



2018

DECEMBER 4-8

HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, USA

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wwoodward@mdanderson.org; [@ibcradiation](https://twitter.com/ibcradiation)

Radiotherapy 2018: Balancing Benefit and Risk

Wendy A. Woodward, MD. PhD

Professor and Chief of Breast Radiation Oncology
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

[@ibcradiation](https://twitter.com/ibcradiation); wwoodward@mdanderson.org

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Outline

- Context
- **Accelerated partial breast irradiation (APBI) 1 week, BID** – Validated standard or more toxic and possibly inferior?
- **Simultaneous integrated boost (SIB)** – Safe, but more data pending.
- **Regional nodal irradiation (RNI)** – systemic benefits, lymph node preserving?
- Tomorrow – what's changed?

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A few facts about breast radiotherapy

- 1 SAVES LIVES/SPARES ORGANS**
Radiotherapy allows breast and lymph node preservation
- 2 NOT INVASIVE**
Radiotherapy is NOT INVASIVE – many patients go to work and carry on with day-to-day life
- 3 IMPROVES QUALITY OF LIFE**
Radiotherapy alleviates cancer symptoms such as pain and improves quality of life

- In the last decade the length of breast radiotherapy has been cut in half
- Advances in radiotherapy technology have markedly reduced toxicities secondary to radiotherapy
- These improvements markedly increase the accessibility and feasibility of radiotherapy for women with breast cancer

Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation (APBI)

One week, twice daily regimen (BID)



Main Trial Differences

RAPID (N = 2,135, 18% DCIS)

- APBI 90% 3D conformal photons; 10% IMRT
- WBI predominantly 16 fraction regimen, 20% Boost
- 100% node negative
- Median age 61 years old

NRG B39/0413 (N = 4,216, 24% DCIS)

- APBI 71% 3D conformal photons; 29% brachytherapy
- WBI 25-28 fraction regimens, 80% boost
- 10% node positive
- Median age 54 years old



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Main Trial Difference Summary -

- RAPID vs. NRG B39/0413
 - The Rapid trial enrolled an older, lower risk population treated all with external beam APBI (90% 3DCRT) vs. a shorter, lower dose WBI regimen than used in the B39/0413 WBI arm.



APBI (1 week, BID) Main Findings

RAPID (N = 2,135)

- 8-yr IBTR WBI 2.8% vs APBI 3%, P= NS
- **Non-inferiority endpoint met**

NRG B39/0413 (N = 4,216)

- 10-yr IBTR WBI 4.1% vs APBI 4.8%, P = NS
- **Non-inferiority endpoint not met**
- Recurrence Free Interval 1.6% worse with ABPI, P = 0.02



IBTR by PBI Method – exploratory analysis

Treatment Group	# of Pts	# of Events	Hazard Ratio (HR)	HR 95% Confidential Interval	10-yr Cum Incidence
WBI	2,011	67	REF		3.8%
PBI					
Multi-catheter brachytherapy	130	9	2.21	1.10 – 4.46	7.7%
Single-entry brachytherapy device	358	24	2.15	1.34 – 3.44	7.8%
3DCRT (external beam)	1,535	55	1.04	0.73 – 1.49	3.7%

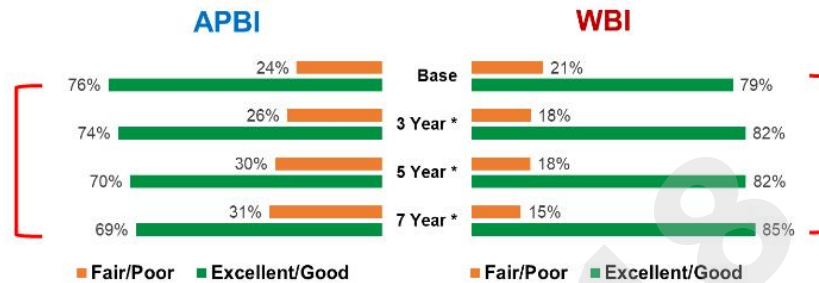
- Hypothesis generated: 3DCRT APBI is non-inferior to WBI.
- Rapid trial tested and validates this hypothesis

APBI (1 week, BID) Main Findings

- RAPID (N = 2,135)
 - 3-yr Grade 3 Toxicity WBI 1% vs APBI 4.5%, P < 0.001
 - 7-yr fair/poor cosmesis more common in the APBI arm
- NRG B39/0413 (N = 4,216)
 - 10-yr Grade 3 Toxicity WBI 7.1% vs. APBI 9.6%, P = NS

APBI (1 week, BID) Main Findings

- RAPID (N = 2,135)
 - 3-yr Grade 3 Toxicity WBI 1% vs APBI 4.5%, P < 0.001
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APBI Conclusions

- 1 week, BID APBI delivered with 3DCRT is not inferior to WBI for IBTR for those well-represented among RAPID patients
 - Small, node negative, invasive or non-invasive tumors in women > 50.
- IBTR rates for 3DCRT APBI and WBI are very low and similar in both trials
- APBI using the brachytherapy techniques represented on B39/0413 and in patients not eligible for the Rapid trial could be inferior to WBI.

