



Università degli Studi di Padova

Anno Accademico 2022-2023

FOCUS-ON: CHEMIOTERAPIA PRE-OPERATORIA (NEOADIUVANTE)

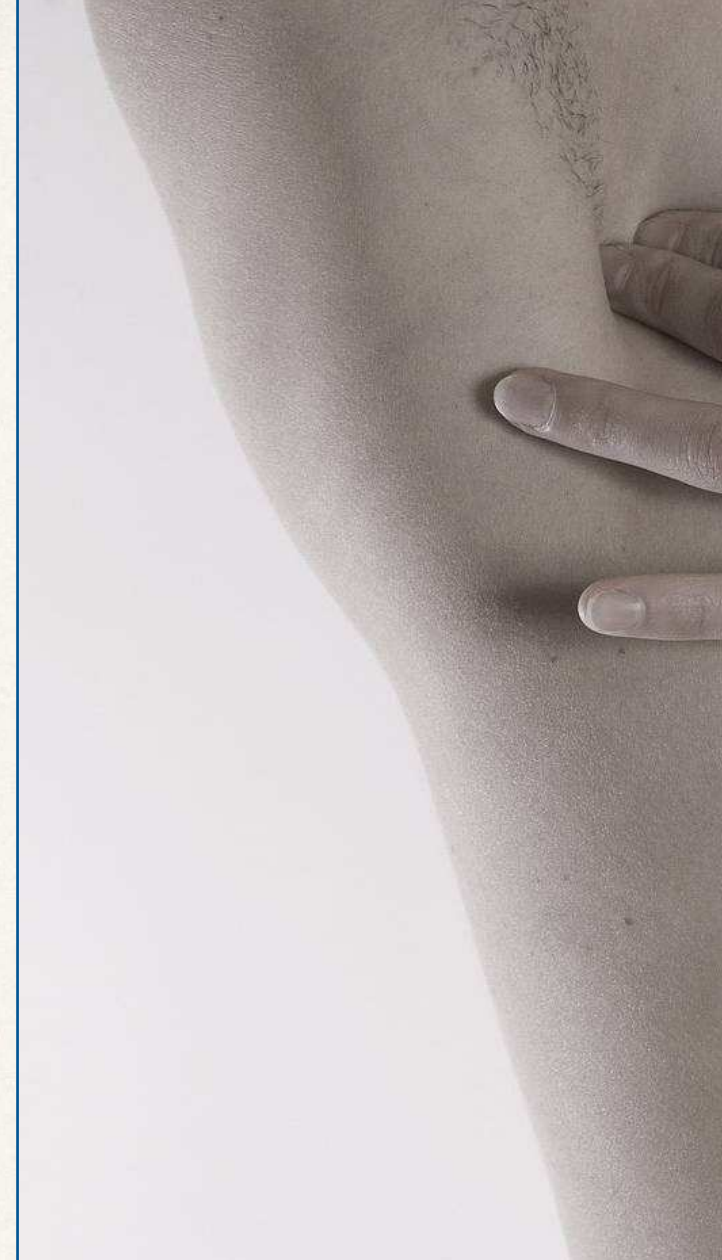
Downstaging delle metastasi ascellari

Indicazione dell'indicazione chirurgica sull'ascella dopo chemioterapia neoadiuvante

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY:

DOWNSTAGING IN cN0

POSITIVE	NAC (575 pz)	No NAC (3171 pz)	
T 1	12.7 %	19.0 %	p= .0,2
T 2	20.5 %	36.5 %	p < 0.0001
T 3	30.4 %	51.4 %	p 0.04

