



National Comprehensive
Cancer Network®

NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®)

(NCCN腫瘍学臨床診療ガイドライン)

乳癌 リスク低減

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***Therese B. Bevers, MD/Chair** ♀
The University of Texas
MD Anderson Cancer Center

***John H. Ward, MD/Vice Chair** † ‡
Huntsman Cancer Institute
at the University of Utah

Gretchen M. Ahrendt, MD ¶
University of Colorado Cancer Center

Banu K. Arun, MD †
The University of Texas
MD Anderson Cancer Center

Graham A. Colditz, MD, DrPH
Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-
Jewish Hospital and Washington
University School of Medicine

Mary B. Daly, MD, PhD † & Δ
Fox Chase Cancer Center

Shipra Gandhi, MD †
Roswell Park Comprehensive
Cancer Center

Mary L. Gemignani, MD Ω ¶
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Heidi A. Goodwin, APRN
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center/
University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center
and Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute

William J. Gradishar, MD ‡ †
Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer
Center of Northwestern University

Erin Hofstatter, MD †
Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital

Shelley Hwang, MD, MPH ¶
Duke Cancer Institute

Lisa Jacobs, MD ¶
The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive
Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins

Judith A. Jordan ¥
Patient Advocate

Tari King, MD ¶
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Allison Kurian, MD † ♀ Δ
Stanford Cancer Institute

Sayeh Lavasani MD ♀ †
City of Hope National Medical Center

Loretta S. Loftus, MD † ‡ ♀ ♀
Moffitt Cancer Center

Sofia D. Merajver, MD, PhD ‡ ♀ ♀
University of Michigan
Rogel Cancer Center

Ingrid M. Meszoely, MD ¶
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Catherine C. Parker, MD ¶
O'Neal Comprehensive
Cancer Center at UAB

Frances Pritchard, MD ¶
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital/
The University of Tennessee
Health Science Center

Sandhya Pruthi, MD ♀
Mayo Clinic Cancer Center

Sagar Sardesai, MD †
The Ohio State University Comprehensive
Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital
and Solove Research Institute

Payal D. Shah, MD †
Abramson Cancer Center
at the University of Pennsylvania

Michelle C. Specht, MD ¶
Massachusetts General Hospital
Cancer Center

Pavan Kumar Tandra, MD †
Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center

Anne Wallace, MD ¶
UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center

Lee Wilke, MD ¶
University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center

Rachel L. Yung, MD †
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center/
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

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NCCN
Mary Anne Bergman
Rashmi Kumar, PhD

& 疫学	† 腫瘍内科学
Δ 遺伝学	¥ 患者擁護団体
Ω 婦人科腫瘍学	¶ 外科学/腫瘍外科学
‡ 血液学	* 考察セクション執筆委員会
♀ 内科学（家庭医療、 予防医学を含む）	

NCCN乳癌リスク低減委員会メンバー
ガイドライン更新の要約

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臨床試験: NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

NCCN加盟施設における臨床試験のオンライン検索は[こちら](#):

nccn.org/clinical_trials/clinicians.aspx

NCCNのエビデンスとコンセンサスによるカテゴリ: 特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリ2Aである。

NCCNのエビデンスとコンセンサスによるカテゴリを参照。

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NCCN乳癌リスク低減ガイドライン2019年第1版から2020年第1版への更新内容は以下の通りである:

BRISK-1

家族性/遺伝学的因子が変更された:

- 「乳癌のリスクを高める既知の病的/病的である可能性が高い遺伝子変異遺伝学的素因(BRCA1/2, TP53, PTEN, その他の病的な遺伝子バリエーション遺伝子変異)」

脚注

- 「b」が変更された:「詳細な遺伝学的リスク評価と遺伝学的検査の基準は同一ではない。本ガイドラインの乳癌の既往がない女性の家族歴を評価するという目的を考慮して、浸潤性乳癌または非浸潤性乳管癌の家族歴も含めるべきである。家族性の癌パターンについて、母方と父方の家系は別々に検討するべきである。」

BRISK-2

- ページタイトルが変更された:「追加の家族性リスク評価」
- 3番目の列が変更された:「リスク低減健康な生活習慣およびリスク低減の選択肢に関するカウンセリング」(BRISK-3も同様)

脚注

- 「e」が変更された:「主に家族歴に基づくリスクモデル(例えば、Claus、BRCAPRO、BOADICEA、Tyrer-Cuzick、[BRISK-C]を参照)。MRIを施行すべきと医師が判断し、かつ生涯リスクが20%以上の場合は、MRIを考慮してもよい。」(BRISK-5も同様)

BRISK-3

リスク要素

- 6番目の項目、5番目の下位項目が変更された:「マンモグラフィでの乳腺濃度(不均一または極端な高濃度乳房)」

リスク管理

- 健康な生活習慣に関するカウンセリングおよび[NCCN乳癌検診・診断ガイドラインを参照](#)(最下部の診断経路も同様)

脚注

- 「i」:「表2を参照のこと(Nattinger AB, et al. Ann Intern Med 2016;164(11):ITC81-TTC96)。」
- 「j」:「例えば、アンシュケナージ系ユダヤ人家系では、特定のBRCA1/2変異の保有率が高い。リスクには人種差および民族差がみられる。」
- 「o」:「乳癌リスク評価(例えば、35歳以上の女性を対象とする改変Gailモデル)」に対して「実臨床における多遺伝子リスクスコアの利用を裏付ける妥当性検証済みの研究はない」

