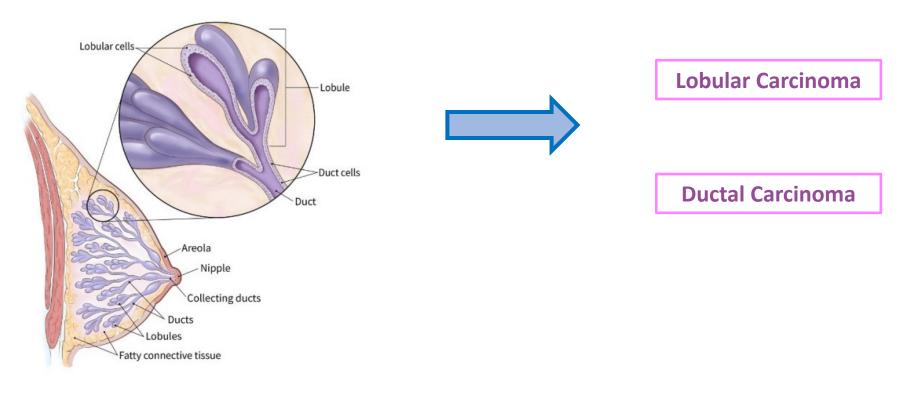
# **HR+ Breast Cancer Introductory Lecture**

# **Breast Cancer Pathology**

# **Breast Cancer Pathology**

### Breast cancer cells develop into malignant cells from normal breast cells

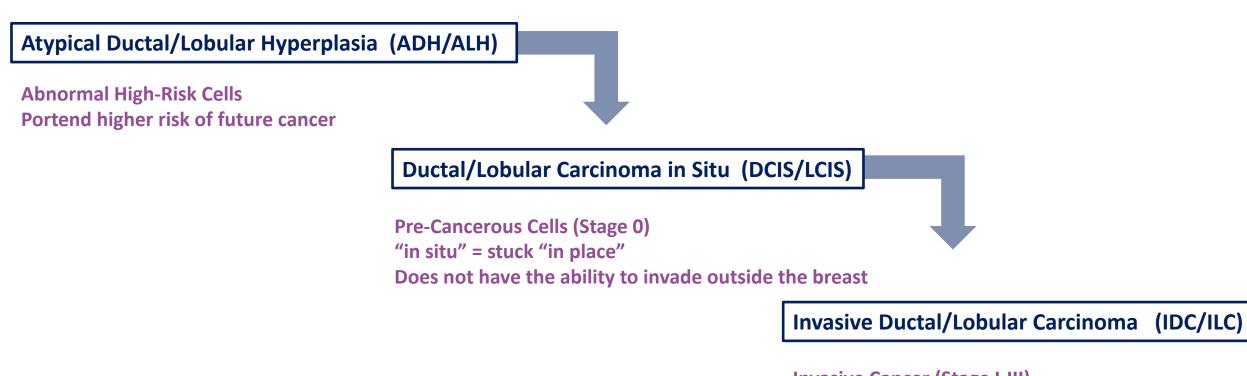
Cancer cells come from either breast lobules (10%) where milk is made or breast ducts (70%) where milk is channeled



American Cancer Society

# **Breast Cancer Pathology**

### Breast cancer cells develop into malignant cells along a spectrum

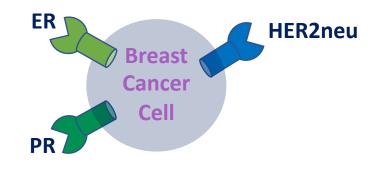


Invasive Cancer (Stage I-III) Has the potential to invade outside the breast

## **Breast Cancer Receptors**

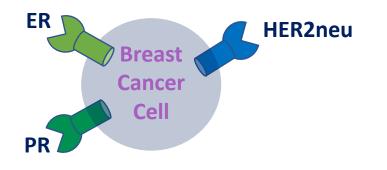
# Hormone receptors (estrogen and progesterone) & HER2 receptors

= expressed on <u>some</u> breast cancer cells



Types of Breast Cancer		
HR+/HER2-	HR Positive	
HR-/HER2+ HR+/HER2+	HER2 Positive Triple Positive	
HR-/HER2-	Triple Negative	

