Sunitinib versus Capecitabine for Patients with HER2-Negative Advanced Breast Cancer

Presentation discussed in this issue:

Barrios C et al. Sunitinib vs capecitabine in patients with previously treated HER2-negative advanced breast cancer: A Phase III, randomized, open-label study. San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium 2009; Abstract 46.

Slides from a presentation at SABCS 2009

Sunitinib vs Capecitabine in Patients with Previously Treated HER2-Negative Advanced Breast Cancer: A Phase III, Randomized, Open-Label Study

Barrios C et al.

SABCS 2009; Abstract 46.

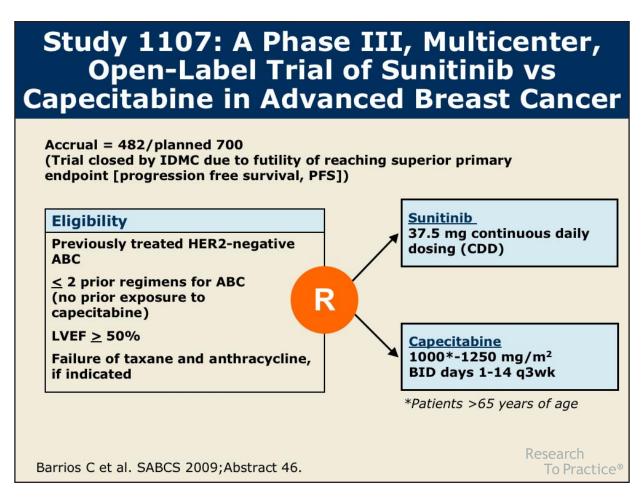
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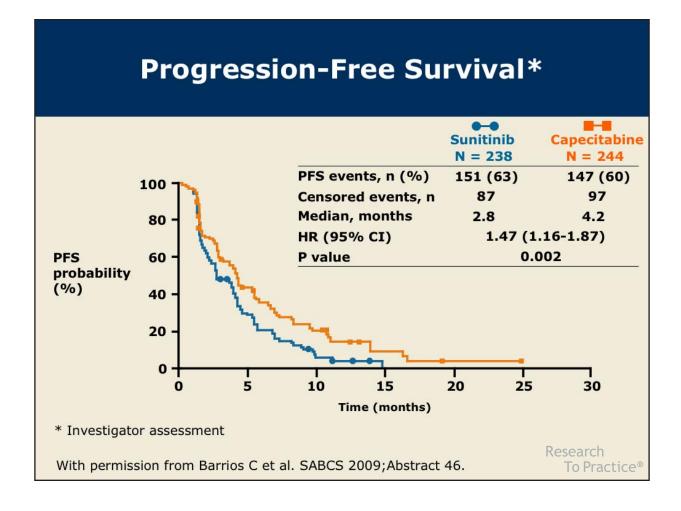
Introduction

- Therapeutic inhibition of angiogenic signaling through the VEGFR/PDGFR pathways has previously been demonstrated to improve breast cancer (BC) outcome (Nat Clin Pract Oncol 2007;4:536).
- Single agent sunitinib, a multitargeted inhibitor of VEGFR/PDGFR, demonstrated activity in a Phase II trial with heavily pretreated patients with advanced BC (JCO 2008;26:1810).
 - Objective response rate (ORR): 11%
- Capecitabine is an approved standard of care for patients with advanced BC (ABC) and disease progression after anthracycline and taxane therapies.
- Current study objectives:
 - Compare the efficacy and safety of sunitinib versus capecitabine in patients with HER2-negative ABC whose disease has progressed after anthracycline and taxane therapies.

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Overall Response*

Response Parameter	Sunitinib (n=238)	Capecitabine (n=244)	Odds Ratio	<i>p</i> -value
Objective response rate	11.3%	16.4%	0.65	0.11
Clinical benefit rate	19.3%	27.0%	0.65	0.05
Median duration of response	6.9 mo	9.3 mo	_	NA

* Investigator assessment

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Dose Reductions/Discontinuations and Serious Adverse Events (SAE)

Dose Parameter (%)	Sunitinib N=238	Capecitabine N=240	
Median relative dose intensity	73	95	
Dose reductions/interruptions	28/52	35/46	
Discontinuations due to AEs Related to study drug	15 11	9 5	
All-Causality SAEs (%)			
Patients with any SAE	30	17	
Diarrhea	2	3	
Dyspnea	2	2	
Pleural effusion	2	3	
Pneumonia	2	0	
Thrombocytopenia	2	<1	

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Conclusions

- The primary endpoint of improved PFS was not met in patients with ABC when sunitinib monotherapy was compared to capecitabine.
 - Median PFS: sunitinib 2.8 mo vs capecitabine 4.2 mo
- No statistically significant difference in overall survival (OS) was observed.
 - OS: sunitinib, 15.3 mo vs capecitabine, 24.6 mo (p = 0.35)
- No new safety-related events were identified
- The sunitinib relative dose intensity administered may have been inadequate.
 - Median dose intensity: sunitinib 73% vs capecitabine 95%
- Anti-angiogenic approach in BC may require a chemotherapy partner.

Barrios C et al. SABCS 2009; Abstract 46.

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