BRISK-4

脚注

- 「t」が新たに追加された:「ベースラインの婦人科評価の目的は、治療開始前に評価を行う必要のある異常出血がないことを確認することである。」

脚注

- 「s」が変更された:「詳細と用量については、[BRISK-Bを参照のこと](#)。」

BRISK-6

リスク低減手術

- 以下が削除された:2番目の項目「リスク低減両側卵巣卵管摘出術の希望あり」および対応する脚注bb:「データから両側卵巣摘出術の予防効果が裏付けられているが、その知見と一致しない相反する報告も存在する。Heemskerk-Gerritsen BA, Seynaeve C, van Asperen CJ, et al. Breast cancer risk after salpingo-oophorectomy in healthy BRCA1/2 mutation carriers: revisiting the evidence for risk reduction. J Natl Cancer Inst 2015;107. Available at:http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25788320.」

脚注

- 「z」の最初の文が変更された:「リスク低減乳房全切除術は一般に、乳癌のリスクを高める病的/病的である可能性が高い遺伝子変異(VUS[意義不明のバリエーション])を有する女性([NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreaticを参照](#))、強い家族歴を有する女性、場合により30歳未満での胸部RTの既往を有する女性にのみ考慮すべきである。」(BRISK-Aのリスク低減手術の下の最初の項目も同様)

BRISK-A

健康な生活習慣

- 運動
 - 以下の下位項目中の細項目が削除された:
 - 閉経前の女性は、精力的に身体活動を行う。
 - 閉経後の女性は、少なくとも中程度の身体活動を行う。

リスク低減手術

- 最初の下位項目の2番目の文が変更された:「強い乳癌家族歴はないが、2倍以上の乳癌リスク増加と関連する他の遺伝子に病的/病的である可能性が高い病的変異がある女性におけるリスク低減乳房全切除術の価値(大規模疫学研究に基づく)は不明である。」

脚注

- 新たな脚注が追加された:「タモキシフェンおよびラロキシフェンのリスク/ベネフィットについて閉経後女性のカウンセリングを行う場合は、次の文献の表を参照のこと:Freedman AN, et al. Benefit/risk assessment for breast cancer chemoprevention with raloxifene or tamoxifen for women age 50 years or older. J Clin Oncol 2011;29(17):2327-2333.」

BRISK-B

タモキシフェン

- 2番目の項目:「低用量のタモキシフェン(5mg/日を3年間)は、用量20mgの投与で症状がみられる場合または患者が標準用量のタモキシフェンの服用を望まないかできない場合にのみ選択肢となる」が、対応する次の脚注とともに新たに追加された:「DeCensi A, et al. J Clin Oncol 2019;37:1629-1637.」

BRISK-C

- 表「乳癌リスクおよびBRCA1/2変異保有リスクの予測モデルの比較」が新たに追加された。

家族性リスクの評価^a

家族性/遺伝学的因子

- 乳癌のリスクを高める既知の病的/病的である可能性が高い遺伝子変異 (BRCA1/2、TP53、PTEN、その他の病的な遺伝子バリエーション)

BRISK-2を参照

- 浸潤性乳癌および非浸潤性乳管癌 (DCIS) の既往はないが以下に該当する女性を対象とした詳細な遺伝学的リスク評価の基準^b
[NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照

女性が[NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial Assessment Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)に概説されている家族性/遺伝性リスクの基準を1つでも満たす

Yes →

遺伝カウンセラーまたは同様の訓練を受けた専門家への紹介が推奨される^c
および
[BRISK-2](#)を参照

No →

[BRISK-3](#)を参照

^a [NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照のこと。

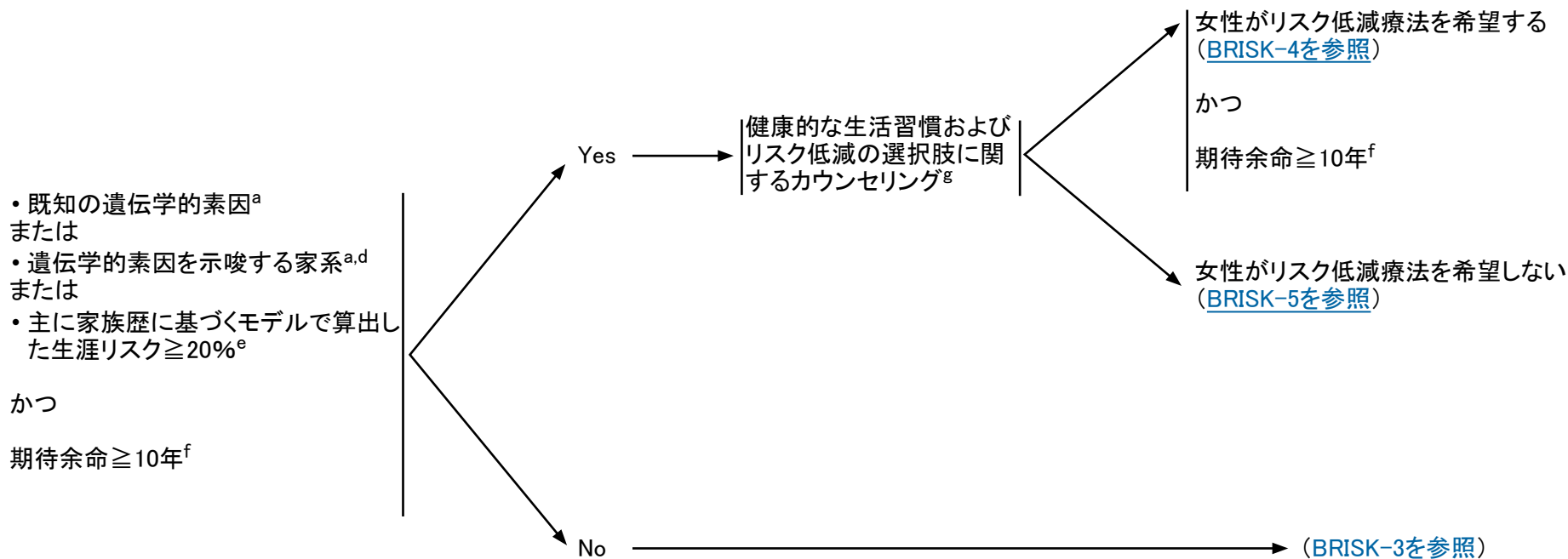
^b 詳細な遺伝学的リスク評価と遺伝学的検査の基準は同一ではない。乳癌の既往がない女性の家族歴を評価するという目的を考慮して、浸潤性乳癌または非浸潤性乳管癌の家族歴も含めるべきである。家族性の癌パターンについて、母方と父方の家系は別々に検討するべきである。