# **Breast Cancer Subtypes**



Types of Breast Cancer		Incidence
HR+/HER2-	HR positive	70%
HR-/HER2+ HR+/HER2+	HER2 positive Triple Positive	20%
HR-/HER2-	Triple negative	10%

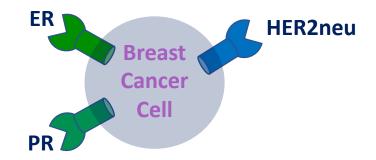
**Positivity determined by tests of biopsy sample:** 

IHC = immunohistochemistry
FISH = fluorescence in situ hybridization

**Receptors always written in order:** 

 $ER \rightarrow PR \rightarrow HER2$ ER+/PR+/HER2- or +/+/-

# **Breast Cancer Receptors**



### **Definition of HR+ (ER+ or PR+)**

**Hormone Receptor positive = HR+** 

Estrogen Receptor (ER) Progesterone Receptor (PR)

HR "Low" 1-10% ER or PR = HR "low" but still positive > 10% ER or PR = positive

#### either ER or PR > 1% = HR+

### **Definition of HER2+**

HER2+ IHC is graded 1+ to 3+ (1+ = weak; 3+ = strong)

HER2 IHC 1+ = negative HER2 IHC 2+ = equivocal, requires confirmatory FISH HER2 IHC 3+ = positive

#### FISH Tests: HER2/CEP17 and HER2 CN

```
HER2/CEP17 > 2 = Positive
HER2/CEP17 = HER2 gene/chromosome 17 centromere expression
```

```
HER2 CN > 6 = Positive
HER2 CN = HER2 copy number
```

# **Breast Cancer Staging & Prognosis**

### Staging

### Receptors:

Staging includes HR and HER2 receptor status, grade, as well as TNM

### Notable T Sizes:

T1a: < 0.5 cm T1b: 0.5 – 1 cm T1c: 1-2 cm T2: 2-5 cm T3: > 5 cm T4: chest wall or skin

### Notable lymph Nodes:

N1 = 1-3 axillary LN N2 = 4-9 axillary LN or Internal mammary LN N3 = 10+ axillary LN or supraclavicular LN

M1 = mediastinal or cervical LN

Prognosis varies significantly based on: staging (early vs late) and receptor status

### **Early Stage Breast Cancer:**

Stage I-III BC 5Y OS around 80-95%

HR+	5Y OS 95%
HER2+	5Y OS 85%
TNBC	5Y OS 75%

### **Metastatic Breast Cancer:**

Stage IV HR+ Stage IV HER2+ Stage IV TNBC 5Y OS around 30% 5Y OS around 20% 5Y OS around 10%

Stage IV HR+ Stage IV HR- median OS 57 months median OS 31 months

# **HR+ Breast Cancer Early Stage Treatment**

# **Early HR+ Breast Cancer Treatment Paradigm**

## **Local Control**

Goal = remove cancer locally

Surgery

Radiation Therapy

+/-

## **Systemic Therapy**

Goal = reduce risk of local & distant recurrence

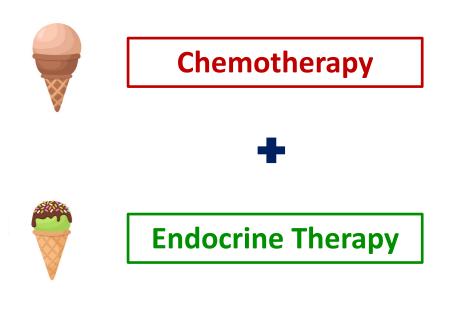
(1) Destroy any microscopic cells not removed in local resection(2) Modify hormonal environment to reduce risk of recurrence

