

UK Early Triple Negative Breast Cancer study - Collaborative working executive summary

Project description

'Triple negative' refers to the 15% of breast cancer patients whose cells don't express receptors for the oestrogen and progesterone hormones and the HER2 protein. Unfortunately this group of patients have fewer treatment options and worse outcomes compared to receptor positive breast cancer patients with a similar stage of the disease. DATA-CAN and Roche believe that the care given to patients with triple negative breast cancer can be improved by better understanding the treatment and outcomes of NHS patients.

We are working together with the Leeds and Edinburgh Cancer Centres to collect, curate, and analyse historic data from patients with early stage triple negative breast cancer. Roche will be provided with the anonymous results of the analysis. The results will be used by Roche to develop their understanding of the clinical characteristics, treatment patterns and health outcomes for these patients, to better support drug development and patient access to medicines. In the words of Jacqui Gath, a breast cancer patient on DATA-CAN's PPIE panel: "This is a vital piece of work, as patients know there is no very effective treatment for TNBC except older drugs which are not very effective, and consequently, it is much feared."

Organisations involved

Roche Products Ltd and DATA-CAN have contributed funding towards this project, which will be delivered by the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, NHS Lothian, and the University of Edinburgh.

Project approach

The project involves the collection and curation of historic data from the Leeds and Edinburgh Cancer Centres. We will create a single data model to allow these two datasets to be combined and analysed in a secure environment by accredited NHS and academic staff. We will present and discuss the results with Roche scientists. Cancer patients from DATA-CAN's patient and public involvement and engagement group have been involved at all stages of the project and have given their approval to the work. All data remains the property of the NHS, and Roche will only see aggregated results, not anything that can be used to identify an individual patient.

Benefits to patients

Patients will benefit from the improved evidence to inform the NHS's adoption of new drugs to treat patients with triple negative breast cancer. Patients remain in control of their data both via the NHS

national data opt-out, and via the patient engagement and governance of the project itself.

Benefits to the NHS

The NHS will benefit from an improved understanding of how patients with early stage triple negative breast cancer are treated in two major NHS cancer centres. It will also benefit from the improvement of data quality for ongoing patient management and any future research.

Benefits to Roche

Roche will benefit from an improved understanding of how this group of breast cancer patients is treated in the UK, with the data being used to support drug development and patient access to medicines.

This document has been produced by DATA-CAN and Roche Products Ltd.