^c 遺伝カウンセリングおよび遺伝学的検査の微妙な差異の詳細については、[NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照のこと。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。

臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

追加の家族性リスク評価



^a NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreaticを参照のこと。

^d 女性が家族性リスクの基準を1つでも満たす(BRISK-1を参照)。

^e 主に家族歴に基づくリスクモデル(例えば、Claus、BRCAPRO、Tyrer-Cuzick、[BRISK-C]を参照)。MRIを施行すべきと医師が判断し、かつ生涯リスクが20%以上の場合は、MRIを考慮してもよい。

^f 期待余命の計算ツールを参照(www.eprognosis.com)。基準点として、米国における平均的な78歳女性の期待余命は10.2年である(NCCN Guidelines for Older Adult Oncologyを参照のこと)。

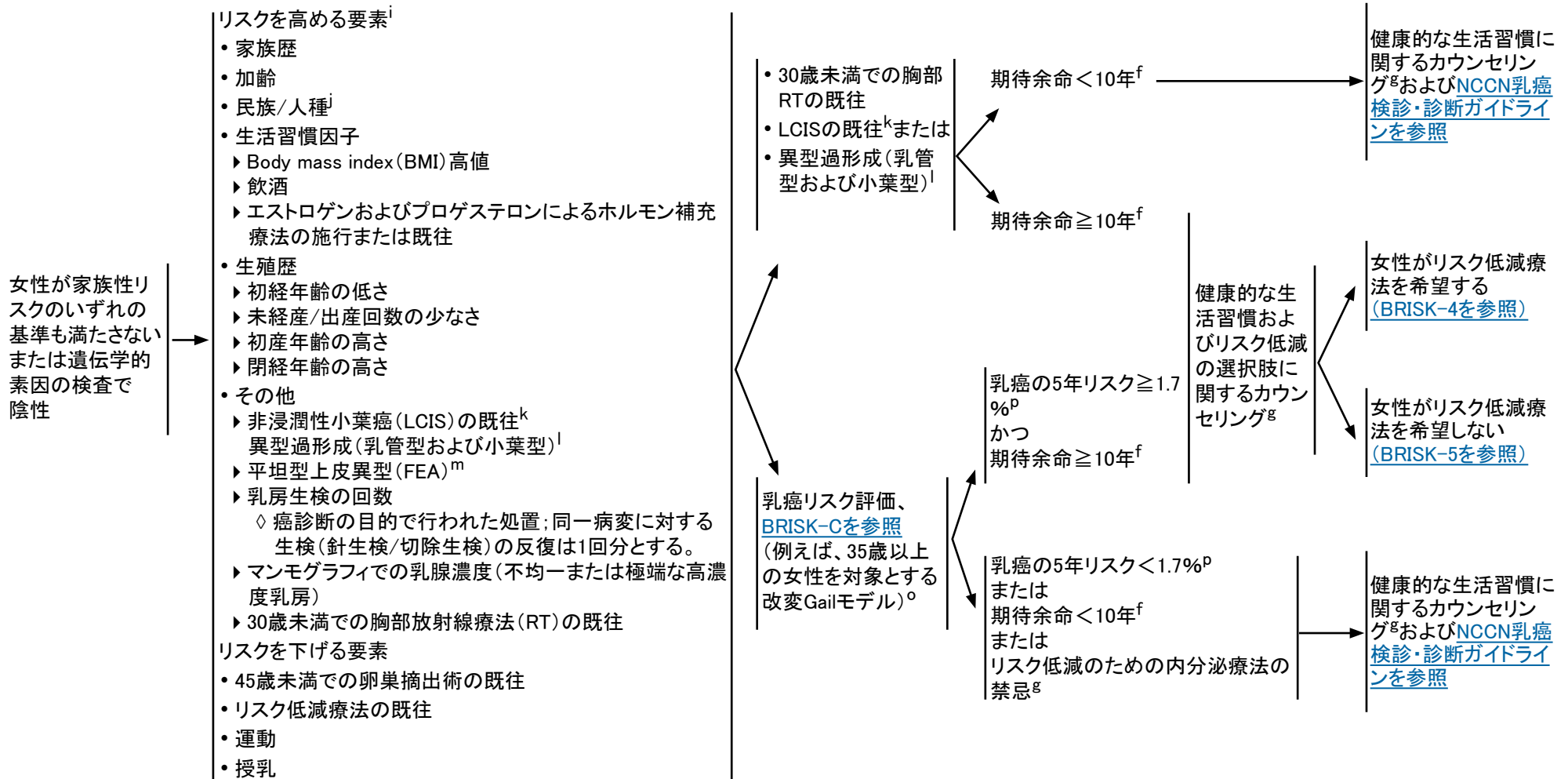
^g リスク/ベネフィット評価およびカウンセリングの内容(BRISK-A)を参照のこと。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。
臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

