



ASO Author Reflections: Residual Cancer Burden Across Phenotypic Subtypes

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PAST

The residual cancer burden (RCB) was developed as a standard scoring system to report residual disease burden at surgery after neoadjuvant chemotherapy.¹ The utility of this scoring system in the context of different breast cancer phenotypes was not well established.

PRESENT

In our study, we evaluated the RCB after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in different breast cancer phenotypic subtypes to determine if this was predictive of survival outcomes.² Our results found the RCB to be predictive of overall survival and recurrence in patients with triple-negative and HER2-positive breast cancer. However, the RCB was not predictive in the hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative patients. We hypothesized that we were unable to show a difference in this group due to an overall low event rate of recurrence and death.

FUTURE

Since submission of our paper, a multicenter, polled analysis was recently published that evaluates the RCB in different phenotypic subtypes. This analysis found the

RCB to be predictive in all subtypes, including the hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative group.³ The RCB provides useful information for patients undergoing neoadjuvant therapy and should be incorporated in the adjuvant treatment planning for neoadjuvant chemotherapy patients.

DISCLOSURE None.

REFERENCES

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