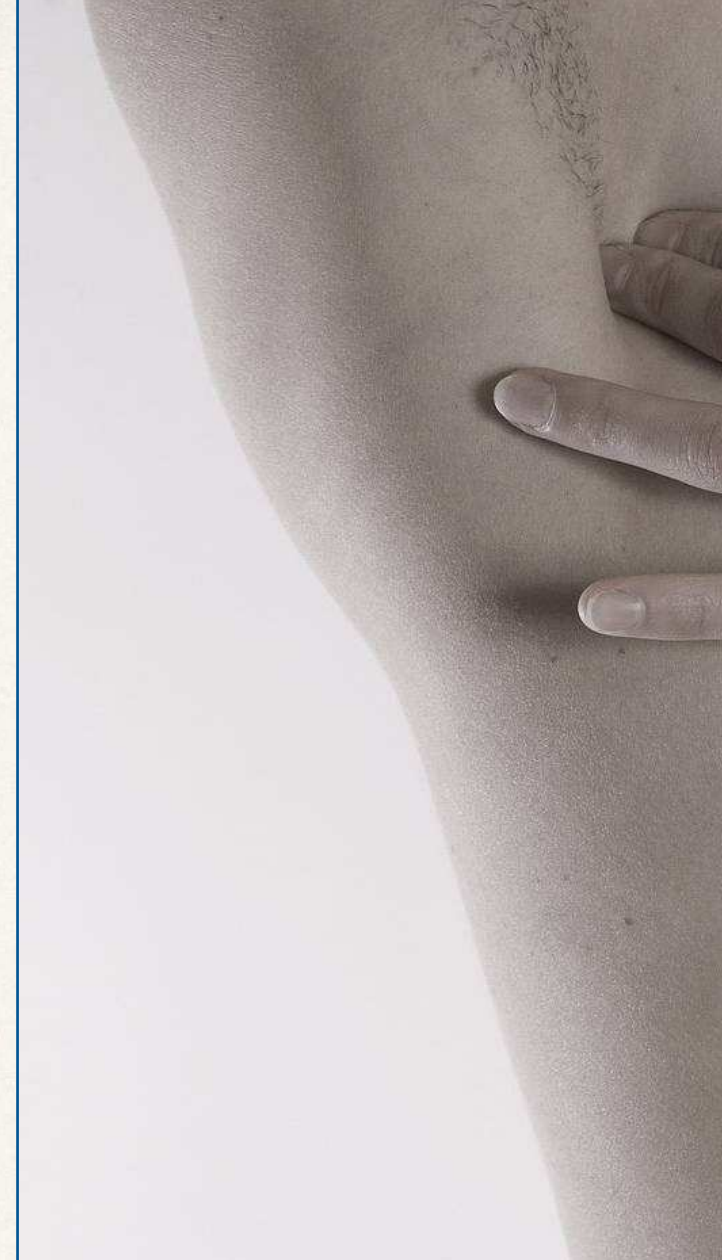


3746 Patients cN0 extensively

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY:

SLNB IN cN0

	NAC (575 pz)	No NAC (3171 pz)	
	97.4 %	98.7 %	p= .017
R	5.9 %	4.1 %	p= .39
R regional recurrence at view of 47 months	1.2 %	0.9 %	ns



SLNB surgery after chemotherapy is as accurate for axillary staging as SLNB surgery prior to chemotherapy in cN0

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY:

STAGING IN cN1/2



Nodal pCR

EP B-18 (1997) – 185 pz cN+ doxorubicina e cyclophosphamide % risposta clinica linfonodale - 73% completa - 16% parziale	32%
TRER (1999) – 191 pz cN+	23%
ESSEY (2005) – 403 pz cN+ ce free survival CR: 67% al pCR: 60% (p<0,0001) urvival CR: 93% al pCR: 72% (p<0,0001)	22%
WMANN (2007) – 32 pz N+ → NAC → SLNB+ALND	32,5%

Nodal

SN FNAC study (2015) – 153 pz Biopsy proven node-positive T0-3, N1-2 NAC → SLNB+ALND -IHC use was mandatory -SLN metastases of any size were considered positive (including ITC)	30,
SWEDISH Trial (2015) – 195 pz Biopsy proven node-positive T0-3, N1-2 NAC → SLNB+ALND Clinically node-negative axillary status after NAC was not mandatory	33,
Netherlands Cancer Register retrospective study (2005-2008) – 1347 pz cN+	22

NEOADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY:

STAGING IN cN1/2



Nodal pCR

ACOSOG Z1071 ALLIANCE (2013) – 525 pz cN1-cN2
NAC → SLNB+ALND

41,0%

Boughey C et al. Sentinel lymph node surgery after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in patients with node-positive breast cancer: the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group (ACOSOG) Z1071 clinical trial. JAMA 2013

Triplo negative

49.9%

HER2-positive

64.7%

Ormono-pos HER2-neg

22.1%

Boughey C et al. Tumor biology correlates with rates of breast conserving surgery and pathologic complete response after neoadjuvant chemotherapy for breast cancer: findings from the ACOSOG Z1071 (Alliance) prospective multicenter trial. Ann Surg. 2014

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY:

DOWNSTAGING IN cN1/2

dal pcR in Her2+

1997 - **NSABP B-18** (1523 pz; TN-Her2+)

2010 - **DOMINICI** (CT+Trastuzumab)

2010 - **NOAH**

2012 - **NeoALTTO**

2012 - **NeoSphere**

2013 - **NSABP B-41**

2014 - **LI** (255 pz; CT+/-Trastuz.)

