

### **X** SIMPOSIO · SYMPOSIUM | 2024 BIOPSIA LÍQUIDA · LIQUID BIOPSY

EL CAMINO A LA ONCOLOGÍA DE PRECISIÓN · THE WAY TO PRECISION MEDICINE

25, 26 Y 27 DE ENERO · JANUARY 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

## INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING DETECTION SENSITIVITY OF CIRCULATING TUMOUR COMPONENTS IN EARLY BREAST CANCER

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## LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER

INTRODUCTION: BREAST CANCER

#### $\rightarrow$ BREAST CANCER

- 95% diagnosed at early stages.
- 28-65% mortality reduction by screening programs (mamography)
- 20% metastatic incurable disease.

#### $\rightarrow$ TISSUE BIOPSIES





OncotypeDX PAM50-ROR

Chemo + hormono Tumour subtype **Risk-Of-Relapse** 



Alba-Bernal A. Ebiomedicine 2020

## LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER

#### **INTRODUCTION: LIQUID BIOPSY**



## LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: DIFFERENT APPROACHES

**DIFFERENT NOVEL STRATEGIES** 



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Personalized circulating tumor DNA analysis to detect residual disease after neoadjuvant therapy in breast cancer

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| Circulating tumor DNA in neoadjuvant-treate   | d breast     |
| cancer reflects response and survival   |              |
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| Open Access • Published: November 20, 2020 • DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annonc.202  | 20.11.007 •  |
| Check for updates   |              |

- ✤ <u>NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING</u>: DESIGN AND OPTIMISATION OF A SEQUENCING PANEL FOCUSED ON BREAST CANCER SCREENING
- → Fixed panel + Ultradeep sequencing
- BLOOD VOLUME INCREASE: DEVELOPMENT OF A NOVEL METHODOLOGY FOR THE DETECTION OF CIRCULATING TUMOUR COMPONENTS (ctDNA and CTCs) IN BREAST CANCER
- → Elevated blood volumes + easy-toimplement methodology (ddPCR)

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# LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING

#### Primary Objectives:

Alfonso Alba Bernal Maria Elena Quirós Esperanza López

- To detect and characterize ctDNA in patients with BIRADS 4c and 5 mammographic lesions before any invasive diagnostic or therapeutic procedure.
- To compare the mutational profiles identified in plasma with those observed in solid biopsy samples.
- To develop a liquid biopsy methodology, independent of information from solid biopsy, for identifying breast cancer in women at high risk.

#### **Secondary Objectives:**

To establish a correlation between plasma sequencing and the clinicopathological characteristics of patients.



## LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING

**STUDY DESIGN** 





# LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING

- Simultaneous extraction of plasma and fresh-frozen tumour biopsy guided by ultrasound.
- An in-house designed panel was employed for the extraction, covering the following genes: AKT1, ARID1A, ATM, BAP1, BRAF, BRCA1, BRCA2, CBFB, CDH1, CDKN1B, CTCF, ERBB2, ESR1, GATA3, HRAS, KDM6A, KRAS, MAP2K4, MAP3K1, MEN1, NCOR1, NF1, PBRM1, PIK3CA, PIK3R1, PTEN, RB1, RUNX1, SF3B1, SMAD4, TBX3, TP53, USP9X - Patented
- SureSelectXT-HS (Agilent) was employed for library generation, incorporating unique molecular identifiers (UMIs).
- ➢ High-depth sequencing was performed with a target of approximately 20,000X.



### LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING Results

- A remarkably high sequencing depth was achieved post-deduplication and UMI processing: tissue ~1600X and plasma ~2200X.
- The coverage demonstrated uniformity across all studied genes.



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#### LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING RESULTS



- > A total of 71 tissue samples were sequenced.
- Sixty-one distinct variants were identified in the tissue analysis.
- Mutations were observed in 40 out of 71 (56.33%) individuals.
- The most frequently mutated genes in the tumor were PIK3CA, TP53, and GATA3.



#### LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING RESULTS



- One sample resulted in sequencing failure.
- Both automated and manual variant detection methods were employed.
- The most mutated genes in plasma were TP53, GATA3, and PIK3CA.
- Mutations were observed in 25 out of 74 (33.78%) individuals.
- Sixteen mutations were not found in the pre-treatment biopsy BAG analysis.
- Eight patients exhibited mutations detected in plasma but not in their corresponding tumour.
- Eighteen out of 61 variants detected in the tumour were also identified in plasma, accounting for 29.50%.



Sequencing was conducted on 75 plasma samples.

#### LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING RESULTS



Jiménez-Rodríguez B, Alba-Bernal A et al. Int J Mol Sci. 2022

- Bioinformatic workflow for detecting mutations in plasma based on their presence in both COSMIC and TCGA.
- 25/74 (33.78%) individuals presented mutations in plasma.
- As a control group, 22 healthy individuals were sequenced.
- 3 mutations were found in 3 plasma samples out of 22 sequenced healthy individuals (13.63%).
- Sensitivity: 31.08%, Specificity: 86.36%, PPV: 88.46%
- Significant associations:
  - Elevated median VAF tumour grade
  - More than 1 mutation in plasma relapse
  - TP53 mutations ER+



### LIQUID BIOPSY AND BREAST CANCER: NGS ULTRA-DEEP SEQUENCING CONCLUSIONS

- ➢ We detected ctDNA at a lower allelic frequency than reported with similar technologies—> >0.075%.
- The concordance between mutations found in plasma and tumour was comparable to previous publications in early breast cancer, despite our population being studied in the initial diagnostic manoeuvre.
- We observed high specificity and a high positive predictive value for breast cancer detection without tumour genetic information. While sensitivity was low, it surpassed previous studies.



#### **Primary Objectives:**



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- Develop an ultrasensitive, novel, and easily implementable methodology for the dual detection of CTCs and ctDNA.
- ✤ Assess the response to NAC before surgery by detecting ctDNA and CTCs.
- Detect post-surgery MRD and monitor disease response during adjuvant chemotherapy.

#### **Secondary Objective:**

Establish a predictive model using the detection of ctDNA and/or CTCs to anticipate the response to NAC before surgery.





FOLLOW-UP FOR PATIENTS: GRADE 3 AFFECTED AXILLARY LYMPH NODES HER2-POSITIVE/TNBC TUMOURS





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2024

**RESULTS** 



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→ Prediction model development for clinical PCR. ROC curves using MGE from pre, post-treatment and both componentes (left). Curve obtained after cross-validation (right).





♦ POST-NAC  $\rightarrow$  70 mL

♦ POST-SURGERY AND FOLLOW-UP SAMPLES  $\rightarrow$  95 mL



**RESULTS** 



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- A new methodology easily implementable in clinical practice (1 mutation and ddPCR) allows for dual monitoring with ctDNA and CTCs.
- > Detection was achieved in 100% of pre-treatment samples.
- Prediction of neoadjuvant therapy response: A predictive model using ctDNA with ROC values of 0.92.
- Minimal residual disease (MRD) detection in the first post-surgery sample of the only patient who has relapsed to date.
- Sensitivity of 0.003% for ctDNA detection and 0.069 CTCs/mL.





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