Measurement of HER2

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Why Test HER2?

- Trastuzumab
 - Metastatic
 - Adjuvant
- Lapatinib
 - Metastatic
 - Trials
- ? Selection of best or any chemotherapy
 - Adjuvant

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Adjuvant Trastuzumab: Combined Analysis NSABP B-31 / NCCTG N9831



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Chemotherapy ± Lapatinib in MBC

HER2 FISH+ Patients Benefited From Lapatinib Therapy Regardless of Chemotherapy Used



Figure 1. —FI8H > 2: Combined analysis of PF8 in EGF30001 and EGF100151 (N = 345).

HER2 IHC 3+ Patients Benefited From Lapatinib Therapy Regardless of Chemotherapy Used



Figure 2. —IHC 3+: Combined analysis of PF8 in EGF30001 and EGF100151 (N = 224).

HER2 FISH+ IHC ≤ 2 Patients Benefited From Lapatinib Therapy Regardless of Chemotherapy Used



Figure 3. – FI8H > 2 and IHC \leq 2 \ast Combined analysis of PFS in EGF30001 and EGF100151 (N = 64).

HER2 FISH-, IHC 1+ or 2+ Do Not Benefit From Lapatinib Therapy





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Patients with ER- or PgR-positive tumors receive endocrine therapy Selected according to menopausal status; administered concurrently with biologics and continuing for at least 5 years

OPEN IN NORTH AMERICA, WINTER 2008, WE HOPE

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HER2 Is Predictive of Paclitaxel Benefit by Estrogen Receptor Disease-Free Survival



What Is Different About HER2 (and Predictive Markers in General)?

- HER2 test is not a simple adjunct to anatomic pathology to confirm a tissue diagnosis
 - Assays are being used as the sole determinant of treatment selection
 - Although HER2 predicts benefit, the big issue is **NO** BENEFIT:
 - Should we withhold therapy from a group of patients in whom it might improve survival?

Assays Used for HER2 Testing

- Immunohistochemistry assays
 - CTA CB11 and 4D5 MoAbs (not commercial)
 HercepTest A085 polyclonal Ab
 Pathway CB11 MoAb
- Fluorescence in situ hybridization assays
 - PathVysion HER2:CEP17 ratio
 pharmDx kits HER2:CEP17 ratio
 - Inform kit
 HER2 gene copy number
- ISH assays without fluorescence (not approved in the U.S.)
 - SPoT-Light Chromogenic ISH
 - EnzMet GenePro Silver enhanced ISH

A Recipe for Problems

- HER2 testing has been done in a decentralized fashion
- US FDA allows individual anatomic path labs to develop and use their own "home brew" assays if:
 Use FDA-approved analyte specific reagents
 Lab is CLIA approved
- Assay validation is not the norm
- Ongoing proficiency testing is not the norm

Problem?

- Would you give (or take!) a drug that:
 - Was made in a laboratory next to your clinic?
 - You were not sure of the dose?
 - You were not sure of what it was mixed in?
 - It seems close to the drug that has been tested, but the laboratory that made the one you are going to use has never validated that <u>their</u> drug works as well (or at all)?

HER2 Testing Concordance in N9831

Concordance Central vs Local Lab

	JNCI 2002 (total N=119)	ASCO 2004 (total N=976)	JCO 2006 (total N=2535)		
IHC 3+ (HercepTest)	74%		82%		
FISH + (PathVysion)	67%		88%		

ASCO-CAP HER2 Initiative

- Convened during Fall 2005 through Summer 2006
- Multi-disciplinary expertise
- Assumed that the answer to "Should you measure HER2?" is Yes
- Developed guidelines for:
 - Clinical algorithm
 - Pre-analytical handling
 - Accreditation

VOLUME 25 - RUMBER 1 - JANUARY 1 2007

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY ASCOSPECIAL ARTICLE

American Society of Clinical Oncology/College of American Pathologists Guideline Recommendations for Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 Testing in Breast Cancer

Antonio C. Wolff, M. Elzabede H. Henrmond, Jored N. Schwertz, Karen L. Hegerg, D. Creig Alend, Ekchard J. Cow, Michell Dowten, Petrick L. Fiergibbens, Wederl M. Hanne, Arry Langer, Liss M. McShene, Soo meyang Petit, Mark D. Jegrem, Edith A. Perez, Michael F. Pren, Anthony Elsates, Caductine Snargeon, Shella E. Tante, Reprinted Tables, Gell H. Vanze, Marc van de Vijver, Thomas M. Wheeler, and Daniel F. Hayer

