

Disclosure of speaker

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- **Conducting trials with financial support:**

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- **Member of speakers' bureau and Advisory board member:**

**Roche, Novartis, Pfizer, Boehringer Ingelheim,
Amgen**



**Dual blockade with Afatinib and Trastuzumab as neoadjuvant treatment
for patients with locally advanced or operable breast cancer
receiving taxane-anthracycline containing chemotherapy
efficacy and safety analysis**

(DAFNE – GBG 70)

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**for the
GBG/AGO-B study groups**





Introduction

- **Neoadjuvant standard therapy for primary breast cancer: anthracycline-taxane (AT)-containing chemotherapy (CT) \geq 18 weeks (1).**
- **HER2 positive disease: addition of trastuzumab led to pathological complete response (pCR) rate of approx. 40% (2-4).**
- **AT chemotherapy plus dual blockage of HER2 receptor (e.g. trastuzumab + lapatinib/ trastuzumab + pertuzumab) can increase pCR rate further by approx. 20% (5,6).**
- **Afatinib, an irreversible ErbB-family blocker, has been tested for efficacy and safety (7).**

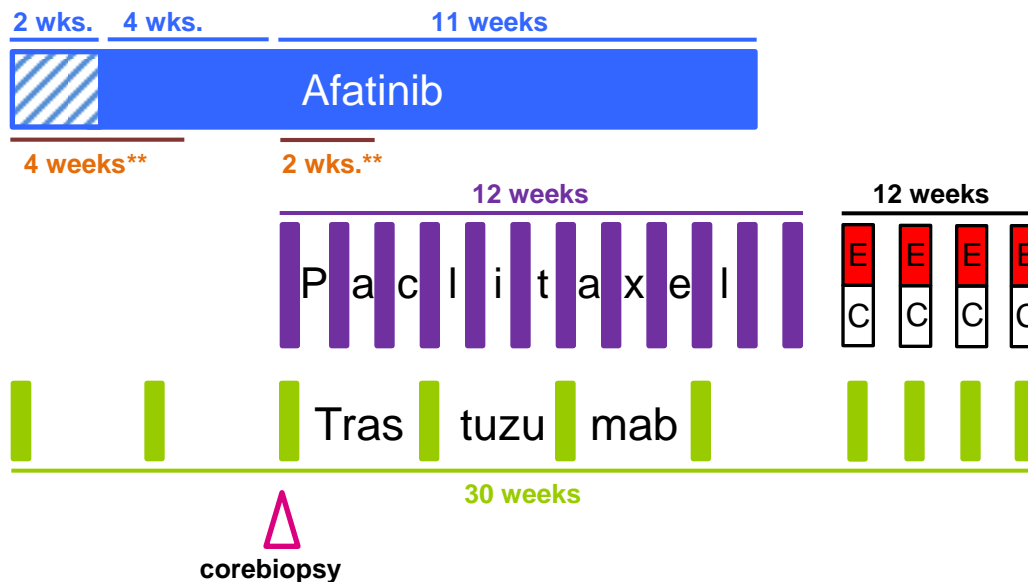


Studydesign

multicenter, prospective, open-label phase II study

N=65

corebiopsy
central HER2-testing



24 weeks
Trastuzumab
lt. AGO guidelines

Afatinib: 20 mg daily (*during first 2 wks. every other day).
Trastuzumab: loading 8 mg/kg body weight, than 6 mg/kg q3w.
Paclitaxel: 80 mg/m² q1w.
Epirubicin: 90 mg/m² day 1 q22.
Cyclophosphamid: 600 mg/m² day 1 q22.

****Primary prophylaxis with loperamide 2x2mg daily was mandatory for the first 4 weeks of afatinib/trastuzumab and the first 2 weeks of paclitaxel.**



Selected Objectives

Primary:

- pCR (ypT0/is ypN0)

Secondary:

- efficacy using other pCR definitions (ypT0 ypN0, ypT0 ypN0/+, ypTany ypN0) clinical response rates
- Rate and type of surgery
- compliance and toxicity
- Correlation of skin toxicity and diarrhoe and prespecified molecular markers with pCR

Other objectives will be presented when data are fully analysed.