APBI Conclusions

- Toxicity and cosmetic risks are higher with APBI 3DCRT than WBI on the RAPID trial but not on NRG B39/0413.
- Offering patients a 1 week, BID 3DCRT APBI regimen must include discussing a higher risk of a fair/poor cosmetic outcome due largely to induration, fibrosis, and skin telangiectasia.
 - Approximately 16% of APBI patients had a potentially avoidable patient assessed fair/poor cosmetic outcome



APBI Conclusions

- Toxicity and cosmetic risks are higher with APBI 3DCRT than WBI on the RAPID trial but not on NRG B39/0413.
- Offering patients a 1 week, BID 3DCRT APBI regimen must include discussing a higher risk of a fair/poor cosmetic outcome due largely to induration, fibrosis, and skin telangiectasia.
 - Important to discuss that the current standard WBI regimen for these patients is now three weeks.



APBI Future

- Consideration of alternate APBI schedules and techniques to further improve the therapeutic ratio is warranted.
- Updates of consensus guidelines for APBI and further integration of these results with published randomized trials using alternate techniques and regimens without significant toxicity are warranted.



Simultaneous Integrated Boost (SIB) –

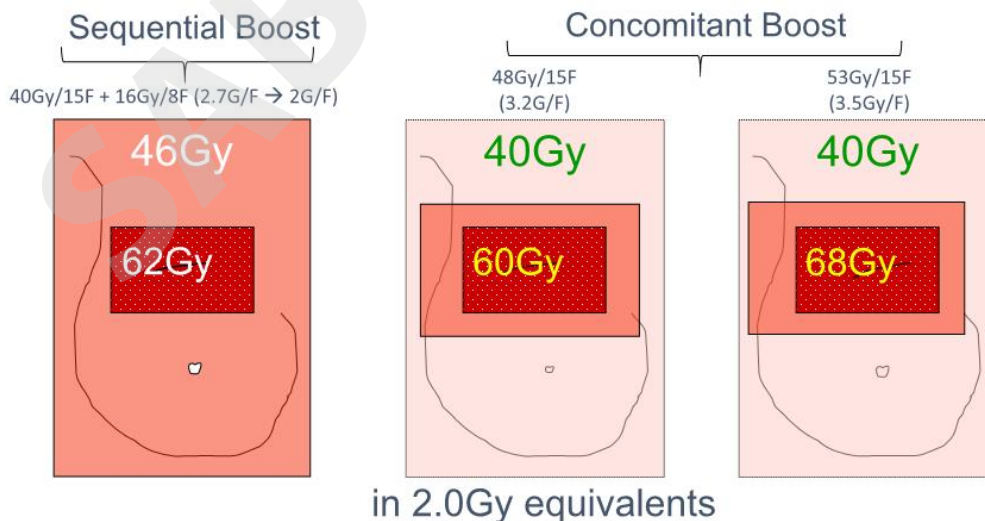
Safety Data on Import High

IMPORT HIGH – Patients who require a tumor bed boost

		40Gy/15F + 16Gy/8F N=871	48Gy/15F (3.2Gy/F) N=874	53Gy/15F (3.5Gy/F) N=872
		%	%	%
Age (years)	Median (range)	49 (45-56)	49 (45-55)	49 (44-57)
Tumour size (cm)	Median (range)	2.0 (1.5-2.7)	1.9 (1.4-2.6)	2.0 (1.5-2.6)
Grade	1	10	8	8
	2	40	36	38
	3	50	55	54
Pathological node status	Positive	30	31	29
	Negative	70	69	71
ER poor & HER2 poor		18	21	19
ER poor & HER2 positive		4	4	6
ER positive & HER2 poor		64	63	62
ER positive & HER2 positive		14	12	13

