

ADOPTING THE EVOLVING MANAGEMENT OF HR+/HER2-MBC INTO PRACTICE



Background and Scope for Management of Patients With HR+/HER2- mBC

Module 1

Breast Cancer

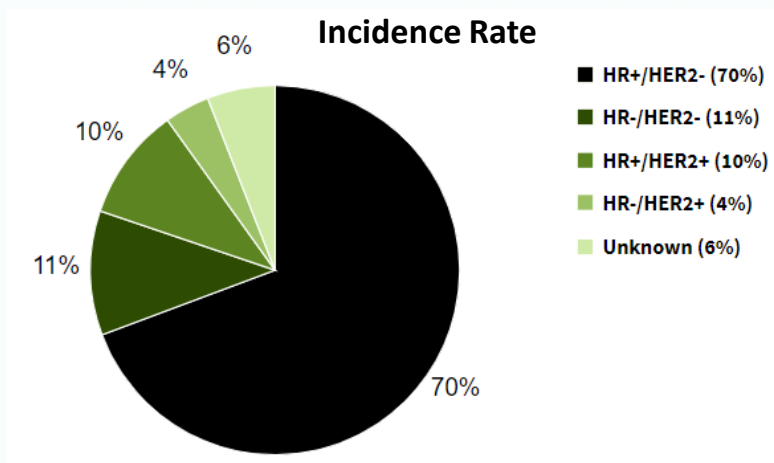
- Classified based on origin
 - Ductal or lobular
- Estrogen influences the growth/division of breast cells
- Most common sites of metastasis
 - Bone, soft tissue, lung, liver, brain
- Risk Factors
 - Advancing age, family history, increased breast density
 - Reproductive factors, genetic mutations (BRCA1/2)
 - Lifetime risk:
 - BRCA1= 55-65% and BRCA2= 55-65%

Breast Cancer

United States

- Most common type of cancer among females
- 13.1% of all women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point in their lifetime

- Median age of diagnosis is 63 y
- 5-y relative survival rate of 91.2%

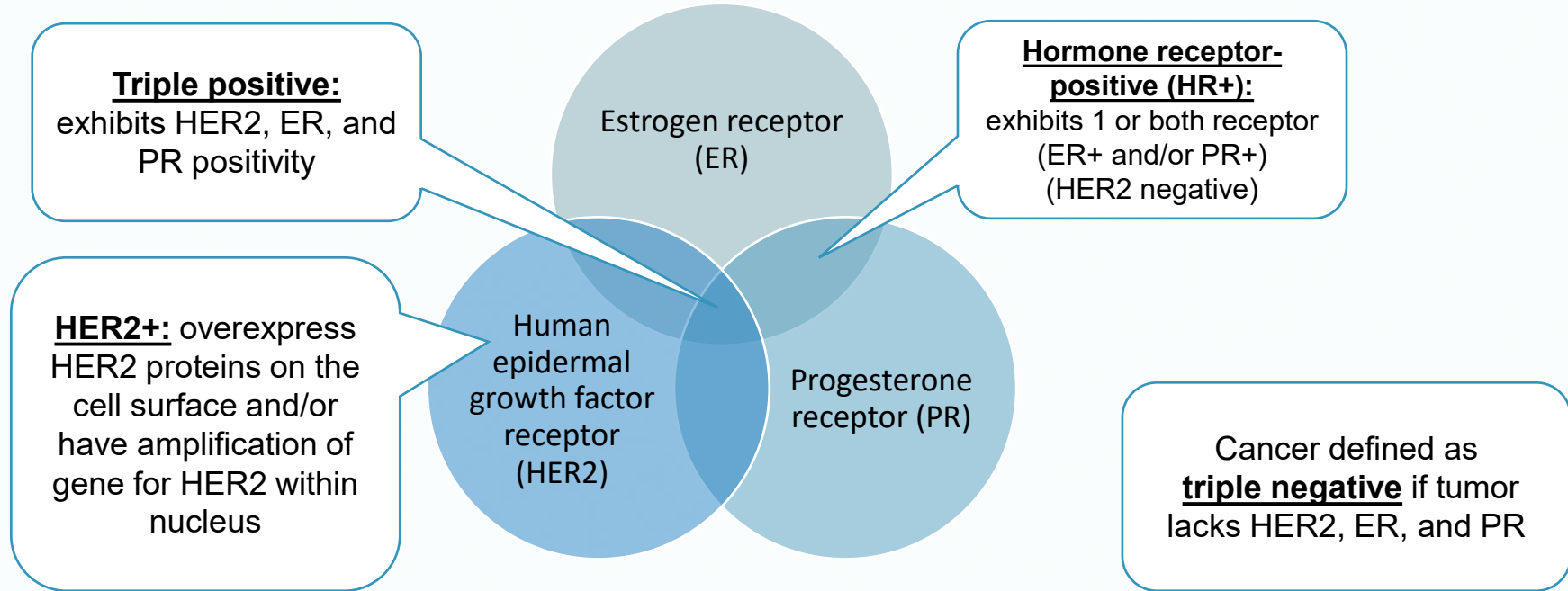


5-Year Relative Survival Percent

Subtype	Localized	Regional	Distant
HR+/HER2-	100.0%	90.5%	35.4%
HR-/HER2-	92.0%	66.8%	14.3%
HR+/HER2+	99.3%	90.4%	45.8%
HR-/HER2+	97.3%	84.2%	39.7%



Breast Cancer Histology



Molecular and Tumor Profiling

Module 2

Patient Workup

- History and physical exam
- Imaging: CT, bone scan, MRI, US/mammography
- Laboratory results
- Diagnostic tissue
 - Pathology
 - Histology: HR/HER2 status
 - Biomarker testing
 - Germline genetic testing when appropriate

CT, computed tomography; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; US, ultrasound

Definitions of HER2+ Disease

Score	Criteria	Classification	Reflex ISH	Result
IHC 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No membrane staining Incomplete membrane staining that is faint/barely perceptible and in $\leq 10\%$ of tumor cells 	HER2 negative		IHC 0 HER2 – negative
IHC 1+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incomplete membrane staining that is faint/barely perceptible and in $>10\%$ of tumor cells 	HER2 negative		IHC 1 HER2 – negative*
IHC 2+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weak to moderate complete membrane staining observed in $>10\%$ of tumor cells 	HER2 equivocal	• Non-amplified	IHC 2+/ISH- HER2 – negative*
			• Amplified	IHC 2+/ISH+ HER2 – positive
IHC 3+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circumferential membrane staining that is complete, intense, and in $>10\%$ of tumor cells 	HER2 positive		IHC 3+ HER2 – positive