リスク要素^h

リスク評価ⁿ

リスク管理



BRISK-3Aの脚注を参照

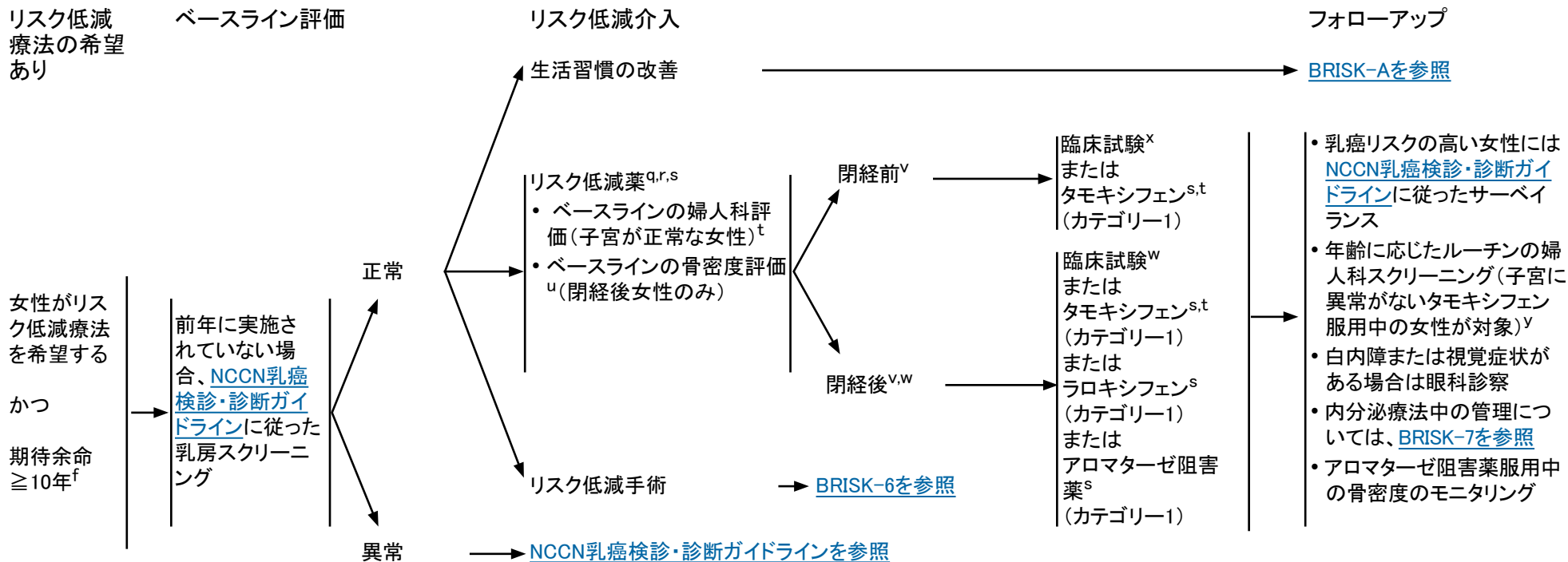
注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。
臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

脚注

- ^f 期待寿命の計算ツールを参照 (www.eprognosis.com)。基準点として、米国における平均的な78歳女性の期待寿命は10.2年である ([NCCN Guidelines for Older Adult Oncologyを参照のこと](#))。
- ^g リスク/ベネフィット評価およびカウンセリングの内容 ([BRISK-A](#)) を参照のこと。
- ^h DCISおよび浸潤性乳癌患者の管理については、[NCCN乳癌ガイドライン](#)に記載されている。
- ⁱ 表2を参照のこと (Nattinger AB, et al. Ann Intern Med 2016;164(11):ITC81-TTC96)。
- ^j リスクには人種差および民族差がみられる。
- ^k [NCCN乳癌検診・診断ガイドライン](#)を参照のこと。
- ^l 異型過形成の女性では治療によりリスクが86%低下する。異型過形成およびLCISの女性に対してはリスク低減療法を強く推奨すべきである。
- ^m この集団におけるリスク低減療法のリスクまたはベネフィットの大きさについては、説得力のあるデータは得られていない。GailモデルはFEAの女性には適用されない。
- ⁿ 乳輪周囲のランダムな穿刺吸引、乳頭吸引または乳管洗浄の臨床的有用性と役割は依然として評価段階にあり、臨床試験でのみ用いるべきである。
- ^o 実臨床における多遺伝子リスクスコアの利用を裏付ける妥当性検証済みの研究はない。
- ^p リスクの定義は、NSABP BCPT (National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project Breast Cancer Prevention Trial) による定義の通りである。 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31559544> を参照のこと。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。

臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。



^f 期待余命の計算ツールを参照 (www.epronosis.com)。基準点として、米国における平均的な78歳女性の期待余命は10.2年である(NCCN Guidelines for Older Adult Oncologyを参照のこと)。

^q 胸部放射線療法の既往がある女性におけるリスク低減薬の使用に関するデータは存在しない。

^r CYP2D6遺伝子型検査は、タモキシフェンを考慮している女性では推奨されない。

^s 詳細と用量についてはBRISK-Bを参照のこと。

^t ベースラインの婦人科評価の目的は、治療開始前に評価を行う必要のある異常出血がないことを確認することである。

^u リスク低減療法の選択の指針とするため(例えば、ベースラインの骨密度が低い場合はアロマトーゼ阻害薬ではなくラロキシフェンを選択する)。

^v 乳癌の臨床試験で採用される閉経の定義は一定ではない。閉経とは、一般的には月経の永続的な停止を指すが、乳癌管理で用いられる用語としては、卵巣におけるエストロゲン合成の著明かつ永続的な低下も含まれる。閉経を判定する妥当な基準としては以下のものがある: 両側卵巣摘出術の既往; 60歳以上; 60歳未満の場合、化学療法、タモキシフェン、トレミフェン、卵巣抑制剤投与を行っていない状況で12か月以上無月経が続き、かつ卵胞刺激ホルモン(FSH)およびエストラジオール濃度が閉経後範囲内。タモキシフェンまたはトレミフェンの服用中で60歳未満の場合、妥当な基準は閉経後範囲のFSHおよび血漿エストラジオール濃度である。