+/- Chemotherapy

+

Endocrine Therapy

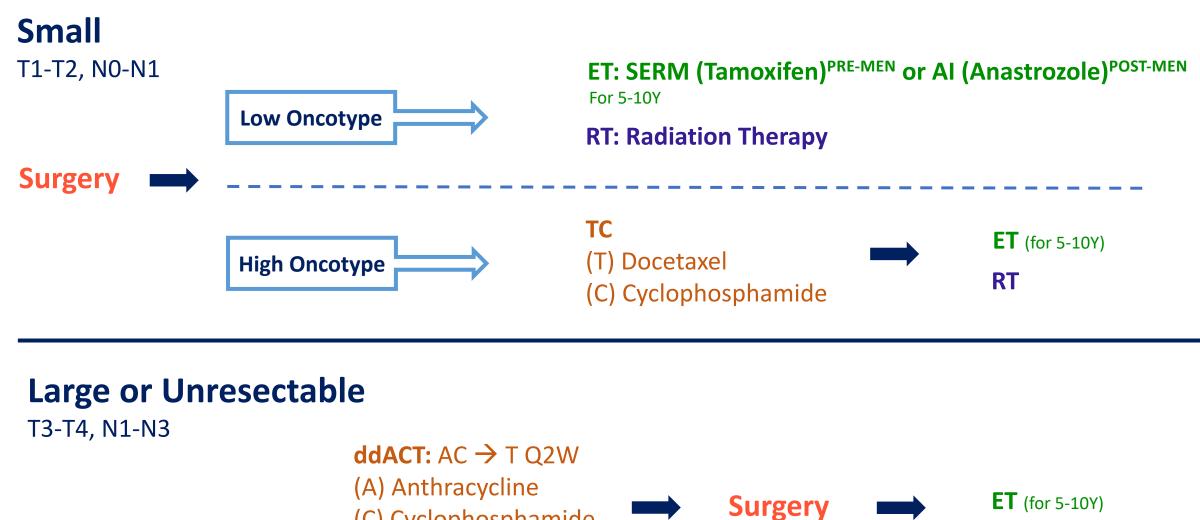
# **HR+ Receptor Based Therapy**



Low Risk HR+ early-stage breast cancers do NOT require chemotherapy and can be treated with endocrine therapy ALONE.

This is largely determined by a genetic recurrence score test called oncotype.

# **HR+ Early Breast Cancer Treatment Overview**



RT

(C) Cyclophosphamide

(T) Paclitaxel

Adjuvant vs. Neoadjuvant Therapy

## SURGICAL INDICATIONS FOR NEOADJUVANT TX

## (1) Down-Sizing of Surgery

ex: can allow for lumpectomy instead of mastectomy or spare an axillary LN dissection

## (2) Rendering Inoperable Tumors Operable

ex: Inflammatory breast cancer (T4)

# **Genetic Recurrence Scores**



### **Oncotype is a Genetic Recurrence Score**

21 gene panel sent on surgical specimen: **T1b-T2N1**, (tumors up to 5 cm, up to 3+ LN) used in HR+ EBC to determine if you can use ET alone in place of Chemo + ET

Menopausal Status	Node Negative	Node Positive (N1 = 1-3+ LN)
Dect Menoneusel	≤ 25: ET	≤ 25: ET
Post-Menopausal	≥ <b>26: Chemo + ET</b>	≥ 26: Chemo + ET
	< 16: ET	
Pre-Menopausal	<b>16-25: Chemo + ET</b> * Can consider AI/OFS	≤ <b>25: Chemo + ET</b>
	≥ 26: Chemo + ET	≥ 26: Chemo + ET

\* pre-menopausal women with intermediate oncotypes: some evidence that benefit of chemotherapy is due to chemo induced ovarian suppression rather than direct chemo cytotoxicity, thus chemo can be replaced with AI/OFS

# Menopause & OFS

## **Definition of Menopause**

1. Age > 60

2. Age < 60 and amenorrhea x 1 year in the absence of chemotherapy or tamoxifen

**3. BSO** 

**Ovarian Functional Suppression (OFS): for pre-menopausal women** 

**GNRH agonists:** Lupron IM or Goserelin SQ (Q1 or rarely Q3 month)

can be given to strengthen anti-estrogen effect in high-risk HR+ EBC

# Low Risk HR+ EBC Treatment

### Low Risk HR+ Breast Cancer: ET alone

- 1. T1a
- 2. Low risk histology: mucinous, tubular
- 3. Post-menopausal T1b-T2, N0-N1: oncotype  $\leq 25$
- 4. Pre-menopausal T1b-T2, N0: oncotype < 16-25