ER, estrogen receptor; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; IHC, immunohistochemistry; ISH, in situ hybridization; PR, progesterone receptor

*HER2-low if IHC 1+ or 2+

Breast Cancer Molecular Subtype

HR+/HER2-

- ~70% of patients with breast cancer
- Heterogeneous disease subset
 - Often low grade and low proliferation, endocrine sensitive, particularly in postmenopausal women
 - Subset are high grade, more proliferative and less endocrine sensitive
- Most common subtype

HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive



ANNENBERG CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

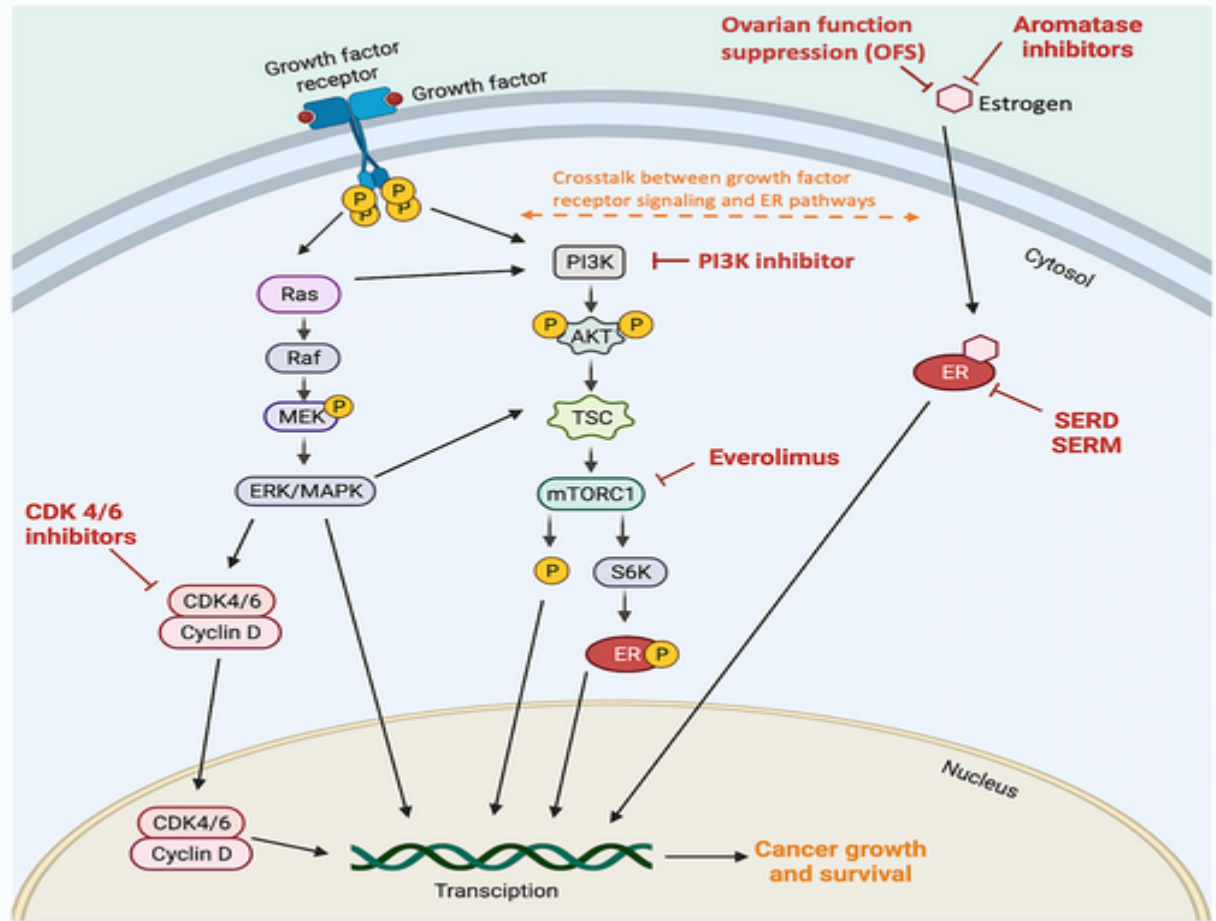
AT EISENHOWER

Imparting knowledge. Improving patient care.

© Copyright 2025 Annenberg Center for Health Sciences | All rights reserved

American Cancer Society. Published 2022. <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/breast-cancer-facts-and-figures/2022-2024-breast-cancer-fact-figures-acf.pdf>
NCCN. Published 2025. https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/breast.pdf

Treatment Pathway: HR+/HER2- Breast Cancer



CDK4/6 inhibitor, cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6 inhibitor; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; SERD, selective estrogen receptor down regulator; SERM, selective estrogen receptor modulator

Detecting Targetable Mutations in HR+/HER2- mBC

De novo/recurrent diagnosis

- Tissue biopsy for comprehensive genomic paneling, confirm receptor status, and metastatic tumor of origin

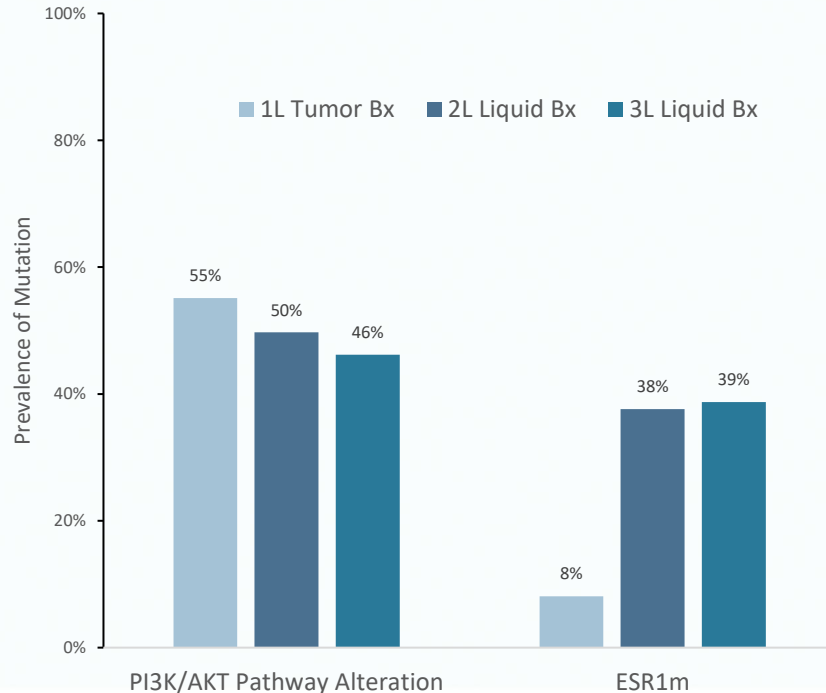


≥ 2nd Line

- Liquid biopsy for genomic alterations
- Consider reflex tissue biopsy if ctDNA tumor fraction **<1%**