HER2 Testing Algorithm Adjuvant Trials and Clinical Practice



ASCO/CAP Testing Algorithms Immunohistochemistry



Wolff. *J Clin Oncol.* 2007;25:4021. Reprinted with permission from the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

ASCO/CAP Testing Algorithms Fluorescent In Situ Hybridization



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Wolff. J Clin Oncol. 2007;25:118 (published simultaneously in Arch Clin Path).

HER2 Antigen Becomes "Hidden" With Formalin Fixation/Paraffin Embedding

HER2 specimen amplified 2- to 5-fold by Southern Hybridization



HER2 "negative" status is a fixation artifact that requires antigen retrieval for "correction"

Photos courtesy of Michael Press.

Slamon. Science. 1989;244:712.

FISH Can Also Be Affected by Formalin Overfixation



FISH not interpretable (sample fixed in formalin over the weekend...)

Photo courtesy of Dr. Elizabeth Hammond.

Sources of HER2 Testing Variation

Preanalytic

Time to fixation Method of tissue processing Time of fixation Type of fixation

Analytic

Assay validation Equipment calibration Use of standardized laboratory procedures Training and competency assessment of staff Type of antigen retrieval Test reagents Use of standardized control materials Use of automated laboratory methods Postanalytic Interpretation criteria Use of image analysis Reporting elements Quality assurance procedures Laboratory accreditation Proficiency testing Pathologist competency assessment

<u>Guideline Recommendation:</u> "...samples for HER2 testing are fixed in neutral buffered formalin for 6-48 hours."

Wolff. J Clin Oncol. 2007;25:118.

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ASCO-CAP HER2 Initiative

The panel recommends that HER2 testing be done in a CAP-accredited laboratory or in a laboratory that meets the accreditation and proficiency testing requirements set out by this document VOLUME 25 - NUMBER 1 - JANUARY 1 2007

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"The Panel recommends that HER2 testing be done in a CAP-accredited laboratory or in a laboratory that meets the accredidation and proficiency requirements set out by this document"



So... now we have solved everything, right?



What About HER2 Subsets?

- HER2 test discordants? (~4% of specimens)
 - IHC positive / FISH negative
 - IHC negative / FISH positive
- HER2 test negative? (80% of specimens)
- HER2 polysomy (~8% of specimens)
 - Polysomy chromosome 17
 - Low levels of protein expression

Mortality by FISH Positive vs Negative (relative risk, 95% CI)

H648g	2+ and 3+	3+	2+
All	0.80 (0.64-1.00)	0.70 (0.51-0.90)	1.26 (0.82-1.94)
	N=469	N=349	N=120
FISH positive	0.70 (0.53-0.91)	0.67 (0.51-0.89)	1.31 (0.53-3.27)
	N=325	N=293	N=32
FISH negative	1.06 (0.70-1.63)	0.88 (0.39-1.98)	1.11 (0.68-1.82)
	N=126	N=43	N=83

Retrospective, unplanned.

Herceptin[®] [package Insert]. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; November 2006.

Treatment Outcome in N9831 as a Function of HER2 Overexpression or Amplification

HER2 Assay Result*	Number of Patients	HR for DFS [†] (95% CI)
IHC 3+		
FISH Positive	1170	0.42 (0.27-0.64)
FISH Negative	51	0.71 (0.04-11.79)
FISH Unknown	51	0.69 (0.09-5.14)
IHC 0, 1+, or 2+		
FISH Positive	174	1.01 (0.18-5.65)

*IHC by Herceptest, FISH by PathVysion as performed at a central laboratory. †Hazard ratio: risk of recurrence, second primary malignancy, or death in the trastuzumab plus chemotherapy vs the chemotherapy arm; estimated by Cox regression stratified by number of positive nodes and hormone receptor status.

Herceptin® [package Insert]. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; November 2006.