ER- e Trastuz.

Trastuz. (sottogruppo ER-)

ypN0	ypN+(1-3ln)	ypN+(>3ln)
40%		
70%		
38%(38%)		
28%(36%)		
23%(36%)		
49%(65%)		
52,9%	27,4%	19,7%
79,6%	18,5%	1,9%

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY

IB IN cN1/2

chemotherapy, the axilla often has more fibrosis, making evaluation and surgical dissection more challenging.

SOG Z1071 ALLIANCE (2013) – 525 pz cT0-4, cN1-cN2. M0

→ NAC (anthracycline and taxane)
→ SLNB+ALND

z cN1 and 2 or more LNS excised + ALND 215 pCR (41,0%)		
TS in SLN only	FNR 12,6%	
TS in SLN + others LN		
S no in LNS but in other LN		
ng: BD + RC only BD or RC	FNR 10,8% 20,3%	P=0.052
ination:	FNR 9,1%	P=0.005



Goal: FNR <10%

“Using two mapping agents with different molecular sizes and transit is an important surgical standard that should be adhered to for SLN surgery after chemotherapy.”

“Until further data are available we recommended that SLN surgery after chemotherapy not be performed in patients with clinically evident residual

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY.

IB IN cN1/2

chemotherapy, the axilla often has more fibrosis, making evaluation of the axilla and surgical dissection more challenging.

NAC study (2013) – 153 pZ biopsy proven node-positive T0-3 N1-2

→ NAC (anthracycline, taxane, both)
→ SLNB+ALND

Nodal pCR: 30.3

IHC was mandatory

metastases of any size were considered positive (including ITC)

FNR → 8,4% (with an average of 2.7 SLNs removed)

A low FNR (8.4%) of SLN after NAC can be achieved with mandatory use of IHC for SLN evaluation.

SLN metastases of any size including micrometastases and ITC, should be considered positive.

This is the most convenient and inclusive method to decrease the FNR of SLNB below the threshold of 10%.

The FNR was decreased with the use of dual traces and when > one SLN was removed.

→ **89,6%**

The IR of SLNB after NAC (89.6%) was slightly inferior to 90%.



N.of SLNs removed	FNR
1	18.2%
2 or more	4.9%
Method of mapping	
Isotope only	16.0%
Dual trace (isotope+blue)	5.2%
Definition of SLN pos	
Any size	8.4%
> 0.2 mm	13.3%

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY

IB IN cN1/2

chemotherapy, the axilla often has more fibrosis, making evaluation and surgical dissection more challenging.

SLND trial

5 pz

biopsy-proven node-positive T1-4d N1-2

→ NAC

→ SLND + ALND

node-negative axillary status after NAC was not mandatory.

77.9%

80.7% with dual tracer

4.1%

4 % with 2 or more SLN removed

10.3% with any size of positive SLN
(ITC and micro/macro mts)

positive in 52%, almost 66% of whom had
axillary nonSLNs-positive

poCR 33.3% (66/195)



To optimized IR and FNR, dual mapping should be the method of choice.

If only one SLN can be accurately identified and retrieved, a completion ALND should be considered.

* pre NAC marking of the cytologically verified lymph node

* selecting only patients with sonographically unsuspected lymph nodes for SLNB after NAC

* broadening the definition of SLN metastasis after NAC to include ITC

all have the potential of further decreasing the F

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY

SLNB IN cN1/2

After chemotherapy, the axilla often has more fibrosis, making evaluation of the axilla and surgical dissection more challenging.

