.693)
BCI	2.30 (1.61-3.30)	0.749 (0.668-0.830)	1.60 (1.04-2.47)	0.633 (0.514-0.751)
ROR	2.77 (1.93-3.96)	0.789 (0.724-0.854)	1.65 (1.08-2.51)	0.643 (0.528-0.758)
EPclin	2.19 (1.62-2.97)	0.768 (0.701-0.835)	1.87 (1.27-2.76)	0.697 (0.594-0.799)

# Future Directions in HR+ Breast Cancer

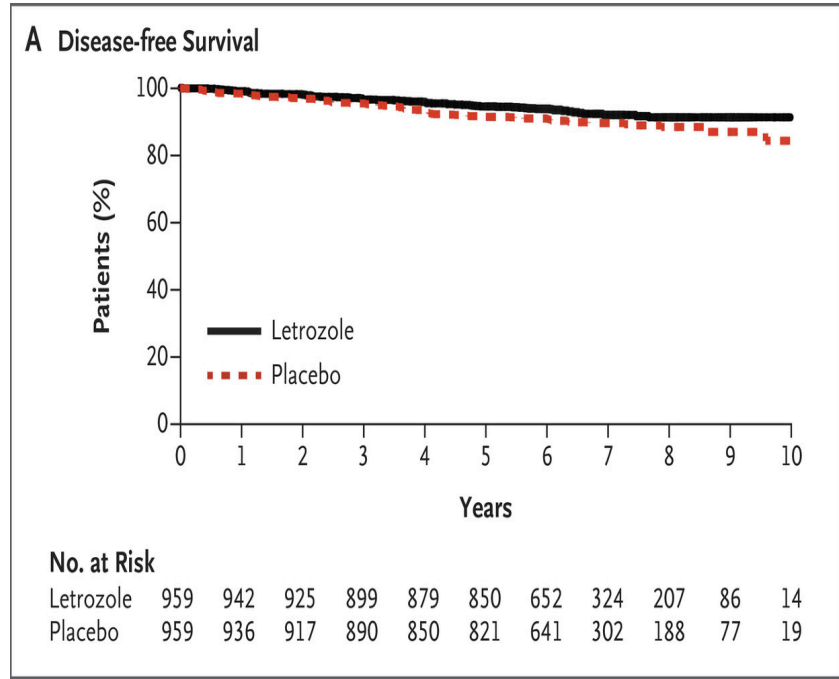
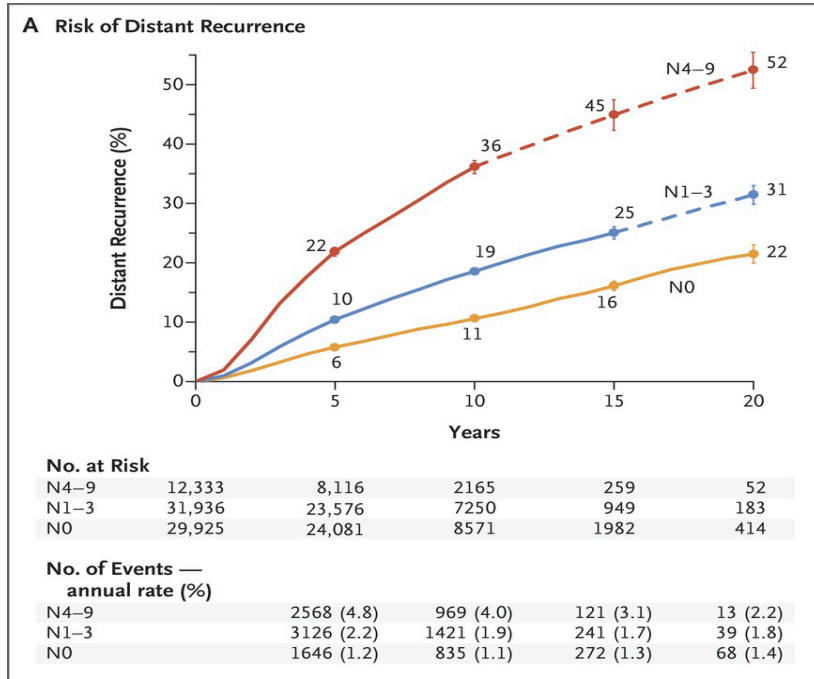
**Is benefit of chemotherapy seen in TailoRx and RxPonder in premenopausal patients due to chemotherapy effect or ovarian suppression?**

- Breast International Group (BIG)/NCTN collaboration: yearly scientific meetings and multiple collaborative efforts
  - Male Breast Cancer International Trial (NCT01101425): >1800 patients enrolled
  - POSITIVE study of endocrine therapy interruption for pregnancy (NCT02308085): 518 patients enrolled