ctDNA, circulating tumor DNA; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive

Detecting Targetable Mutations in HR+/HER2- mBC

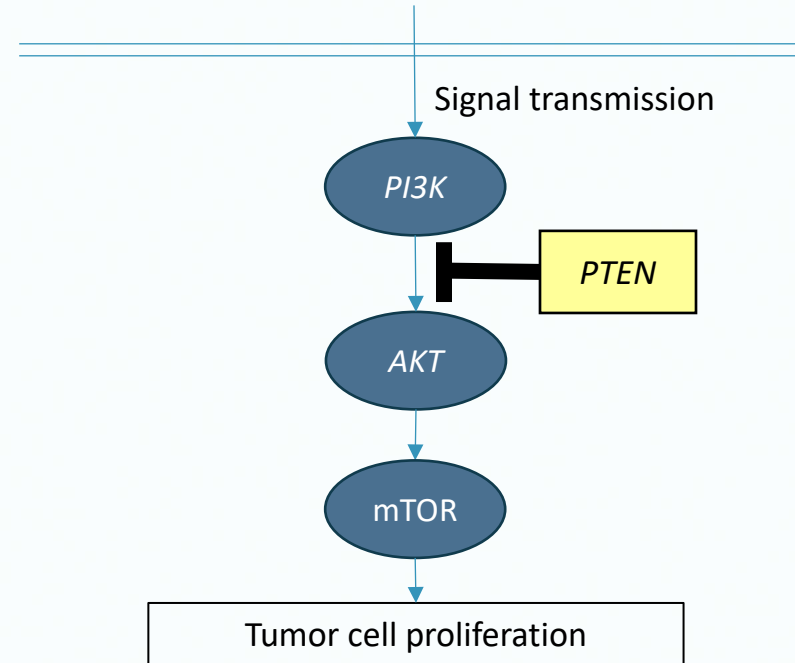


- Genomic alterations (GAs) commonly identified in first line (1L) setting
 - Tissue biopsy: 58.8%
 - Liquid biopsy: 42.7%
- Increases in GAs in later lines of therapy detected at 62%-71% incidences, mainly due to acquisition of *ESR1* mutation
- Tissue biopsy > Liquid biopsy for detection of *PTEN* loss

Bx, biopsy; ctDNA, circulating tumor DNA; ESR1m, estrogen receptor 1 mutation; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive

Alterations in *PI3K/AKT/PTEN* Pathway

- Occurs in ~40% of patients with HR+ breast cancer
- Majority of mutations in *PIK3CA*
- *PIK3CA* mutations do NOT predict response to CDK4/6 inhibitors
- Less common mutations
 - *AKT1* (2%-3%)
 - *PI3K* regulatory subunit alpha (1%-2%)
 - Loss-of-function mutations in *PTEN* (2%-4%)

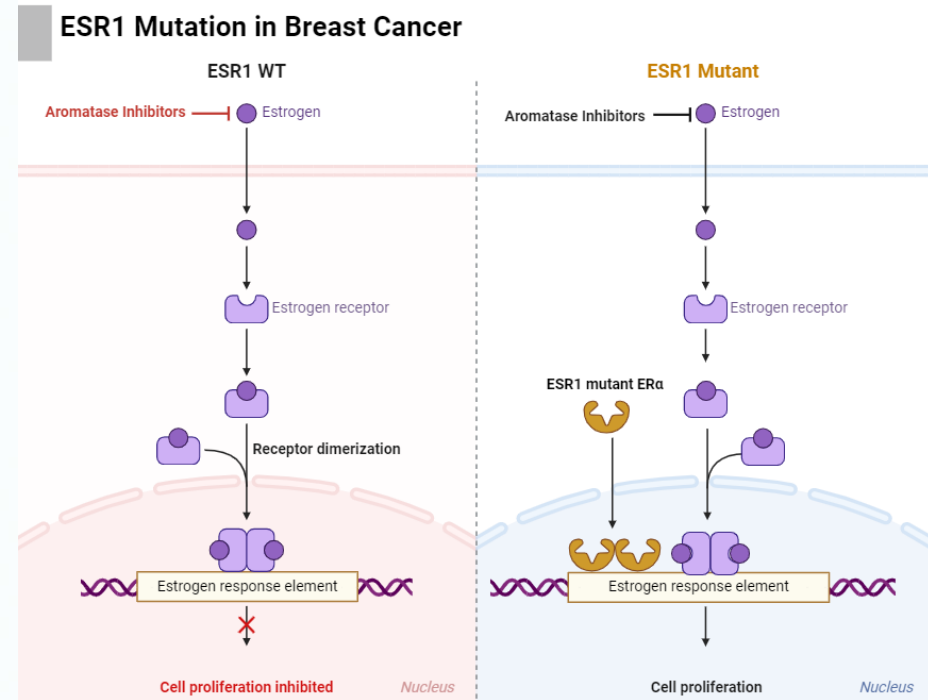


CDK4/6, cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6; HR+, hormone receptor-positive

Brett JO, et al. *Breast Cancer Res.* 2021;23(1):85.