^w 治療法の選択において骨密度が参考になることがある。

^x 臨床試験に参加した女性は、プロトコルに従って、ベースライン検査、フォローアップおよびモニタリングを受けるべきである。

^y ほかに症状のない女性に対しては、ルーチンの子宮内膜超音波検査および生検は推奨されない。

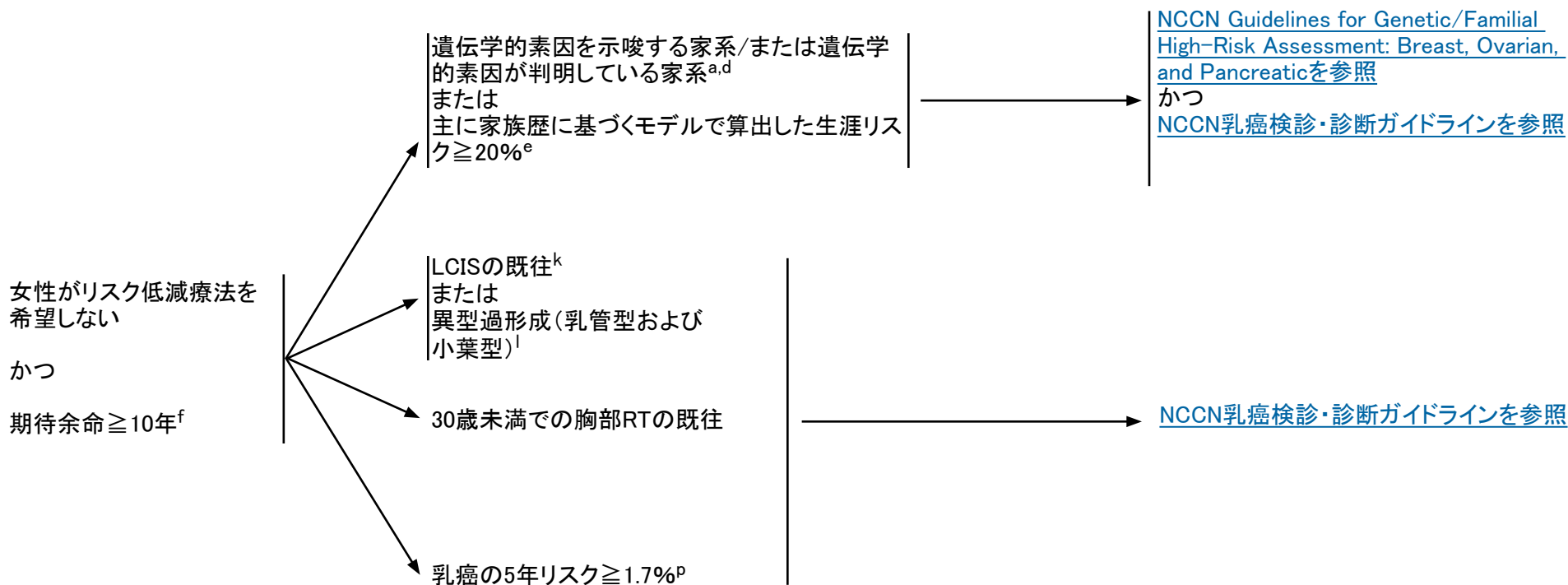
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リスク低減療法の希望なし

リスク評価

スクリーニング/フォローアップ



^a [NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照のこと。

^d 女性が家族性リスクの基準を1つでも満たす([BRISK-1を参照](#))。

^e 主に家族歴に基づくリスクモデル(例えば、Claus、BRCAPRO、Tyrer-Cuzick、[\[BRISK-C\]を参照](#))。MRIを施行すべきと医師が判断し、かつ生涯リスクが20%以上の場合は、MRIを考慮してもよい。

^f 期待余命の計算ツールを参照(www.eprognosis.com)。基準点として、米国における平均的な78歳女性の期待余命は10.2年である([NCCN Guidelines for Older Adult Oncologyを参照のこと](#))。

^k [NCCN乳癌検診・診断ガイドラインを参照のこと](#)。

^l 異型過形成の女性では治療によりリスクが86%低下する。異型過形成およびLCISの女性に対してはリスク低減療法を強く推奨すべきである。

^p リスクの定義は、NSABP BCPT(National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project Breast Cancer Prevention Trial)による定義の通りである。<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31559544/>を参照のこと。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。
臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