Key Eligibility Criteria

- **Unilateral primary breast cancer as confirmed by core biopsy**
- **Operable or locally advanced or inflammatory breast cancer (cT2 – cT4a-d).**
- **Centrally confirmed, positive HER2 status of core biopsy, HER2 positive: IHC 3+ or FISH/SISH ≥ 2.0 .**
- **Centrally confirmed hormone receptor status (ER / PgR).**
- **Karnofsky performance status $\geq 80\%$.**
- **Normal cardiac function.**
- **Age ≥ 18**

Statistical Analysis*

Sample size calculation:

- **assumed pCR rate of AT plus concurrent trastuzumab: 40.0%**
- **Her2-status centrally reviewed: pCR rate increase 10% (8)**
- **Dual anti-Her2 blockade: pCR rate increase 20%**

Real pCR rate: assumed 70%

To exclude pCR rate of $\leq 55\%$: sample size of 65 patients

(2-sided one group χ^2 -test, $\alpha = 0.1$, $1-\beta = 80\%$) (9)



Patients & Tumor Characteristics

Randomized patients (n)	74
Intent to treat population (n) (recruited 5/2012-7/2013)	65
age (median yrs/ range)	50/29-73
cT 2 (%)	76.6
cN 0 (%)	51.6
Tumor grade 3 (%)	60
HR-positive (%)	70.8



Compliance

Started treatment (n)	65
Discontinued all treatments early	9
➤ adverse event	5
➤ investigator's decision	1
➤ patient's wish	2
➤ progressive disease	1
Discontinued afatinib treatment	16
➤ adverse event	14
➤ investigator's decision	1
➤ patient's wish	1
Completed planned treatment	47



Toxicity

SAEs (n)

(in 16 patients)

Gastrointestinal (%)	27.3
Hematologic (%)	18.2
Infections (%)	13.6
Nervous system (%)	9.1

AEs of special interest (n)

Diarhea grade 3	6
Rashes grade 3	1
Renal failures grade 3	2

Grade 3-4 hematological

Neutropenia (%)	53.8
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Grade 3-4 non-hematological

Diarrhea (%)	7.7
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Efficacy primary objective

pCR (ypT0/is ypN0): 49.2%

(32 of 65 pts.; 95 % CI: 38.5%-60.1%)



Efficacy secondary objectives (1)

pCR by other definitions:

ypT0, ypN0 **33.9%**
(21 of 65 pts.)

ypT0/is, ypN0/+ **55.4%**
(36 of 65 pts.)

ypTany, ypN0 **83.1%**
(54 of 65 pts.)

pCR and ER (hormonreceptorstatus) ypT0/is, ypN0:

ER+ (n= 46) **43.5%**

ER- (n=19) **63.2%**

(odds ratio 0.449; p=0.153)



Efficacy secondary objectives (2)

pCR and PIK3CA status:

(p=0.363)

Wild type **54.2%**

(26 of 48 pts.)

Mutation **38.5%**

(5 of 13 pts.)

pCR and LPBC (lymphocyte predominant breast cancer) status:

(p=0.0053)

without LPBC **26,8%**

(15 of 56 pts.)

With LPBC **77.8%**

(7 of 9 pts.)

pCR and skin toxicity or diarrhea:

no association



Efficacy secondary objectives

(3)

**Clinical objective response rate
at surgery:**

96.3%

Complete / partial response

after 6 wks. of dual Her2 blockade: 5.3/ 36.8%
(3/21 of 57 evaluable pts.)

Clinical signs of tumor progression

after 6 wks. of dual Her2 blockade: 14%
(8 of 57 evaluable pts.)

Breast-conserving surgery:

60%



Conclusion

- The DAFNE study did not meet its challenging primary endpoint to show a pCR rate of as high as 70% to suggest superior efficacy than other currently available regimes using dual Her2-blockade in breast cancer.
- The result does formally not support a subsequent phase III trial comparing this combination with other dual blockade regimen.
- Afatinib and trastuzumab in combination with anthracycline-taxane-based chemotherapy as given in the DAFNE study showed no new safety signals.
- However: results provide further support for the predictive value of LPBC and PIK3CA mutations in this treatment setting (10)



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Slides can be downloaded from www.germanbreastgroup.de.