**cN1/2 → NAC → cN0 →
SLNB + ALND**

- 2013 - **ACOSOG-Z1071** (701 pz)
- 2013 - **SENTINA** (1737 pz)
- 2015 - **SN-FNAC** (153 pz)
- 2014 - **Metanalisi FU** (2471 pz)
- 2016 - **Metanalisi ELHAGE** (3398 pz)
- 2015 - **Swedish study** (195 pz)

J, Mittendorf EA, et al.: Sentinel lymph node surgery after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in patients with node-positive breast cancer: the ACOSOG Z1071 (Alliance) trial. *J Clin Oncol*. 2013, 31(10):1455-1461. [10.1200/JCO.2013.278932](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2013.278932)

J, Fehm T, et al.: Sentinel-lymph-node biopsy in patients with breast cancer after neoadjuvant chemotherapy (SENTINA): a prospective, multicenter trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2013, 14:609-618. [10.1016/S1470-2045\(13\)70166-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(13)70166-9)

Basik M, et al.: Sentinel node biopsy after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in node-positive breast cancer: the SN FNAC study. *J Clin Oncol*. 2015, 33:258-264. [10.1200/JCO.2014.55.7827](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2014.55.7827)

J, et al.: Feasibility and accuracy of sentinel lymph node biopsy in node-positive breast cancer after neoadjuvant chemotherapy: a meta-analysis. *PLoS One*. 2015, 10:e0105316. [10.1371/journal.pone.0105316](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0105316)

Leadon H, El Tokhy O, et al.: Is sentinel lymph node biopsy a viable



IR	FNR	FNR(1)	FNR(>2)	FNR(≥3)
	12,6%		8,7%	10,1%
80,1%	14,2%	24,3%	<10%	8,7%
87,6%	8,4%	18,2%	4,9%	5,1%
89%	14% 8%IHC			
90,9%	13%			
77,9%	14,1%			

**2 or more
SLN**

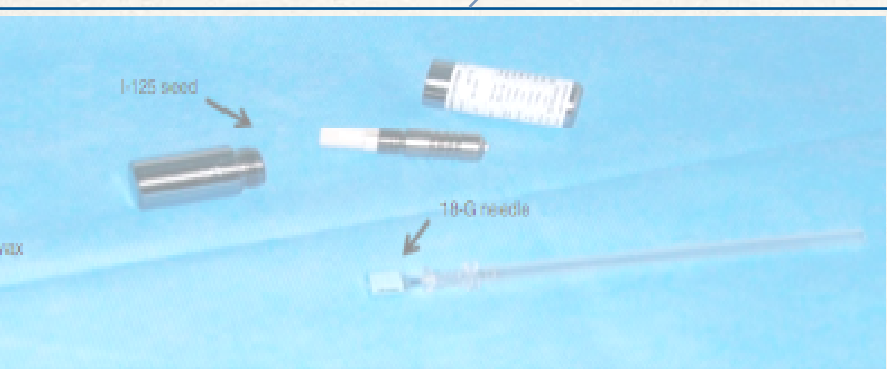
**dual
tracer**

cellari metastatici:

are l'accuratezza della stadiazione ascellare dopo
terapia neoadiuvante in pazienti cN+ alla diagnosi

CCN 2017: indicato posizionamento di **clip o tatuaggio** di
onodo metastatico per eventuale successivo reperimento.

MARI procedure (BJS,2010) – iodine-125
seed localization in the biopsied positive node
→ NAC → MARI surgery + ALND



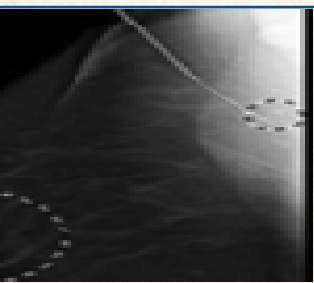
MARI procedure (Ann Surg, 2016)

CLIP+WIRE (Ann Surg Onc, 2015) –
clip placed in metastatic LN →
NAC VS no NAC → SLNB or

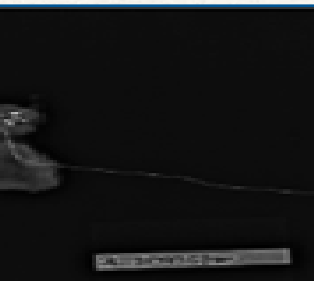
n°	IR (marked LN)
15	100%
100	97%
107	circa 97% wire VS circa

cellari metastatici:

are l'accuratezza della stadiazione ascellare dopo
terapia neoadiuvante in pazienti cN+ alla diagnosi