Post-Menopausal	Pre-Menopausal
AI > Tamoxifen	Tamoxifen or AI/OFS

1. Surgery
2. +/- Radiation
3. Endocrine Therap

# **High Risk HR+ EBC Treatment**

### High Risk HR+ Breast Cancer: Chemo + ET

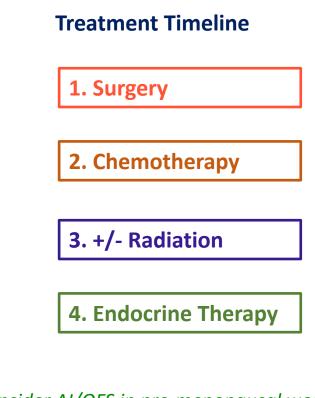
### 1. T3+, N2+

- 2. High risk histology: metaplastic, micropapillary
- 3. Post-menopausal T1b-T2, N0-N1: oncotype  $\geq$  26
- 4. Pre-menopausal T1b-T2, N0: oncotype > 16-25
- 5. Pre-menopausal N1+: regardless of oncotype

Node Negative Chemo	Node Positive Chemo
<b>TC (TC, Q3 week)</b> (T) Docetaxel (C) Cyclophosphamide	ddACT (AC → T, Q2 week) (A) Doxorubicin (C) Cyclophosphamide (T) Taxol

#### Neoadjuvant chemotherapy

- Give if unresectable tumor
- Controversial for downstaging tumors as HR+ BCs respond less robustly to chemo



\* Consider AI/OFS in pre-menopausal women

\* Consider 2 years adjuvant abemaciclib (CDK4/6 Inhibitor) after chemo if high-risk (N2 or N1 with T3, G3 or Ki67 >20%)

# **Endocrine Therapy (ET)**

### Hormone Therapy: 5-10 years adjuvant

### **Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulator**

SERM = PRE-MENOPAUSAL drug inhibits estrogen receptor

### tamoxifen

**Aromatase Inhibitors** 

AI = POST-MENOPAUSAL drug Inhibits peripheral conversion of androgens to estrogen

anastrozole (Arimidex) letrozole (Femara) exemestane (Aromasin)

\* SERMs can be used for post-menopausal women

\* Als can NOT be used for pre-menopausal women unless given with OFS

#### **Important Side Effects:**

SERM → DVT (1-2%), endometrial cancer (1%) hot flashes, night sweats, vaginal dryness, mood/weight changes, cataracts

AI → arthritis, osteoporosis, cholesterol changes hot flashes, night sweats, vaginal dryness, mood/weight changes, cataracts

# **Early Breast Cancer Front Line Therapies Overview**



Adjuvant Therapy Low Oncotype (≤ 25): ET +/- OFS High Oncotype (≥ 26): TC (N-) or ACT (N+) + ET

### **HER2+ Breast Cancer:**

Neoadjuvant Therapy: TC-HP Adjuvant Therapy RD: TDM1 Adjuvant Therapy PCR: HP

### HR+/HER2+: Triple Positive Breast Cancer

Neoadjuvant Therapy: TC-HP Adjuvant Therapy RD: TDM1 + ET Adjuvant Therapy PCR: HP + ET

### **HR-/HER2-: Triple Negative Breast Cancer**

**Neoadjuvant Therapy:** ACT or AC-TC + Pembrolizumab **Adjuvant Therapy RD:** Capecitabine + Pembrolizumab **Adjuvant Therapy PCR:** Observation + Pembrolizumab

# **HR+ Breast Cancer Metastatic Treatment**

# **MBC: Targetable Mutations**

## **ADDITIONAL STUDIES:**

## NGS: Look for actionable mutations (targeted agents used 2nd line)

Tumor Testing



26

Liquid Testing (ctDNA = circulating tumor DNA)