ASCO 2007 Oral Presentations

- Updated results of the combined analysis of NCCTG N9831 and NSABP B-31 adjuvant chemotherapy with/without trastuzumab in patients with HER2-positive breast cancer (Perez, Abstract 512)
- Benefit from adjuvant trastuzumab may not be confined to patients with IHC 3+ and/or FISH-positive tumors: Central testing results from NSABP B-31 (Paik, Abstract 511)
- CALGB 150002: Correlation of HER2 and chromosome 17 copy number with trastuzumab efficacy in CALGB 9840, paclitaxel with or without T in HER2-positive and HER2negative metastatic breast cancer (Kaufman, Abstract 1009)

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HER2 Central Testing: N9831 Results of IHC/FISH and DFS

	IHC Result	FISH Ratio	N=1842		Events (N)		цр	0.5% 01	D	
			Α	С	Α	С	пк	95% CI	P	
	3 +	≥2.0	715	690	116	58	0.47	0.34-0.66	<0.0001	
	37	<2.0	30	23	5	3	0.61	0.11-3.29	0.57	
	0, 1,	≥2.0	95	123	7	9	0.98	0.33-2.91	0.97	
	2+	<2.0	44	59	14	9	0.51	0.21-1.2	0.13	

Perez. ASCO. 2007.

HER2 Central Testing: N9831 Results of IHC/FISH and DFS

	IHC FISH Result Ratio	N=1842		Events (N)		ЦВ	0.5% 01	P —		
		Ratio	Α	С	Α	С	пк	95% CI		
	2+	≥2.0	715	690	116	58	0.47	0.34-0.66	<0.0001	
	37	<2.0	30	23	5	3	0.61	0.11-3.29	0.57	
	0, 1,	≥2.0	95	123	7	9	0.98	0.33-2.91	0.97	
	2+	<2.0	44	59	14	9	0.51	0.21-1.2	0.13	

Perez. ASCO. 2007.

RR of ACTH/ACT for RFI (NSABP B-31)



Reproduced with permission from Paik. ASCO. 2007.

Does Trastuzumab Work in HER2 Low or Negative Patients??

- Possible answers:
 - Yes
 - No
 - Retrospective, unplanned, partial subset analysis
 - All of these patients were "POS" somewhere
 - Biological plausibility?

Tumor Marker Development: The Problems and Pitfalls of Translating Laboratory Observations to Clinical Utility: It Isn't Easy! 2007 ASCO Extended Educational Session

"If you torture the data long enough it will confess to anything" *Lisa McShane, PhD*

Explanations: chance, technical, biological?

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HER2 FISH Patterns





FISH Amplified

FISH Not amplified Aneusomy Not amplified

CALGB 9840: Paclitaxel Every 1 vs 3 Weeks; Trastuzumab vs Nil in "HER2 Negative"



Reproduced with permission from Seidman et al. *Proc Am Soc Clin Oncol.* 2004;23:6s (abstr 512).

N (events/pts) =

CALGB 9840: Central Testing

HER2-negative subjects in C9840	585
Tissue blocks available for C150002	303
HER2:CEP17 FISH ratio <2	192
CEP17 copy number > 2.2 (polysomy)	38
IHC 0-2+ / IHC 3+	<mark>34</mark> / 3

RESPONSE in FISH Ratio <2	PAC	PAC + Trastuzumab	P Value
No polysomy	18/50 (36%)	19/53 (36%)	NS
Polysomy	5/19 (26%)	12/19 (63%)	<i>P</i> =0.048

Kaufman. ASCO. 2007 (abstr 1009).

Questions Raised by These Data

- Do patients with HER2-negative disease benefit from trastuzumab? Hypothesis
 - Does it represent undetected HER2 heterogeneity in primary tumor? Clonal evolution in the metastasis?
- Is polysomy associated with protein expression? Yes
- Does polysomy predict treatment benefit? Hypothesis
- Is one measure of HER2 (gene or protein) superior to the other? No (a few disagree)
- What about discordant results (~4% of all specimens)? Larger numbers needed, may not matter

Next Steps

- Retrospective subset analyses regarding benefit from trastuzumab in patients with HER2-negative disease (including those with HER2 polysomy) are hypothesesgenerating
- Data from individual adjuvant trials should be pooled to improve precision and test reproducibility of these initial observations
- If confirmed, prospective randomized trials targeting well-defined patient subgroups should be considered to test these intriguing hypotheses

For now, status quo (ie, high-quality testing/reporting)

Cancer Therapy: Take Aim...



The Economist, June 7, 2007.

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- Sheila Taube
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