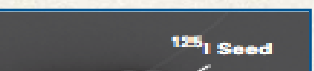
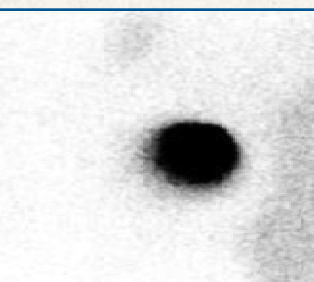
TAD - Targeted Axillary Dissection
(JAMA Surg, 2015) – clip placed in
metastatic LN → NAC → iodine 125
Seed or wire → SLNB or ALND



TAD – (JCO, 2016) – seed only



ACOSOG Z1071 – (ann Surg,
2016) – clip placed in metastatic LN
→ NAC → SLNB + ALND → after
surgery radiography of the SLNs
resected / axillary dissection



n°	IR	FNR	L clip
12 (10+2)	100%	0%	8
208	97,6%	10,1% If only SLNB performed 1,4% If TAD performed	7
484 no clip in LNmts	83% (IR SLN)	13% In pts with no clip in LNmts	7
203		19% clip in DA	

and DFS in cN1/2

lands Cancer Register 2005 - 2008
 ective study (2005-2008) 1347 pz 944 pz follow

NAC FEC x 5 or TAC x 6 +trastuzumab in Her2+
 SLNB + ALND

athological axillary nodal status after
 nd SLNB + ALND

ypN0)	22 %
or micromts (ypN1itc/mi)	3.8%
romts (ypN1-3)	74 %

osis of residual axillary diseases after
 juvant chemotherapy in clinically node-
 ve breast cancer patients:

ted tumor cell and micro
stases carry a better
nosis than
ometastases

- globale
 - ypN0
 n s.



OS mean 7.4ys	DFS F
7,4	57,
8,3	71,
9,9	79,

and DFS in cN1/2



pective study 2007 – 2013 median fu 19.5 month (2-65)
ologically-proven positive SLN → NAC

SLNB	266 ALND
LN positive or non found	187 negative
LN negative	79 positive
SLNB negative	
SLNB + ALND negative	

ifference among SLNB negative
SLNB+ALND negative
ALND negative

SLNB negative :
nic recurrences
clavicular noder
y recurrence

axillary recurrence: no statistical differences

SLNB after NAC in patients with
initial node-positive breast cancer
may help identify down-staging to
negative nodal status and reduce
the surgical morbidity by avoiding
the need for standard ALND

and DFS in cN1/2



retrospective study
median follow up 61 months

cN0-1-2 → NAC → remained or became cN0 after NAC

LB only with SLN negative

LB + ALND with SLN positive

failure

(%) axillary disease after a year
cN0 → NAC → SLN negative (no ALND))

(%) axillary disease after 12 years
cN1/2 → NAC → cN0 → SLN positive + ALND (12 positive nodes found)