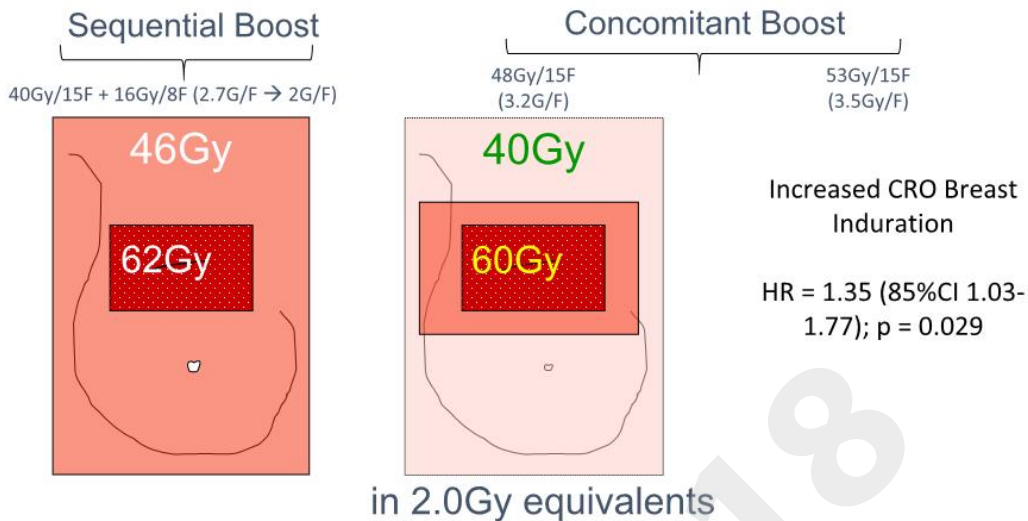
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Total Doses Assuming $\alpha/\beta = 3.0\text{Gy}$



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- 16Gy/8F may have a higher baseline toxicity than commonly used 10 Gy/5F
- NRG 1005 expected 2019
 - WBI + 12-14Gy vs. WBI + 48/15 SIB
- Local control data pending

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Benefits of Regional Nodal Irradiation (RNI)

When is more, more?

MA-20/EORTC 22922 RNI vs. No RNI

- Two large well-conducted randomized phase III trials (1,2)
- Early stage breast cancer including N0 patients
- Demonstrated improved DFS with RNI *independent* of a reduction in local control
- Highlighted a systemic effect of RNI

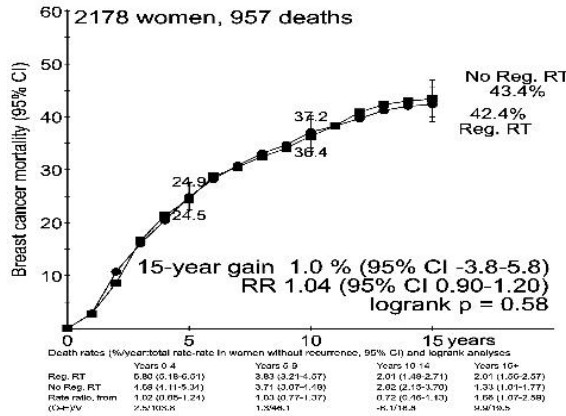
Should early stage patients get RNI?