Estrogen-Receptor 1 (*ESR1*) Mutations

- Mechanism
 - *ESR1* is a transcription factor coding for estrogen receptor (ER) alpha protein
 - After exposure to ET, *ESR1* mutation may develop leading to constitutive activation of ER pathway
- Prevalence
 - Dependent on time of testing
 - Occurs in 40%-50% of patients who have been previously exposed to an AI
 - < 1% of patients who have treatment-naive BC
 - 4%-5% of patients who receive adjuvant AI
 - 50% of patients after 1 year of first-line CDK4/6 inhibitor + AI
 - Tend to develop 3 to 6 mos before radiologic progression on AI
- Consequences
 - Associated with poor response to AI with shorter PFS and 1-year OS



AI, aromatase inhibitor; BC, breast cancer; CDK4/6, cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6; ESR1, estrogen receptor 1; ET, endocrine therapy; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; PFS, progression free survival; OS, overall survival

Created in BioRender.com bio



EMERALD Trial

ctDNA monitoring for acquired *ESR1* mutations

- First study to lead to an approved SERD for *ESR1* mutated breast cancer
- Oral elacestrant vs standard-of-care
 - Fulvestrant (n=166); AI (n=73)
- Postmenopausal breast cancer patients in the second or subsequent line for HR+/HER2- metastatic or advanced BC

Results:

- *ESR1* mutation rate = 47.8%
- PFS (\pm *ESR1* mutated breast cancer) (Elacestrant vs standard-of-care)
 - All patients: 2.8 mos vs 1.9 mos
 - (HR 0.70; 95% CI 0.55-0.88; $P=0.0018$)
 - *ESR1* mutated cancer: 3.8 mos vs 1.9 mos
 - (HR 0.55; 95% CI 0.39-0.77; $P=0.0005$)
- Impact of duration of prior ET + CDK4/6 inhibitor on PFS
 - Those with at least 1 year as a surrogate marker for endocrine sensitivity had a marked improvement in PFS

AI, aromatase inhibitor; BC, breast cancer; CDK4/6; cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6; ctDNA, circulating tumor DNA; *ESR1*, estrogen receptor 1; SERD, selective estrogen receptor down regulator

PADA-1 Trial

ctDNA monitoring for acquired *ESR1* mutations

- AI + palbociclib vs fulvestrant + palbociclib
 - Tested clinical utility of real time *ESR1* mutation detection at baseline, 1 mo, then every 2 mos
 - Patients with a rising *ESR1* mutation (no radiographic progression) via ctDNA with first-line AI + palbociclib were randomized in a second step to stay on AI + palbociclib or switch to fulvestrant + palbociclib
- Results:
- N=172
 - *ESR1* mutation rate at baseline = 2.1%
 - *ESR1* mutation related to prior AI exposure, adjuvant setting = 4.9%
 - Patients with a *ESR1* mutation had a benefit in median PFS when switched to fulvestrant/palbociclib
 - PFS: 11.9 vs 5.7 mos
 - HR 0.61; 95% CI 0.43–0.86; $P=0.004$
 - Improved PFS2 but no control of subsequent therapy
 - No OS results

AI, aromatase inhibitor; BC, breast cancer; CDK4/6, cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6; ctDNA, circulating tumor DNA; ESR1, estrogen receptor 1; SERD, selective estrogen receptor down regulator

SERENA-6 Trial

oral SERD + CDK4/6 inhibitor vs. AI + CDK4/6 inhibitor

- Goal = detect molecular marker of treatment resistance
- Patients with HR+/HER2- advanced BC to utilize real-time prospective liquid biopsy monitoring (ctDNA)
 - ctDNA screened for ESR1 mutation every 2-3 treatment cycles
- Switch patients to a next-generation SERD that targets the resistance mechanism at the time of detection
- Assess efficacy and safety of switching patients who have acquired *ESR1* mutation and WITHOUT clinical disease progression to:
 - Camizestrant + CDK4/6 inhibitor vs
 - Continuing AI + CDK4/6 inhibitor

Results:

- Improved PFS when switching to camizestrant + CDK4/6 inhibitor
- No new safety concerns identified
- Discontinuations were low and similar in both arms
- Final results pending

AI, aromatase inhibitor; BC, breast cancer; CDK4/6, cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6; ctDNA: circulating tumor DNA; ESR1, estrogen receptor 1; SERD, selective estrogen receptor down regulator

Actionable Biomarkers

HR+/HER2- mBC

Biomarker	Detection	FDA-Approved Agents
<i>PIK3CA</i> activating mutation	NGS, PCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inavolisib + palbociclib + fulvestrant• Alpelisib + fulvestrant
<i>PIK3CA</i> or <i>AKT1</i> activating mutations or <i>PTEN</i> alterations	NGS, PCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capivasertib + fulvestrant
<i>ESR1</i> mutation	NGS, PCR (ctDNA preferred)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elacestrant

ctDNA, circulating DNA; ESR1, estrogen receptor 1; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; mBC, metastatic breast cancer; NGS, next generation sequencing; PCR, polymerase chain reaction

