

Contact:

Media:

Andrew Clark

Burson-Marsteller

+44 (0)20 7300 6202

+44 (0)7932 677184

andrew.clark@bm.com

NHS adoption of Oncotype DX® test leads to substantial reduction in unnecessary chemotherapy for UK breast cancer patients

- *Study finds 63% of patients given Oncotype DX are spared unnecessary chemotherapy*
- *Among patients whose cancer had spread to the lymph nodes, 69% avoided unnecessary chemotherapy after taking the test*
- *Evidence indicates that the test can lead to significant cost savings for the NHS*
- *Cutting-edge gene analysis predicts the risk of the cancer returning and the likelihood of chemotherapy benefit*

LONDON, [February 6, 2017] – A study of breast cancer patients in Manchester has revealed that 63.2% of those whose tumours were analysed using Oncotype DX were spared unnecessary chemotherapy after receiving their Recurrence Score® result. The research assessed the impact of the test on treatment decisions in routine clinical practice, following NHS implementation of the NICE [guidance](#) which recommended Oncotype DX as the only genomic test for use in clinical practice in patients with early-stage breast cancer. Results of the study were recently published in the [European Journal of Surgical Oncology](#).

The test, developed by Genomic Health, examines the unique footprint of each patient’s cancer. Using cutting-edge genomic analysis techniques, it gives a Recurrence Score result, a number between 0 and 100 predicts the likelihood that the patient’s cancer will return and whether chemotherapy is likely to provide benefit. This is one of a number of factors used by doctors in determining whether to recommend that patients are subjected to chemotherapy after surgery.

“These data show that Oncotype DX is a useful tool for physicians in identifying the relatively small proportion of patients likely to benefit from chemotherapy. Nobody wants breast cancer patients to go through chemotherapy unnecessarily and anything that helps us to target treatment more effectively is to be warmly welcomed,” said Nigel Bundred, Professor of Surgical Oncology, University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust. “There are many different types of breast cancer. New developments in personalised medicine, including genomic analysis, will allow us to tailor treatment plans more accurately to suit the needs of individuals, and to use resources more effectively.”

Research¹ shows that less than 10% of patients with hormone-sensitive early-stage breast cancer actually benefit from chemotherapy. Criteria traditionally used for making chemotherapy treatment decisions in clinical practice may result in substantial overtreatment and unnecessary costs for the healthcare system. The Oncotype DX test is designed to facilitate personalised clinical decisions by providing information about the biology of an individual breast cancer, with the potential to deliver financial benefits for the NHS.

The study comprised a sample of 201 women. Among those with lymph node negative breast cancer, 60.3% were spared chemotherapy. For the group with lymph node positive cancer, the proportion was 69.2%.

“With more than 9,200 women in the UK having already used the Oncotype DX test to help guide their treatment decisions, we remain strongly committed to improving the quality of treatment decisions for patients diagnosed with breast cancer”, said Steve Ogram, UK Country Manager for Genomic Health. “Genomic testing has significant implications for improving outcomes for patients and reducing unnecessary chemotherapy, including all its associated costs and the side effects of chemotherapy. In the context of rising numbers of people living with cancer in the UK, we believe technology like ours will play a key role in enabling the NHS to manage its resources more efficiently. This latest study demonstrates that use of the Oncotype DX test results in a significant reduction of chemotherapy usage leading to more cost-effective treatment and better patient outcomes.”

About Genomic Health

Genomic Health, Inc. is a world’s leading provider of genomic-based diagnostic tests that address optimal treatment of cancer. With its Oncotype IQ™ Genomic Intelligence Platform, the company is applying its state-of-the-art scientific and commercial expertise and infrastructure to translate significant amounts of genomic data into clinically-actionable results for treatment planning throughout the cancer patient's journey, from diagnosis to treatment selection and monitoring. The Oncotype IQ portfolio of genomic tests and services currently consists of the company's flagship line of Oncotype DX gene expression tests that have been used to guide treatment decisions for more than 700,000 cancer patients worldwide. Genomic Health is expanding its test portfolio to include additional liquid and tissue-based tests. The company is based in Redwood City, California with UK headquarters in London. For more information, please visit, www.GenomicHealth.co.uk and follow the company on Twitter: [@GenomicHealth](https://twitter.com/GenomicHealth), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GenomicHealth), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/GenomicHealth) and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/GenomicHealth).

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and the other risks set forth in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the risks set forth in the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2016. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. Genomic Health disclaims any obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

NOTE: The Genomic Health logo, Oncotype, Oncotype DX, Recurrence Score, DCIS Score, Oncotype SEQ, and Oncotype IQ are trademarks or registered trademarks of Genomic Health, Inc. All other trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners.

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¹Paik et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2006 ; Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG) et al. *Lancet.* 2012.