1. Whelan et al NEJM, 2015
2. Pootmans et al NEJM, 2015

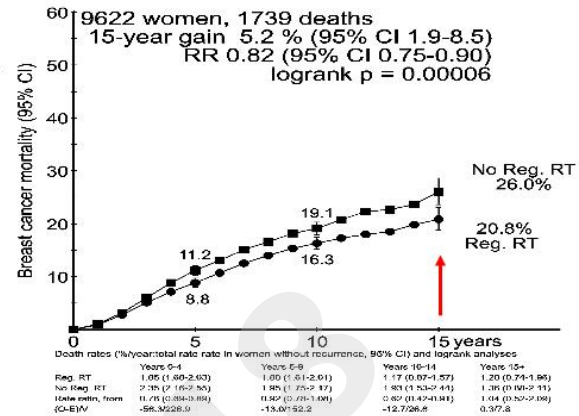


Breast Cancer Mortality

Older



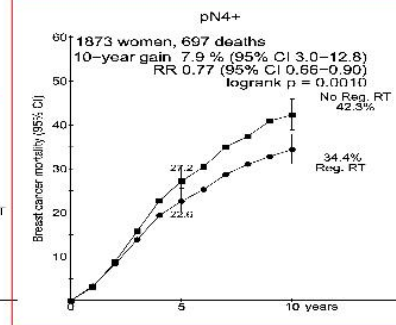
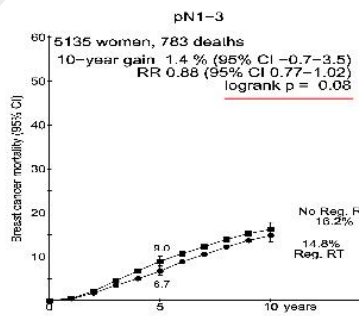
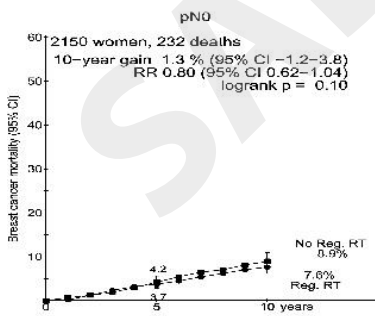
1989+ trials



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1989+ trials

Breast Cancer Mortality - Axillary Nodal Status



Any Recurrence:

10-year gain 2.3%, P = .15

10-year gain 2.9%, p = 0.03

10-year gain 4.6% p = 0.03

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EBCTCG Meta-analysis RNI vs. No RNI

- Contemporary radiotherapy improves risk benefit ratio
- RNI improves breast cancer mortality using contemporary radiotherapy
- RNI reduced any recurrence but did not improve breast cancer mortality in low nodal burden patients

Should early stage patients get RNI?

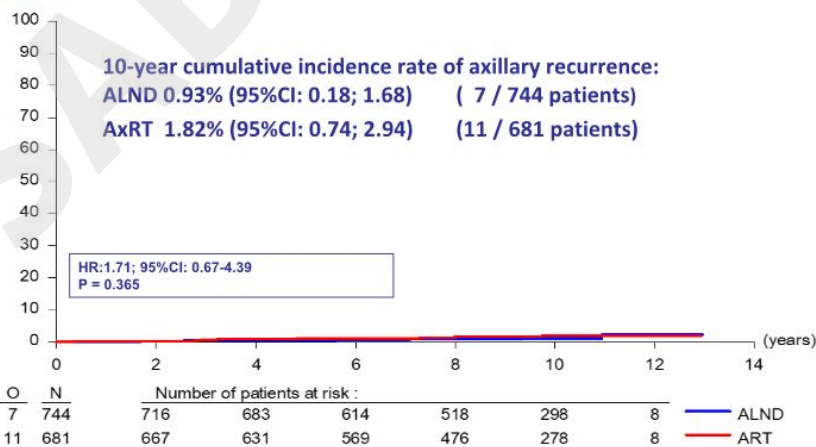
- N0, N1mic in a SLN - uncommon, case by case basis for high risk features
- N1-3 - contemporary risk stratification including biology should be used to aid in selecting and counseling higher risk patients
- RNI may facilitate surgical de-escalation - omitting axillary node dissection

Is this benefit sufficient to warrant RNI or axillary RT alone in otherwise low risk SLN+ patients?



Axillary RT = Axillary LND

AxSN+ ITT population



Cumulative incidence analysis considers death as a competing risks. HR and Wald p-value based on Fine & Gray model

Axillary RT Toxicity

- Lymphedema at 5 years after SLN Biopsy: LND vs RT
 - Clinical Observation and/or Treatment 29.4% vs 14.6%, $P < 0.0001$
 - Clinical Observation 24.5% vs. 11.9%, $P < 0.0001$
 - Treatment 18.2% vs. 6.6%, $P < 0.0001$
- Shoulder Function 5 years after SLN Biopsy:
 - No difference



AMAROS Conclusion

- Both provide excellent axillary tumor control
- Lymph node preservation reduces lymphedema
- Increase in contralateral breast cancer unlikely due to radiation given the contralateral breast is remote from the axillary RT field



Tomorrow -

- Offer 1 week BID 3DCRT APBI with appropriate counseling to eligible low risk patients for whom reducing treatment time from 3 weeks to 1 week is a priority over cosmetic risk.
- Await local control data to fully evaluate a shortened 3 week radiation course that includes a simultaneous boost
- Consider Axillary RT an option in eligible cT1-2N0 patients preferring to avoid axillary LND
- Offer RNI to high risk pN1-3 and all pN4+ patients. Pragmatically, well vetted risk factors - age, LVSI, tumor and nodal burden, grade, subtype approximation, and genomic score when available may all aid in risk stratifying patients.
- Cardiac avoidance is critical to maximize risk benefit ratio.