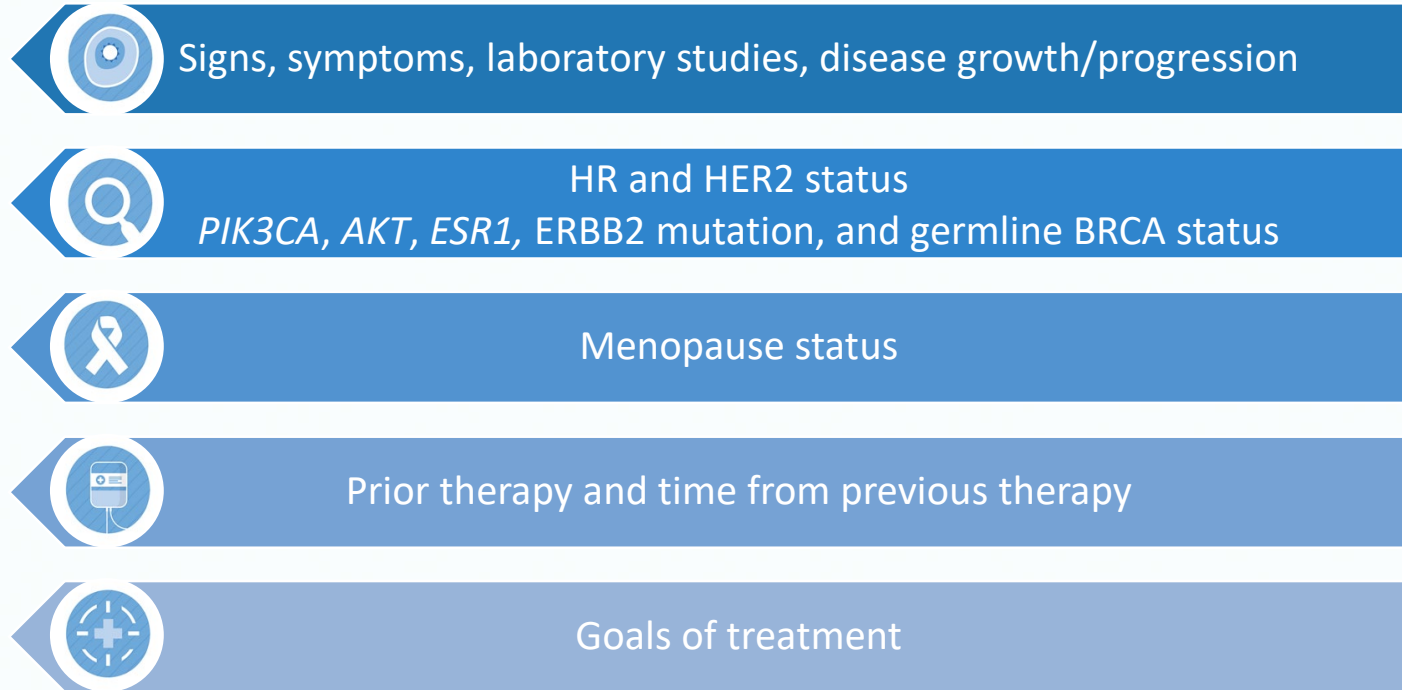
Key Concepts

- Latest evidence and clinical implications of biomarkers
- Biomarker testing recommendations
 - Utilize liquid biopsy techniques
- Optimizing early detection and treatment planning
 - Guide therapy for ET resistance
- Personalized treatments tailored to individual patient profiles and biomarker results
 - Enhance patient care and outcomes

Navigating Through the Current Treatment of Patients With HR+/HER2- mBC

Module 3

Treatment: Patient Factors



HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor

Ovarian Ablation and Suppression

Targeted to stop or lower the amount of estrogen made by the ovaries

- Ablation
 - Oophorectomy
 - Ovarian irradiation
- Suppression
 - LHRH agonists (Goserelin, Leuprolide)

Premenopausal patients not highly represented in many HR+ trials. NCCN recommends to treat the same as postmenopausal patients.

HR+, hormone receptor-positive; LHRH, luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone; NCCN, National Comprehensive Cancer Network

NCCN. Published 2025. https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/genetics_bopp.pdf

Treatment Options

HR+/HER2- mBC

Class	Agents
Aromatase inhibitors	Anastrozole, letrozole, exemestane
SERD	Elacestrant, fulvestrant
SERM	Tamoxifen
CDK4/6 inhibitors	Abemaciclib, palbociclib, ribociclib
<i>PI3K</i> inhibitor	Alpelisib, inavolisib
<i>AKT</i> inhibitor	Capivasertib
mTOR	Everolimus

CDK4/6 inhibitor, Cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6 inhibitor; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; mBC, metastatic breast cancer; SERD, selective estrogen receptor down regulator; SERM, selective estrogen receptor modulator

Treatment Recommendations

HR+/HER2- mBC

First line

- CDK4/6 inhibitor + ET
- Inavolisib/palbociclib/fulvestrant*

*if recurrence on/within 12 months of adjuvant aromatase inhibitor treatment

Subsequent Lines

- Endocrine-targeted therapies
 - CDK4/6 inhibitor + fulvestrant (if not used first-line)
 - Everolimus + ET
 - Targeted therapy (*PI3K/AKT1/mTOR*, *PTEN*, *ESR1*, etc)
- Endocrine monotherapy (fulvestrant, aromatase inhibitor, or tamoxifen)

CDK4/6 inhibitor, cyclin-dependent kinase 4 and 6 inhibitor; ESR1, estrogen receptor 1; ET, endocrine therapy; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor;

Key Concept

- Since our understanding of mutations is rapidly evolving and advancements in targeted therapies continue to be made, it is important to implement treatment based on evidence-based guidelines and recommendations to help mitigate the risk of endocrine therapy resistance.

Therapeutic Approaches for the Treatment of Patients With HR+/HER2- mBC

Module 4

CDK4/6i Efficacy in Combination With AI

1L HR+/HER2- mBC

	PALOMA-2		MONARCH-3		MONALEESA-2		MONALEESA-7	
	Palbociclib + Letrozole	Placebo + Letrozole	Abemaciclib + NSAI	Placebo + NSAI	Ribociclib + Letrozole	Placebo + Letrozole	Ribociclib + Goserelin/NSAI or Tamoxifen	Placebo + Goserelin/NSAI or Tamoxifen
No. of patients	444	222	328	165	334	334	335	337
mPFS – mos	27.6	14.5	NR	14.7	25.3	16	23.8	13
HR for disease progression/ death	0.56 (0.46-0.68)		0.54 (0.41-0.72)		0.56 (0.43-0.72)		0.55 (0.44-0.69)	
P value	<0.0001		<0.0001		<0.0001		<0.0001	
mOS – mos	53.9	51.2	67.1	54.5	63.9	51.4	58.7	48
HR for disease progression/ death	0.95 (0.77-1.77)		0.75 (0.58-0.97)		0.76 (0.63-0.93)		0.76 (0.61-0.96)	
P value	NOT significant		NOT significant		0.008		Not reached	

AI, aromatase inhibitor; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; mOS, median overall survival; mPFS, median progression free survival; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor

CDK4/6i Efficacy in Combination With Fulvestrant

HR+/HER2- mBC

	PALOMA-3		MONARCH-2		MONALEESA-3	
	Palbociclib + Fulvestrant	Placebo + Fulvestrant	Abemaciclib + Fulvestrant	Placebo + Fulvestrant	Ribociclib + Fulvestrant	Placebo + Fulvestrant
No. of patients	347	174	446	223	484	242
mPFS – mos	11.2	4.6	16.4	9.3	20.6	12.8
HR for disease progression/ death	0.50 (0.40-0.62)		0.55 (0.45-0.68)		0.59 (0.49-0.71)	
P value	<0.000001		<0.001		<0.001	
mOS – mos	34.9	28.0	46.7	37.3	NR	40.0
HR for disease progression/ death	0.81 (0.64-1.03)		0.76 (0.61-0.95)		0.72 (0.57-0.92)	
P value	NOT significant		0.01		0.00455	

HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; mPFS, median progression free survival; mOS, median overall survival; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor

Optimizing Treatment Approaches

HR+/HER2- mBC

- Recommendations at disease progression on CDK4/5 inhibitor
 - *PIK3CA* mutations: alpelisib, inavolisib
 - AKT: capivasertib
 - *ESR1*: elacestrant
 - Lack of *PIK3CA* and *ESR1* mutations: Switching CDK4/6i; ET + everolimus
 - NGS with extensive gene panels: Recommended in the context of clinical trials

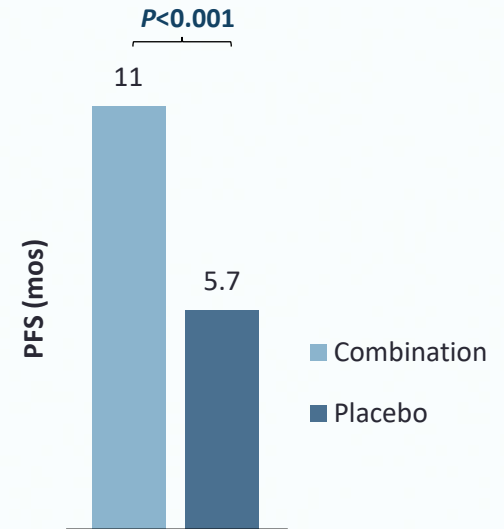
CDK4/6i, cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitors; ESR1, estrogen receptor 1; ET, endocrine therapy; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; mBC, metastatic breast cancer; NGS, next-generation sequencing



SOLAR-1 Trial

PIK3CA inhibitor + SERD

- Postmenopausal women with *PIK3CA* mutation who previously received endocrine therapy (N=572)
- Treatment
 - Alpelisib 300 mg PO daily + fulvestrant 500 mg IM every 28 d
 - Placebo + fulvestrant
- Results
 - Overall response 26.6% vs 12.8%
 - Grade ≥ 3 AEs (alpelisib)
 - Hyperglycemia 36.6%
 - Rash 10%
 - Diarrhea 6.7%



PFS, progression free survival

INAVO120 Trial

CDK4/6 inhibitor + SERD + *PIK3CA* inhibitor

- Patients receiving 1st-line therapy in ET-resistant, *PIK3CA* mutated, HR+/HER2- locally advanced or mBC (N=325)
 - Included patients with progression during/within 12 mos of adjuvant ET completion
 - Strict glucose requirements at enrollment (A1c <6%, FPG < 126 mg/dL)
- Treatment
 - Inavolisib 9 mg PO daily + palbociclib 125 mg PO daily on D1-21 + fulvestrant 500 mg IM every 28 d
 - Placebo + palbociclib + fulvestrant

- Results

- mPFS: 15 vs 7.3 mos
 - (HR 0.43; 95% CI 0.43-0.97, $P < 0.0001$)
- OS positive trend
 - (stratified HR=0.64; 95% CI 0.43-0.97, $P = 0.0338$)
- ORR 58.4% vs 25%
- DOR 18.4 mos

FDA approved October 2024

- For patients with endocrine-resistant, *PIK3CA* mutated, HR+/HER2- metastatic or locally advanced breast cancer following adjuvant endocrine therapy

DOR, duration of response; FPG, fast plasma glucose; mPFS, median progression free survival; ORR, objective response rate

Turner NC, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2024;391(17):1584-1596.

CAPitello-291 Trial

AKT inhibitor + SERD

- Patients who previously received AI ± CDK4/6 inhibitor for their HR+/HER2- mBC (N=708)
 - Stratified based on presence or absence of AKT-pathway alterations
 - Prior CDK4/6 inhibitor use noted in 69.1% of patients
- Treatment
 - Capiwasertib PO 400 mg BID x 4 d followed by 3 d off + fulvestrant 500 mg IM every 28 d
 - Placebo + fulvestrant
- Results

AKT Pathway alterations include:
PIK3CA, *AKT*, and *PTEN* loss

	AKT-pathway altered population		Overall population	
	Capiwasertib + Fulvestrant	Placebo + Fulvestrant	Capiwasertib + Fulvestrant	Placebo + Fulvestrant
mPFS, mos	7.3	3.1	7.2	3.6
HR for disease progression/death	0.50 (0.38-0.65)		0.60 (0.51-0.71)	
P value	<0.001		<0.001	