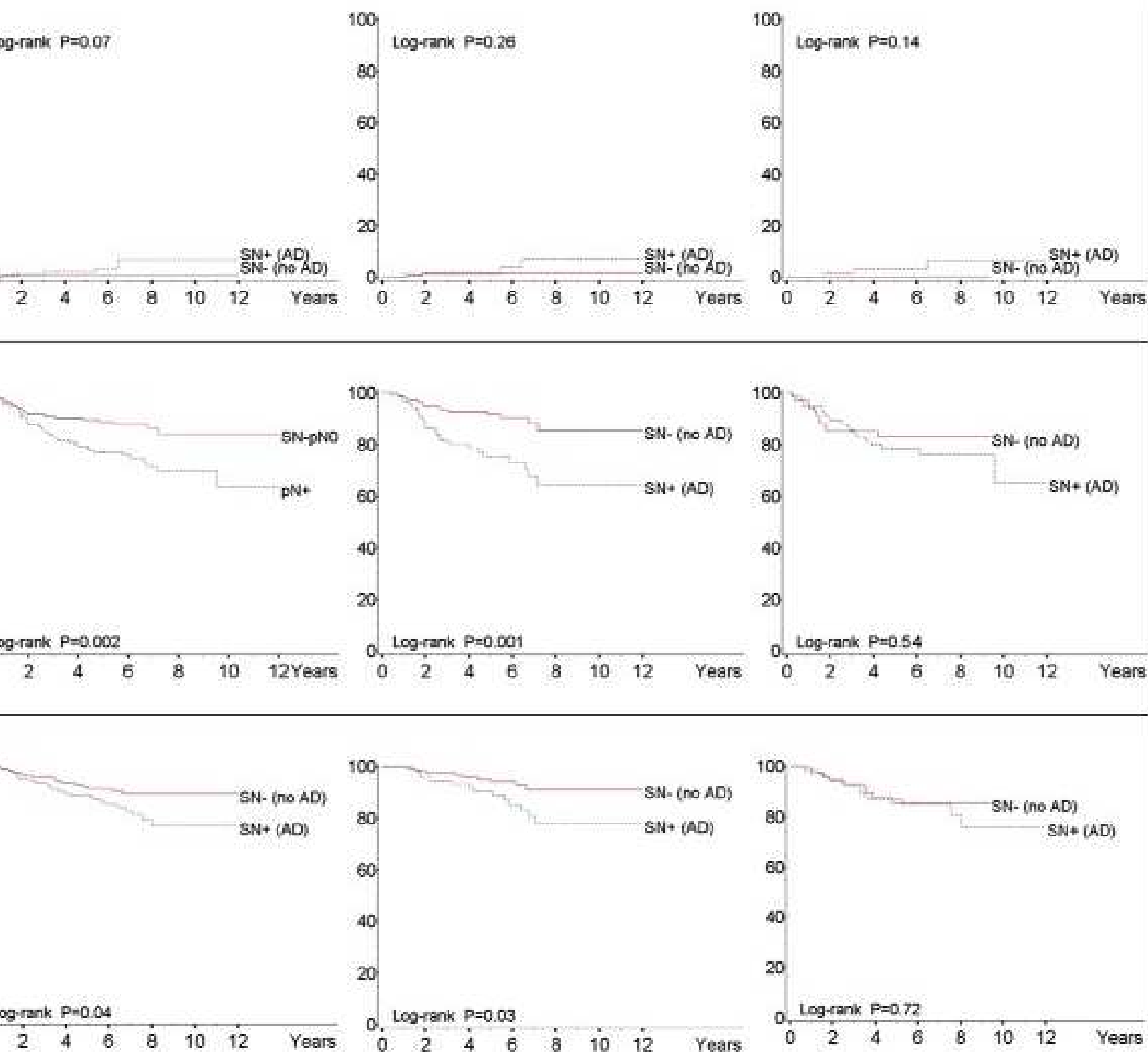
5 yr DFS

cN0	81.1%	cN1	73.4	p= 0.33
-----	-------	-----	------	---------

5yr OS

overall 90.7%

cN0	93.3%	cN1	86.3	p= 0
-----	-------	-----	------	------



All patients and cN0: outcome are better in SLN neg than in SLN pos.