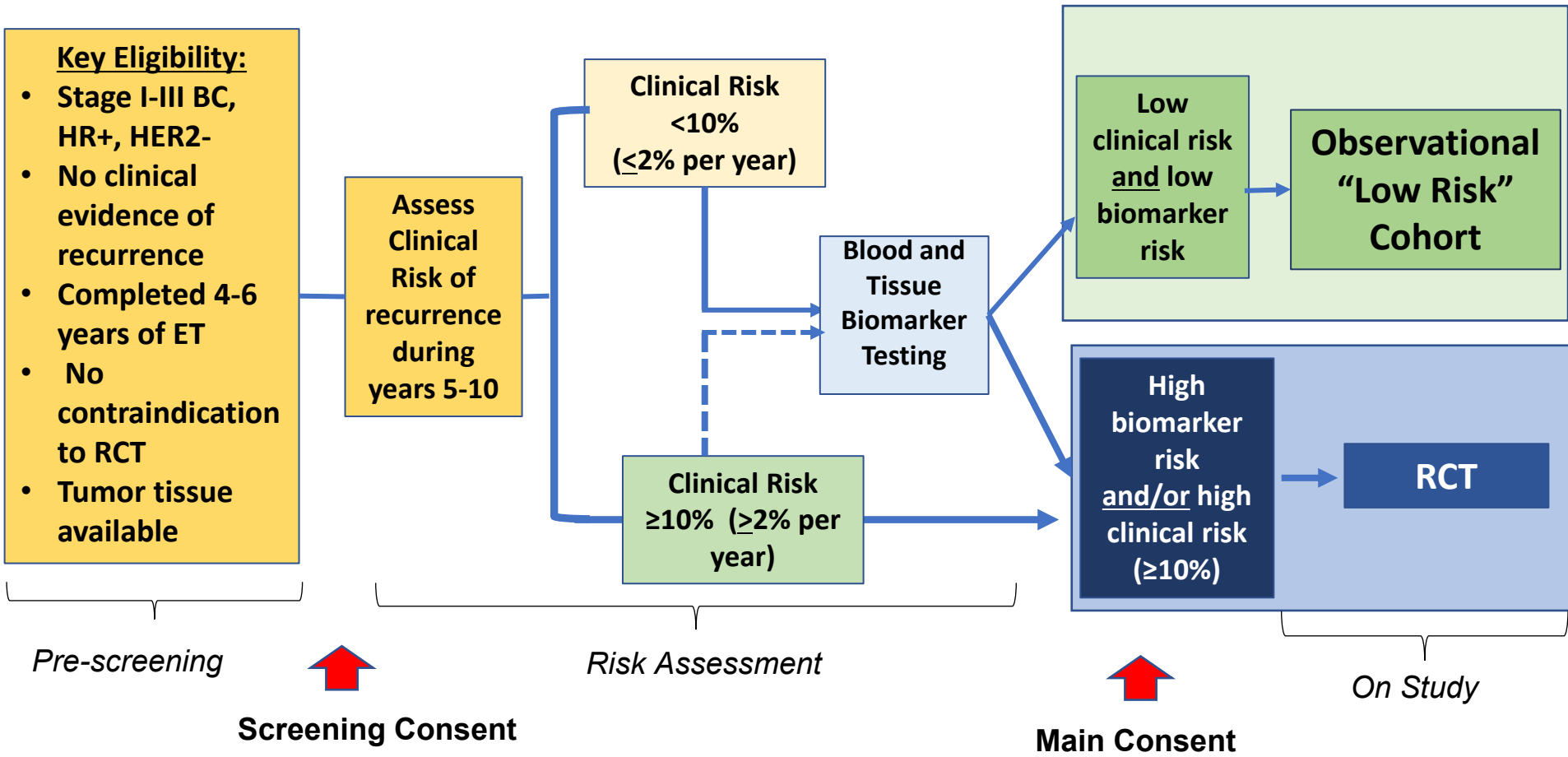
**Is there an additional opportunity to intervene in high-risk patients to prevent LATE recurrence of HR+ breast cancer?**



# Future Direction: Late Recurrence Remains a Significant Issue in ER+/HER2- Breast Cancer



# Future NCTN Late Recurrence Trial: Phase III Schema



# Why We are Not Ready for Phase III Trials

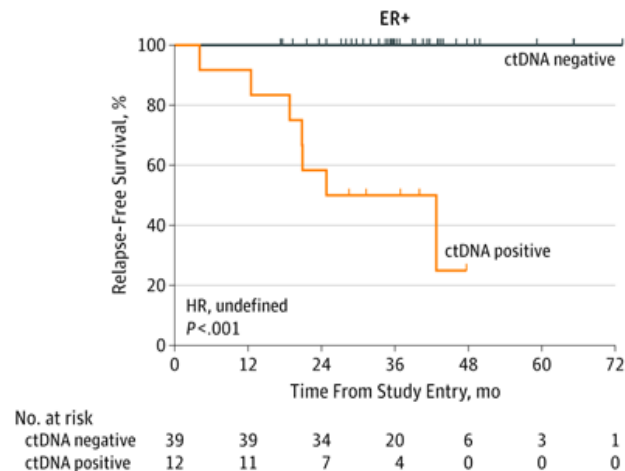
- **Role of blood-based marker detection in early-stage BC, such as ctDNA and CTCs**