リスク低減介入

リスク低減手術

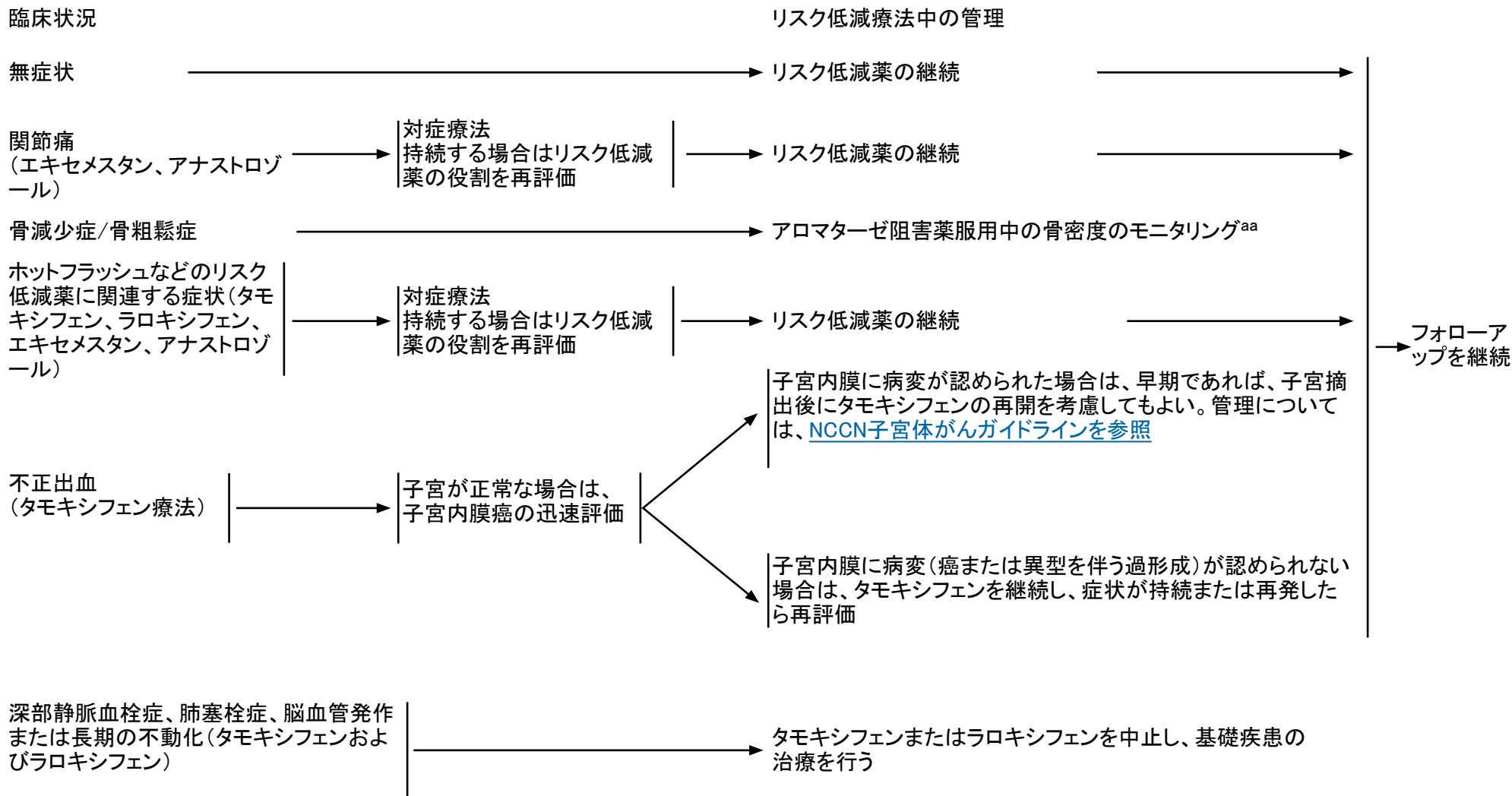
- リスク低減乳房全切除術の希望あり^z

→ [NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照

^z リスク低減乳房全切除術は一般に、乳癌のリスクを高める病的/病的である可能性が高い遺伝子変異(VUS[意義不明のバリエーション]ではない)を有する女性([NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照)、強い家族歴を有する女性、場合により30歳未満での胸部RTの既往を有する女性にのみ考慮すべきである。強い乳癌家族歴はないが、2倍以上の乳癌リスク増加と関連する他の遺伝子に病的/病的である可能性が高い変異がある女性におけるリスク低減乳房全切除術の価値(大規模疫学研究に基づく)は不明である。LCISには以前このアプローチが考慮されていたが、現時点での望ましいアプローチはリスク低減療法である。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。

臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。



^{aa} アロマトラーゼ阻害薬の投与を受けている女性では、骨密度を維持または改善し、骨折リスクを低減するために、荷重運動やビスホスフォネート系薬剤(経口/静注)またはデノスマブの使用が許容される。ビスホスフォネート系薬剤またはデノスマブによる治療を受ける女性には、治療開始前に予防歯科検診を受けさせ、カルシウムとビタミンDを補充することが勧められる。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。
臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

リスク/ベネフィット評価およびカウンセリングの内容

リスク低減の選択肢については、共同意思決定が可能な環境において話し合うべきである。乳癌リスク低減に関するこの話し合いで扱うべき要素には、以下のものがある：

- 強い家族歴のためにリスクの高い女性と極めて早期に乳癌または卵巣癌を発症した女性には、遺伝カウンセリングを行うべきである。[NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照のこと。
- 健康な生活習慣
 - ▶ 3～5年以上のエストロゲン/プロゲステロン併用療法に伴う乳癌リスクを検討する。
 - ▶ 飲酒は乳癌リスクを上昇させるため、飲酒量を制限する。
 - ▶ 運動¹
 - ◇ 日々の活動に加えて、中程度の有酸素運動を週150分以上または激しい有酸素運動を週75分以上（もしくはこれらの組合せ）を行う。
 - ▶ 体重管理
 - ◇ 閉経後の女性は、健康体重を維持し、体重増加を避ける。
 - ▶ 授乳
- リスク低減薬—[考察](#)の節を参照のこと。
 - ▶ タモキシフェン、ラロキシフェンまたはアロマターゼ阻害薬による相対および絶対リスク低減についての話し合い²。