IHC: Stain for PDL1, androgen receptor

**ESR1**  $\rightarrow$  Resistance to AIs (use SERDs) in HR+ MBC

**PIK3CA** → Responds to PI3K inhibitors (ex: alpelisib)

**BRCA** → Responds to PARP inhibitors (ex: olaparib, talazoparib)

# **HR+ Front Line MBC Treatment**

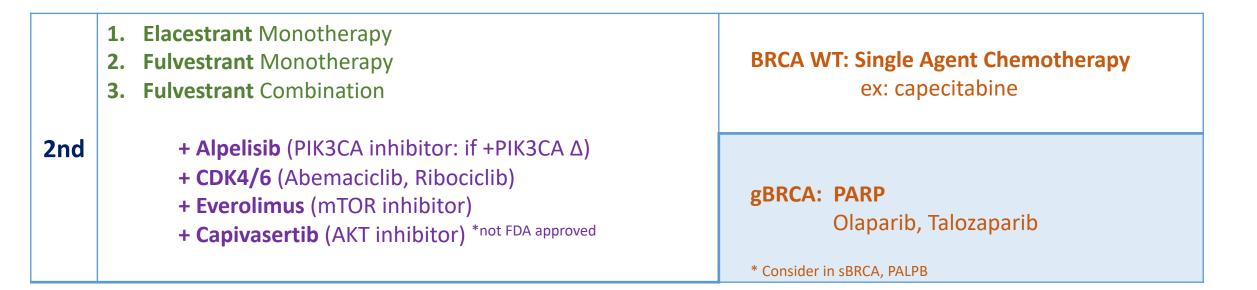


1st	Aromatase Inhibitor + CDK4/6 Inhibitor (abemaciclib, ribociclib, palbociclib)	Fulvestrant (or Exemestane) +
130	CDK4/6 Inhibitor (abemaciclib, ribociclib, palbociclib)	CDK4/6 Inhibitor (abemaciclib, ribociclib, palbociclib)

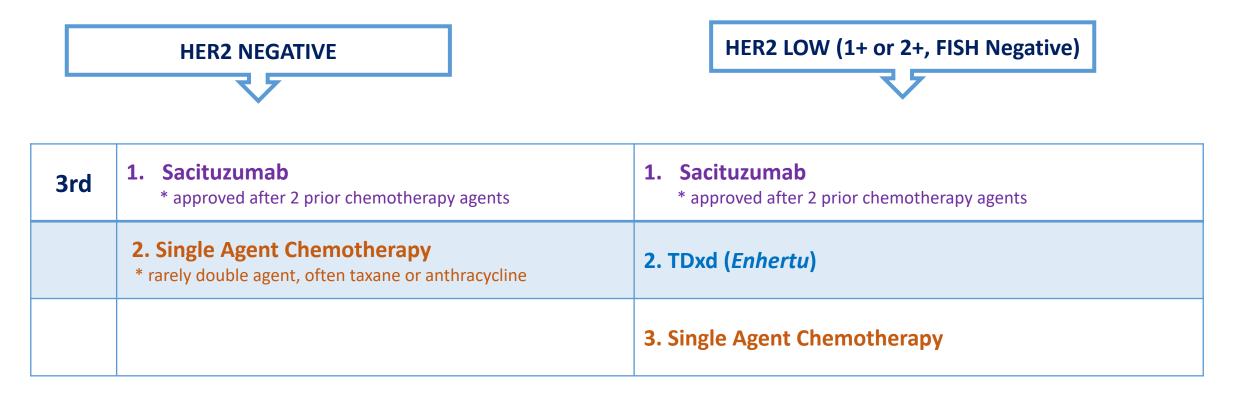
\* Evolving data on whether Palbociclib is as effective as the other CDK4/6 inhibitors

# **HR+ Second Line MBC Treatment**





# **HR+ Third Line MBC Treatment**



# **HR+ MBC Chemotherapy**

**Choose based on Efficacy and Toxicity** 

### **Efficacy:** typically highest RRs pending prior usage

### **Taxanes:**

paclitaxel (Taxol) docetaxel (Taxotere) nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane)

### **Anthracyclines:**

doxorubicin (Adriamycin) liposomal doxorubicin (Doxil) slower RR

Common Agents	Toxicities	Benefits
Anthracycline	Cardiotoxicity, Capped lifetime dose	Q3W Doxil Alopecia sparing
Taxanes	Neuropathy	Weekly or Q3W
Capecitabine	Mucositis, GI, PPE	Oral Alopecia sparing
Gemcitabine +/- Carbo		Q3W Alopecia sparing Consider doublet for large burden of disease
Eribulin	Neuropathy	Weekly