- Still in clinical validity phase
- Differences in pre-analytic and analytic considerations
  - CTCs require real-time assessment
  - ctDNA platforms may require baseline tumor tissue
    - Bespoke vs. agnostic
  - Limited cross-platform analyses
  - Assays can vary in terms of sensitivity and detection

- **Best therapeutic intervention**

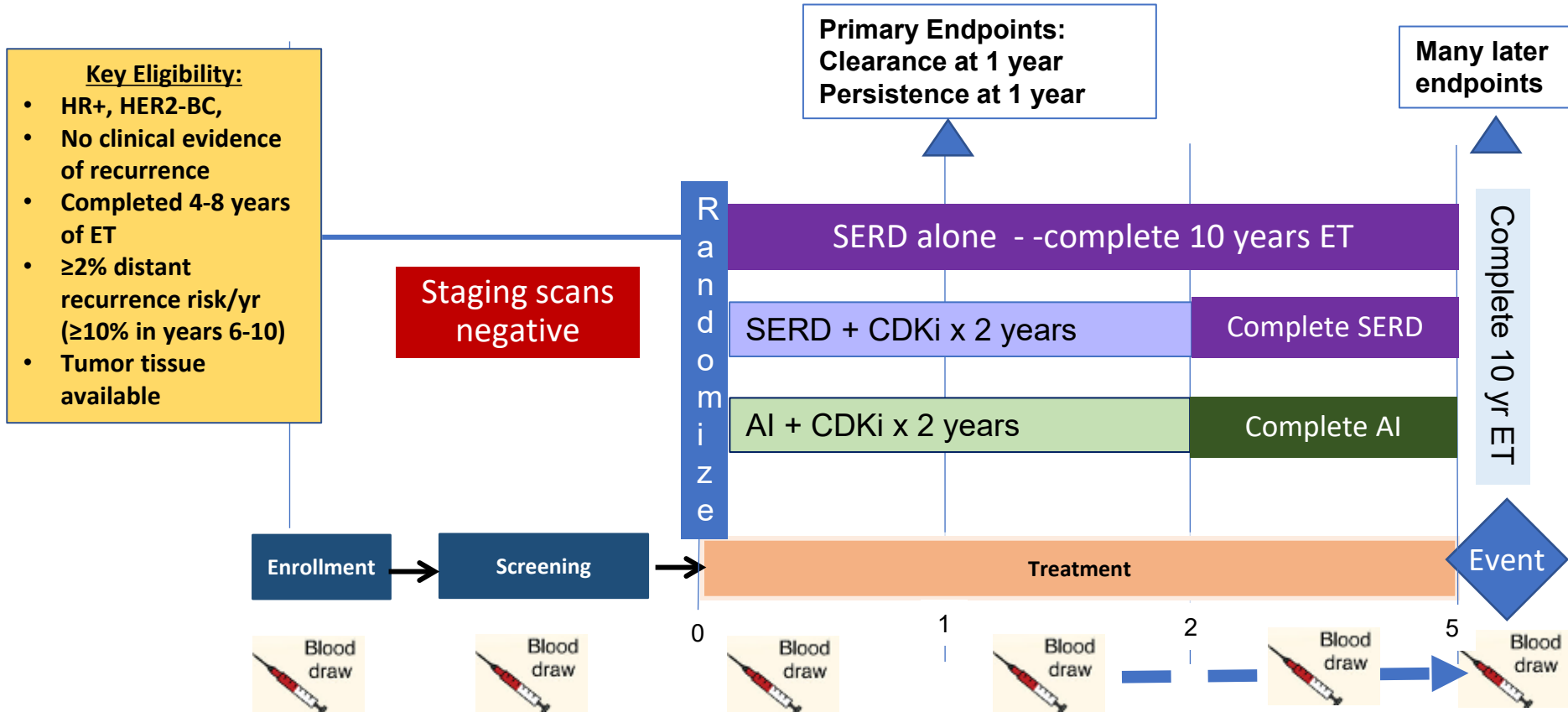
- Oral SERDs – early in development
- CDK4/6 inhibitors – effective in metastatic disease but conflicting data in adjuvant setting

A Combined cohort



Median lead time 10.7 months from ctDNA detection to clinical relapse

# Late Recurrence Phase 2 Trial Schema: **Treatment Phase**



- **Blood collection:** Biomarker assays are batched; patients are not informed of results
- **Timepoints:** 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, 60 months after enrollment. Anticipate two 10 mL tubes per blood-based assay

# Conclusion

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- **Significant Progress in Chemotherapy De-Escalation with TailorX and RxPONDER**
- **Premenopausal Patients: Identify De-escalation Strategies to Prevent Recurrence**
- **Late Recurrence: Assessing predictors and potential interventions remains critical**



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