- ▶ タモキシフェンまたはラロキシフェンの禁忌：深部静脈血栓症、肺塞栓症、脳血栓症または一過性脳虚血発作の既往、既知の遺伝性の血栓性素因。
- ▶ タモキシフェン、ラロキシフェンおよびアロマターゼ阻害薬の禁忌²：現在の妊娠またはホルモン剤以外の有効な避妊法を用いない妊娠可能な女性。
- ▶ 年齢に依存するリスクを踏まえたタモキシフェン、ラロキシフェンまたはアロマターゼ阻害薬²の主な副作用および重篤な副作用。
- リスク低減手術
 - ▶ リスク低減乳房全切除術は一般に、乳癌のリスクを高める病的/病的である可能性が高い遺伝子変異（VUS[意義不明のバリエーション]ではない）を有する女性（[NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic](#)を参照）、強い家族歴を有する女性、場合により30歳未満での胸部RTの既往を有する女性にのみ考慮すべきである。強い乳癌家族歴はないが、2倍以上の乳癌リスク増加と関連する他の遺伝子に病的/病的である可能性が高い変異がある女性におけるリスク低減乳房全切除術の価値（大規模疫学研究に基づく）は不明である。LCISには以前このアプローチが考慮されていたが、現時点での望ましいアプローチはリスク低減療法である。
- スクリーニング、リスク評価またはその他のリスク低減介入の臨床試験に参加するという選択。

¹ [American Cancer Society Guidelines](#)を参照のこと。

² 詳細と用量については[BRISK-B](#)を参照のこと。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリ2Aである。
臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

乳癌リスク低減薬

タモキシフェン ^{1,2,3}	ラロキシフェン ^{1,2}	アロマターゼ阻害薬(エキセメスタンおよびアナストロゾール) ⁵
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> タモキシフェンによるリスク低減に関するデータは、Gailモデルで乳癌の5年リスクが1.7%以上であるかLCISの既往を有する35歳以上の閉経前および閉経後女性のものに限られている。 タモキシフェン: 20mg/日の5年間の投与により、癌リスクの49%の低下が認められている。異型過形成の既往を有する女性では、この用量および期間のタモキシフェン投与により、86%の乳癌リスクの低下が認められた。低用量のタモキシフェン(5mg/日を3年間)は、用量20mgの投与で症状がみられる場合または患者が標準用量のタモキシフェンの服用を望まないかできない場合にのみ選択肢となる⁴。 BRCA1/2変異を有する女性または胸部放射線照射の既往を有する女性におけるタモキシフェンのリスク低減効果は、他のリスク群と比べてあまり研究されていない。後ろ向きに限られたデータからはベネフィットがある可能性が示唆されている。 健康な高リスクの閉経前女性においては、タモキシフェンのリスク/ベネフィット比に関するデータは、比較的良好とみられる(カテゴリー1)。 高リスクの閉経後女性においては、タモキシフェンのリスク/ベネフィット比に関するデータは、年齢、子宮の有無または併存症による影響を受ける(カテゴリー1)。民族および人種に関するデータは不十分である。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ラロキシフェンによるリスク低減に関するデータは、Gailモデルで乳癌の5年リスクが1.7%以上であるかLCISの既往を有する35歳以上の閉経後女性のものに限られている。 ラロキシフェン: 60mg/日の投与により、最初の比較において、タモキシフェンと同等の乳癌リスク低減効果が認められた。長期追跡した場合のリスク低減効果では、ラロキシフェンはタモキシフェンより有効性が低いとみられるが、子宮が正常な女性では、毒性を考慮に入れると、なおタモキシフェンよりラロキシフェンを選択することになる場合がある。 BRCA1/2変異を有する女性または胸部放射線照射の既往を有する女性におけるラロキシフェンの使用に関するデータは存在しない。 高リスクの閉経後女性においては、ラロキシフェンのリスク/ベネフィット比に関するデータは、年齢または併存症による影響を受ける(カテゴリー1)。民族および人種に関するデータは不十分である。 閉経前女性における乳癌リスクの低減を目的とするラロキシフェンの使用は、臨床試験の一部として行う場合を除き、不適切である。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> エキセメスタンに関するデータは、Gailモデルで乳癌の5年リスクが1.7%以上であるかLCISの既往を有する35歳以上の閉経後女性に対象を限定した単一の大規模ランダム化試験で得られたものである。 アナストロゾールに関するデータは、一般集団との比較で以下のリスクを有する40~70歳の閉経後女性に対象を限定した単一の大規模ランダム化試験で得られたものである。 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 40~44歳: 4倍高い ▶ 45~60歳: 2倍以上高い ▶ 60~70歳: 1.5倍以上高い これらの基準を満たさないが、Tyrer-Cuzickモデルで乳癌の10年リスクが5%を超える女性も対象とされた。 エキセメスタン: 25mg/日の投与により、追跡調査期間中央値3年の時点で、浸潤性乳癌の相対発生率に65%(0.55%から0.19%)の低下が認められた。 アナストロゾール: 1mg/日の投与により、追跡調査期間5年の時点で、浸潤性乳癌の相対発生率に53%の低下が認められた。 術後療法としてアロマターゼ阻害薬を服用しているBRCA1/2変異を有するER陽性乳癌患者における対側乳癌のリスクをアロマターゼ阻害薬が低減する可能性があることを示す後ろ向きデータが存在する。 高リスクの閉経後女性においては、アロマターゼ阻害薬療法のリスク/ベネフィット比に関するデータは、年齢および骨粗鬆症などの併存症による影響を受ける(カテゴリー1)。民族および人種に関するデータは不十分である。 閉経前女性における乳癌リスクの低減を目的とするアロマターゼ阻害薬の使用は、臨床試験の一部として行う場合を除き、不適切である。

参考文献は次のページを参照

注意: 特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。
臨床試験: NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