cN1/2 : outcomes for SLN neg and patient did not differ significantly

SLN neg status is not a favorable prognostic factor

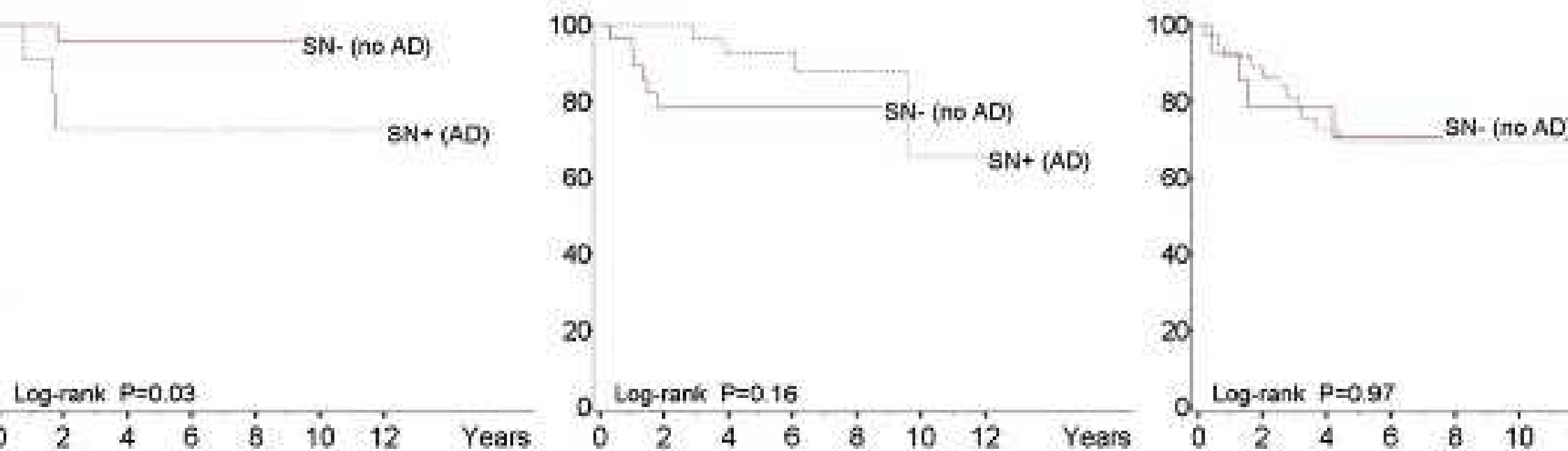


If SLN status no longer predicts outcomes, then a negative axilla probably no longer indicates a negative axilla (suggesting high FNR)

cN1/2 - ypT0/x (n=38)

cN1/2 - ypT1 (n=58)

cN1/2 - ypT2/3 (n=)



ypT1 and ypT2-3 subgroups, outcomes did not differ between SLN neg and SLN pos patients, so the SLN no longer predicted better prognosis.

was significantly better in the SLN neg group for patient who had an excellent response to NAC. Tumor size and lymph node status had its normal prognostic value.

presence of residual breast disease is such a strongly unfavorable prognostic factor that it overrides the benefit of being SLN negative as a favorable prognostic factor? Or because the FNR is high

and DFS in cN1/2



SLNB is acceptable in cN1-2 patients who become cN0 after NAC

Particularly in those with no residual disease in the breast

Because SLN status maintains its expected prognostic role

But also in cases with residual disease, because ALND has no influence on outcomes

A.O.U. Città della Salute e della Scienza di Torino

2014-Settembre 2017:

115 pz sottoposte a CT neoadiuvante

dati relativi alle pazienti operate fino a
Settembre 2016, per un FU mediano di 21 mesi (87
i

23 pz cN0

ALND

SLNB+ALND 2 mancata migrazione
2 LNS pos

SLNB

10 pz cN1-2:

ALND

SLNB + ALND 1 mancata migrazione



Luminal A	6	T1
Luminal B	28	T2
Her2 +	34	T3
TNBC	19	T4

A.O.U. Città della Salute e della Scienza di Torino

2014-Settembre 2017:

e ...pz sottoposte a CT neoadiuvante

ati i dati relativi alle pazienti operate fino a
bre 2016, per un FU mediano di 21 mesi (87
i

IR 90.4 % 28/31

downstaging ascellare in cN1/2

30/64 paz 47%



FU mediano 21 mesi (10-40 mesi)

3 recidive locoregionali

1 recidiva linfonodale,

1 recidiva mammaria seguita da mts,

OPEN QUESTION

Prevalence of residual axillary disease after NAC

Role of Regional Node Irradiation in the presence of axillary pCR

Need for ALND and RNI versus RNI alone in the presence of a positive SLNB after NAC



SLN positive

ALND + XRT vs XRT

ALLIANCE A11202

Comparison of axillary lymph node dissection with or without regional radiation for patients with node-positive breast cancer treated with chemotherapy

SLN negative

NO XRT vs XRT

NSABP B-51 / RTOG 1304:

Randomized phase III clinical trial evaluating the role of postmastectomy

to decrease the FNR of SLNB
NAC in cN1/2

g dual traces

oving ≥ 2 (3) SLNs

dering the definition of SLN metastasis after NAC to include ITC and micro

NAC marking of the cytologically proven LN positive

cting only patient with unsuspicious LN after NAC

staging of biopsy-proven node-positive patients with NAC could safety per
alone when the index node has been successfully retrieved at surgery
nodal deposits of any size continue to mandate completion ALND





Università degli Studi di Torino

Anno Accademico 2022-2023

FOCUS-ON: CHEMIOTERAPIA PRE-OPERATORIA (NEOADIUVANTI)

Grazie per l'attenzione

ication by Iodine-125 (**AMELII**):
ibility trial and observational study
the knowledge of axillary status.

In progettazione
presso la nostra Breast Unit

AMELII-1

re un metodo di marcatura dei linfonodi ascellari
statici mediante posizionamento di seme
attivo individuabile con Gamma-camera durante
intervento chirurgico.

are il tasso di corrispondenza tra linfonodo
statico e linfonodo sentinella evidenziato tramite
ia metodica.

AMELII-2

azione del metodo di marcatura ed
ificazione del linfonodo metastatico dopo