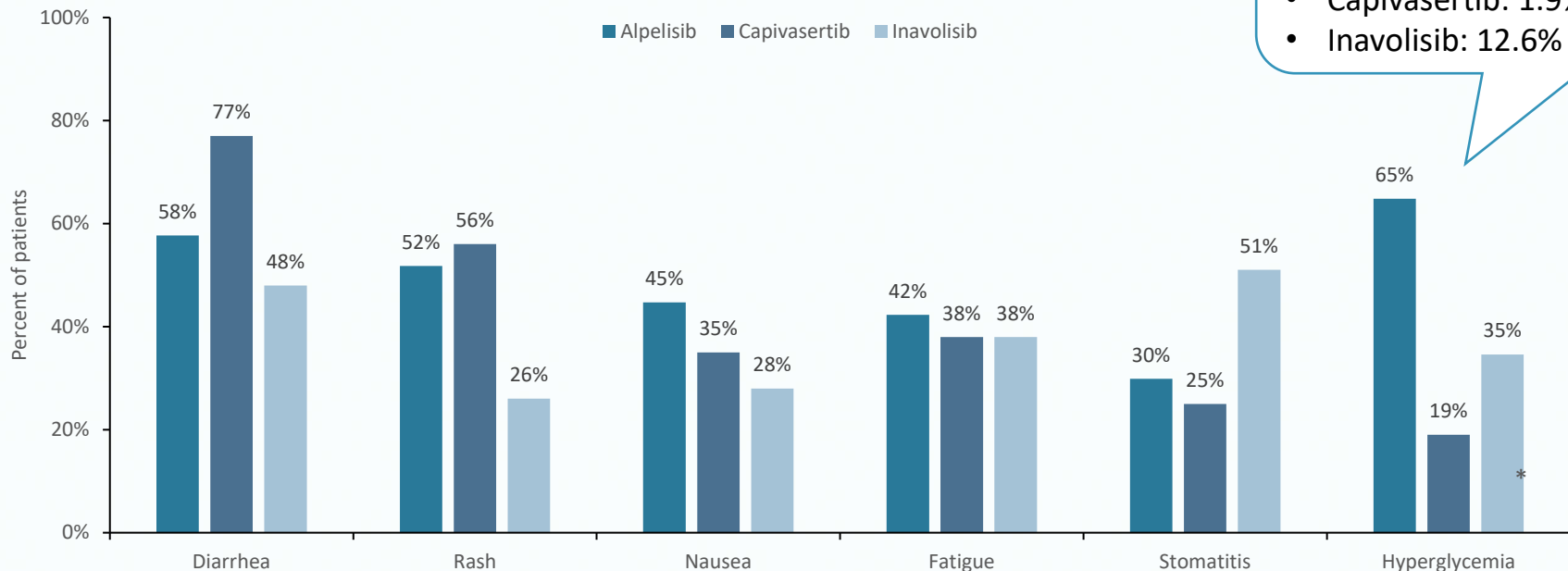
FDA approved November 2023

- For patients with HR+/HER2- mBC with ≥ 1 *PIK3CA*/*AKT1*/*PTEN*-alterations

mPFS, median progression free survival

PI3K/AKT/mTOR Targeted Agents

Safety and Tolerability Profiles



Grade ≥ 3 hyperglycemia:

- Alpelisib: 37%
- Capivasertib: 1.9%
- Inavolisib: 12.6%

*different A1c eligibility between trials

Fulvestrant Activity and *ESR1* Mutations

- Two phase 3, randomized, placebo-controlled trials in patients with baseline *ESR1* mutated HR+/HER2- advanced BC (N=383)
 - Fulvestrant vs exemestane
- *ESR1* mutations detected in 30% of samples at baseline
- PFS compared between endocrine therapies (*ESR1* mutated and *ESR1* wild-type)

Results

mPFS and <i>ESR1</i> Mutation Status	Fulvestrant (n=220)	Exemestane (n=163)	Statistical Analysis
<i>ESR1</i> mutant (n=115)	3.9 mos	2.4 mos	HR 0.59; 95% CI 0.39-0.89; P=0.01
<i>ESR1</i> wild-type (n=268)	4.1 mos	4.8 mos	HR 1.05; 95% CI 0.81-1.37; P=0.69

- Fulvestrant **RETAINS** activity in *ESR1* mutated population
- Fulvestrant exhibits superior survival advantage over exemestane in patients with baseline *ESR1* mutation

ESR1, estrogen receptor 1; mPFS, median progression free survival



EMERALD Trial

oral SERD

- Postmenopausal women and men receiving second- or subsequent-line therapy for HR+/HER2- mBC (N=477)
 - International, multicenter, randomized, open-label phase 3 trial
 - Stratified based on *ESR1* mutation status and prior fulvestrant use
- Treatment
 - Elacestrant 345 mg PO daily
 - Standard-of-care [Fulvestrant (n=166); AI (n=73)]
- Results (mPFS)
 - All patients: 2.8 mos vs. 1.9 mos
 - (HR 0.70; 95% CI 0.55-0.88; $P=0.0018$)
 - Patients with *ESR1* mutation: 3.8 mos vs 1.9 mos
 - (HR 0.55; 95% CI 0.39-0.77; $P=0.0005$)

Exploratory analysis of PFS in non-*ESR1* mutated population showed HR 0.86; 95% CI 0.36-1.19



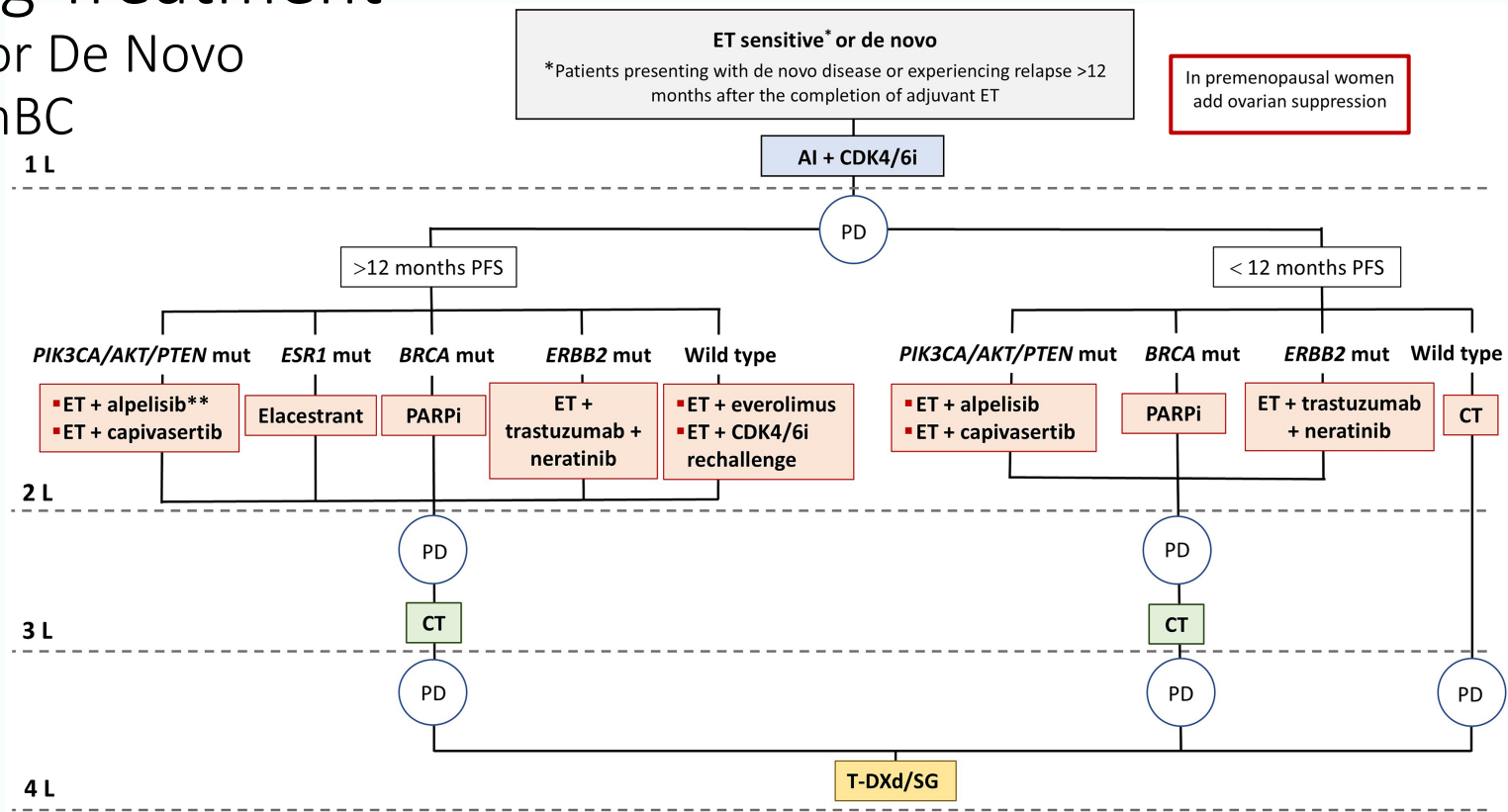
FDA approved January 2023 for postmenopausal men and women with HR+/HER2-, *ESR1* mutated advanced or metastatic breast cancer following disease progression on ≥ 1 ET