### **Toxicity Considerations:**

Alopecia Sparing Gemcitabine (Gemzar) Capecitabine (Xeloda) Liposomal doxorubicin (Doxil)

### Q3 Week Dosing Docetaxel (Taxotere) Paclitaxel (Taxol)

Liposomal doxorubicin (Doxil) Gemcitabine

### PO

Capecitabine (Xeloda)

# **HR+ MBC Treatment Overview**

Tx Line	Regimen	Genetic Testing: ESR1, PIK3CA, BRCA, etc
1.c+	Al Sensitive:	AI + CDK4/6 Inhibitor (ribociclib, abemaciclib, palbociclib)
1st	Al Insensitive:	Fulvestrant + CDK4/6 Inhibitor
2nd	ET Sensitive: ET Insensitive:	<ol> <li>Elacestrant</li> <li>Fulvestrant Monotherapy</li> <li>Fulvestrant Combination         <ul> <li>+ Aleplisib<sup>+PIK3CA</sup>, CDK4/6, Everolimus, Capivasertib<sup>not FDA</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>BRCA WT = Single agent chemo (ex: capecitabine/Xeloda)         <ul> <li>BRCA Δ = PARP inhibitor (olaparib, talazoparib)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
3rd	HER2 Low =	<ol> <li>Single agent chemo (ex: anthracycline, taxane)</li> <li>Sacituzumab <sup>after 2 chemos</sup></li> <li>TDxd (Enhertu)</li> </ol>
	HER2 Neg =	<ol> <li>Single agent chemo</li> <li>Sacituzumab <sup>after 2 chemos</sup></li> </ol>

# **Metastatic Breast Cancer: Front Line Therapy Overview**

HR+ Breast Cancer:	HER2+ Breast Cancer:
Hormone Therapy: SERM or AI	HER2+ Therapy: trastuzumab + pertuzumab
with	with
CDK4/6 Inhibitor: palbociclib, ribociclib, abemaciclib	Chemotherapy: docetaxel
HR+/HER2+: Triple Positive Breast Cancer	HR-/HER2-: Triple Negative Breast Cancer
HER2+ Therapy: trastuzumab + pertuzumab	CPS+ (>10%): pembrolizumab + chemotherapy
with	or

## **Breast Cancer Reference Handout**

#### **Breast Cancer Dx**

Atypical Ductal/Lobular Hyperplasia (ADH/ALH)

Abnormal "high-risk" lesions

+/- Surgery

+/- ET (not stained for HR)

Ductal/Lobular Carcinoma in Situ (DCIS/LCIS)

Non-invasive cancerous lesions Stage 0. "Pre-Cancer" Surgery +- ET if HR+ Invasive Ductal/Lobular Carcinoma (IDC/ILC) Invasive cancerous lesions Stage I-III Surgical resection +/- RT Receptor-based neoadjuvant or adjuvant therapy Types of Incidence **Breast Cancer Definition of HR+** HR+/HER2-70% ER or PR > 1%(1-10% = low)HR-/HER2+ **Definition of HER2+** 20% HR+/HER2+ IHC: HER2 2+ AND +FISH HER2 3+ HR-/HER2-10%

### Local vs Systemic Tx

Local Control: Lumpectomy + RT or Mastectomy +/- RT

**Receptor-Based Systemic Therapy:** Chemotherapy, Antibody Therapy, Endocrine Therapy

### **Receptor Based Tx**

#### **Chemo/Immunotherapy**

HR+ ChemoHER2+ ChemoddACTACT-HPTCTC-HPCMFTH

HR+

HER2+

**TNBC Chemo** ddACT TC-AC-Pembro "Keynote 522"

\* All EBC requires chemo EXCEPT low-risk HR+

Endocrine Therapy [5-10 years] Pre-menopausal = SERM (tamoxifen) Post-menopausal = AI (anastrozole, letrozole, exemestane)

HER2+ Antibody Therapy [1 year] Trastuzumab (Herceptin) +/- Pertuzumab (Perjeta)

Important Side Effects:

Adriamycin  $\rightarrow$  cardiotoxicity Paclitaxel  $\rightarrow$  neuropathy Trastuzumab  $\rightarrow$  cardiotoxicity A, C, T, M, F  $\rightarrow$  myelosuppression, hair loss, neuropathy, infertility SERM  $\rightarrow$  DVT, endometrial cancer, hot flashes/sweats, vaginal dryness Al  $\rightarrow$  hot flashes/sweats, vaginal dryness, arthritis, osteoporosis Early Stage Breast Cancer Tx

**Common Front Line Approach** for tumors >T1a

#### HR+ BC:

Adjuvant Therapy Low Risk Oncotype (≤ 25): ET +/- OFS High Risk Oncotype (≥ 26): TC (N-) or ACT (N+) + ET

#### HER2+ BC:

Neoadjuvant Therapy: TC-HP Adjuvant Therapy RD: TDM1 Adjuvant Therapy PCR: HP (dual antibodies) \* Adjuvant TH if <2 cm, N-

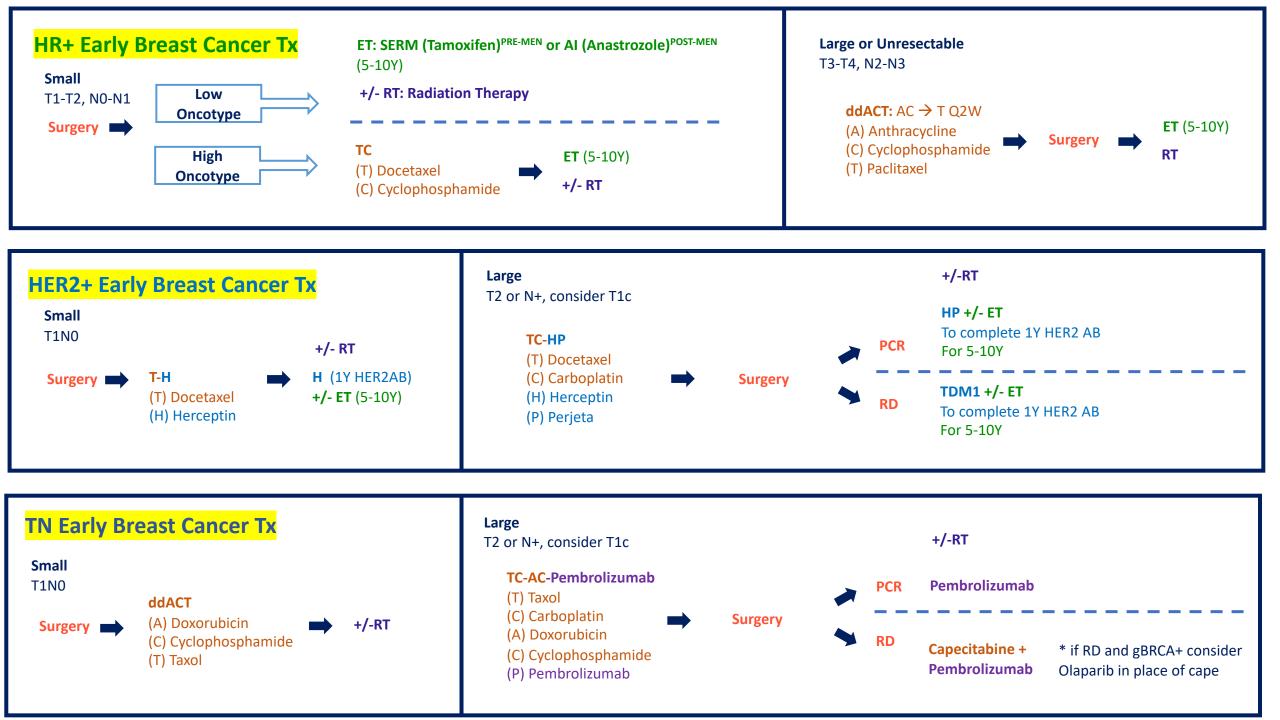
#### HR+/HER2+ BC: Triple Positive

Neoadjuvant Therapy: TC-HP Adjuvant Therapy RD: TDM1 + ET Adjuvant Therapy PCR: HP (dual antibodies) + ET