ET, endocrine therapy; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; mPFS, median progression free survival; SERD, selective estrogen receptor down regulator

Bidard FC, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2022;40(28):3246-3256.

Optimizing Treatment

ET Sensitive or De Novo HR+/HER2- mBC

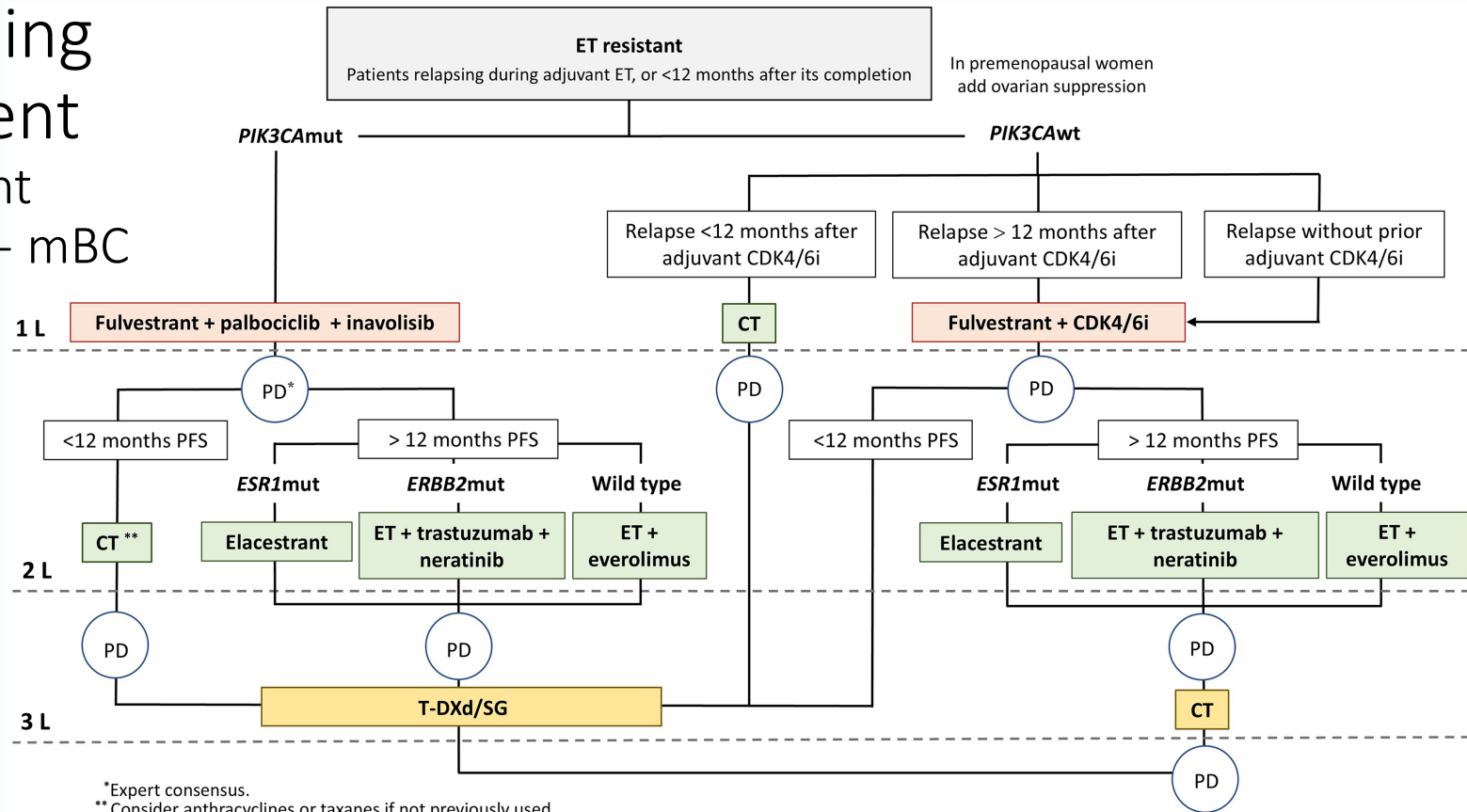


**Consider this option only for patients with mutations in *PIK3CA*.

AI, aromatase inhibitor; CDK4/6i, cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitors; ESR1 mut, estrogen receptor 1 mutation; ET, endocrine therapy; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; PD, progressive disease

Optimizing Treatment

ET Resistant HR+/HER2- mBC



AI, aromatase inhibitor;
CDK4/6i, cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor; ERS1 mut, estrogen receptor 1 mutation; ET, endocrine therapy; HER2-, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative; HR+, hormone receptor-positive; PD, progressive disease; wt, wild type

*Expert consensus.
** Consider anthracyclines or taxanes if not previously used.

Key Concepts

- Implement evidence-based guidelines and recommendations for the treatment of patients with HR+/HER2- mBC
 - Mitigate the risk of ET resistance
 - Consider patient goals- shared decision-making