#### HR-/HER2- BC: Triple Negative

**Neoadjuvant Therapy:** ACT or ACTC + Pembro **Adjuvant Therapy RD:** Capecitabine + Pembro **Adjuvant Therapy PCR:** Observation + Pembro \* Adjuvant ddACT if <2 cm, N-

HR+ Early Breast Cancer Risk	<mark>Oncotype</mark>				
<b>Oncotype</b> 21 gene recurrence score sent on tumor to determine need for chemotherapy	Menopausal Status	Node Negat	tive	Node Positive (N1 = 1-3+ LN)	Menopause Definition <ol> <li>Age &gt;60</li> <li>Age &lt;60 and no menses &gt;1Y OFF ET</li> </ol>
	DOCT	≤ 25: ET		≤ 25: ET	3. BSO
<ul><li>When to send Oncotype:</li><li>T1b-T2, N0-N1</li></ul>	POST	≥ 26: Chemo +	ET	≥ 26: Chemo + ET	
Wilson not to cond Onestime.		< 16: ET			
<ul> <li>When not to send Oncotype:</li> <li>Too small (T1a &lt; 5mm)</li> <li>Too large (T3 &gt; 5 cm, N2 ≥ 4 LN)</li> </ul>	PRE	<b>16-25: Chemo</b> * Can consider		≤ 25: Chemo + ET	
<ul> <li>Good prognosis histology (mucinous, tubular)</li> </ul>		≥ 26: Chemo +	ET	≥ 26: Chemo + ET	
ET For 5-10Y	Chemo				
					Additional Tx
Pre-Menopausal 1. Tamoxifen (SERM)		tive Chemo	Node P	Positive or High Risk Chemo	Additional Tx 1. Extended ET 7-10Y ET
-		eek)	<b>ddACT</b> (A) Dox	(AC → T, Q2 week) orubicin ophosphamide	1. Extended ET



### Metastatic Breast Cancer Tx

**Front Line Therapy** 

#### **HR+ Breast Cancer:**

Hormone Therapy: Tamoxifen or Al WITH CDK4/6 Inhibitor: Palbociclib, Ribociclib, Abemaciclib

#### HER2+ Breast Cancer:

HER2+ Therapy: Trastuzumab +/- Pertuzumab WITH Chemotherapy: Docetaxel

#### HR+/HER2+: Triple Positive Breast Cancer

HER2+ Therapy: Trastuzumab +/- Pertuzumab WITH Chemotherapy: Docetaxel

#### HR-/HER2-: Triple Negative Breast Cancer

**CPS+ (>10%):** Pembrolizumab + chemotherapy *OR* 

**PDL1-:** Chemotherapy: anthracyclines, taxanes, anti-metabolites, anti-tubulins, platins, etc

### Metastatic Breast Cancer Tx

#### Additional Lines of Therapy: No SOC 2<sup>nd</sup> line therapy

Tx Line	HR+ Breast Cancer
1 <sup>st</sup>	AI + CDK4/6 Inhibitor (palbociclib, ribociclib, abemaciclib)
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup>	PIK3CA - = Elacestrant or Fulvestrant +/- Everolimus or CDK4/6
ET Sensitive	PIK3CA + = Fulvestrant + Alpelisib
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup>	BRCA - = single agent chemo or Enhertu (HER2 low)
ET insensitive	BRCA + = PARP inhibitor (olaparib, talazoparib)

Tx Line	HER2+ Breast Cancer
1 <sup>st</sup>	Taxane + Trastuzumab + Pertuzumab
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Trastuzumab Deruxtecan = TDXd ( <i>Enhertu</i> )
3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup>	Trastuzumab Emtansine = TDM1 ( <i>Kadcyla</i> )
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tucatinib + Trastuzumab + Capecitabine</b> * consider 2 <sup>nd</sup> line if brain mets

Tx Line	Triple Negative Breast Cancer
1 <sup>st</sup>	PDL1 >10% = pembrolizumab + chemo PDL1 <10% = single agent chemo
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup>	BRCA + = PARP inhibitor BRCA - = single agent chemo
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sacituzumab * approved after 2 lines of systemic therapy, at least 1 for MBC