参考文献

- ¹ 乳癌予防におけるタモキシフェンまたはラロキシフェンの5年を超える使用に関するデータはない。さらに、5年を超えるタモキシフェンの使用に関連して安全性上の懸念が存在する可能性があり、この使用は推奨されない。ラロキシフェンを5年を超えて継続すること(これらの薬剤の5年後以降のリスク低減効果を評価した高水準の使用経験や臨床試験データは得られていない)が、この薬剤のリスク低減効果を維持するためのアプローチの1つとなる可能性がある。35歳未満の女性におけるタモキシフェンまたはラロキシフェンの乳癌リスク低減効果は不明である。ラロキシフェンは35歳以上の閉経後女性にのみ使用できる。長期追跡した場合のリスク低減効果では、ラロキシフェンはタモキシフェンより有効性が低いとみられるが、子宮が正常な女性では、毒性を考慮に入れると、なおもタモキシフェンよりラロキシフェンを選択することになる場合がある。タモキシフェンには催奇形性があるため、妊娠中または妊娠を計画している女性では禁忌である。
- ² タモキシフェンおよびラロキシフェンのリスク/ベネフィットについて閉経後女性のカウンセリングを行う場合は、次の文献の表を参照のこと: Freedman AN, Binbing Y, Gail MH, et al. Benefit/risk assessment for breast cancer chemoprevention with raloxifene or tamoxifen for women age 50 years or older. J Clin Oncol 2011;29(17):2327-2333.
- ³ 一部の選択的セロトニン再取り込み阻害薬(SSRI)は、タモキシフェンの活性代謝物であるエンドキシフェンの産生を減少させる。しかしながら、シタロプラムおよびベンラファキシンは、タモキシフェンの代謝に最小限の作用しか及ぼさないと考えられる。これらの知見が臨床に及ぼす影響は不明である。
- ⁴ DeCensi A, Puntoni M, Guerrieri-Gonzaga A, et al. Randomized placebo controlled trial of low-dose tamoxifen to prevent local and contralateral recurrence in breast intraepithelial neoplasia. J Clin Oncol 2019;37(19):1629-1637.
- ⁵ エキセメスタンおよびアナストロゾールは、リスク低減の希望が強い選択的エストロゲン受容体モジュレーター(SERM)の重大な禁忌がある閉経後女性に使用できる。エキセメスタンおよびアナストロゾールのベネフィットとリスクをタモキシフェンまたはラロキシフェンのそれと比較したデータはない。エキセメスタンおよびアナストロゾールは、現時点で乳癌リスク低減を適応とするFDAの承認を受けていない。タモキシフェンまたはラロキシフェンの禁忌(血栓塞栓症)がある場合は、アロマターゼ阻害薬を考慮してもよい。

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。

臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

乳癌リスクおよびBRCA1/2変異保有リスクの予測モデルの比較

	説明	組み込まれた因子	利点	限界
Gailモデル	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 個別化された危険因子を含むSEERに特異的な乳癌リスクデータに基づき、個別化された乳癌リスクの評価値を算出する。 5年リスクと生涯リスクの両方を評価する。5年リスク評価値$\geq 1.67\%$を基準として化学予防に対する適格性を評価する。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 年齢 初経年齢 初産年齢 家族歴（乳癌を有する第一度近親者の女性のみ） 乳房生検を受けた回数 異型過形成の診断 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 複数の研究およびコホートで妥当性が確認されている。 オンラインで利用可能である。 化学予防の適格性評価に利用できる唯一のモデルである。 乳癌発生率のデータの変化に応じて定期的に更新される。 乳癌以外による死亡の競合リスクが考慮されている。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35歳未満の女性には使用できない。 欧州系民族以外（白人以外）の女性での使用には制限がある。 家族歴のデータが一部しか考慮されない： <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 女性の第一度近親者のみを対象としている（父方の家族歴は除外）。 近親者の乳癌診断時年齢が組み込まれていない。 乳癌以外の癌の家族歴が組み込まれていない。 マントル照射が組み込まれていない。 以下の対象では乳癌の発生リスクが過小評価される： <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BRCA1/2変異の保有者 乳癌の強い家族歴を有する個人 母方または父方の家系に卵巣癌の家族歴を有する個人 白人以外の女性 異型過形成を有する女性

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。
臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

[続く](#)

乳癌リスクおよびBRCA1/2変異保有リスクの予測モデルの比較

	説明	組み込まれた因子	利点	限界
Tyrer-Cuzick (IBIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Kingdom Thames Cancer Registry (2005～2009年)からの初期のデータに基づくコンピュータ化モデル。 • 家族歴データに基づきリスクの原因を示す¹ • 個別化された危険因子と家族歴の情報に基づき、個別化された乳癌リスク評価を行う。 • 乳癌の生涯リスク(v7以降は85歳まで)と10年リスクの両方の推定値が得られる。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 年齢 • 生殖歴(初経年齢、初産年齢、閉経年齢) • Body mass index (BMI) • 外来性ホルモンへの曝露量(HRTの期間) • 家族歴(包括的、利点を参照)。 • 乳房生検の既往と結果(異型過形成および非浸潤性小葉癌を含む) • 乳腺濃度 • 遺伝学的検査の結果(BRCA1/2のみ) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35歳未満の女性に使用できる。 • オンラインで利用可能である。 • BRCA1/2の病的変異のリスクを同時に算出できる。 • 家族歴と全体的な家族構成が包括的に組み込まれている。具体的には以下が含まれる: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 第一度、第二度および第三度(いとこ)近親者の罹患者 ▶ 卵巣癌の診断 ▶ 男性乳癌の診断 ▶ 未発症の近親者 • 乳癌発生率のデータに応じて定期的に更新される。 • 乳癌以外による死亡の競合リスクが考慮されている(オプションを選択する必要あり)。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • マントル照射によるリスクが考慮されていない。 • 以下の対象では乳癌の発生リスクが過大評価される: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 異型過形成²⁻⁴ ▶ LCIS⁵ ▶ 高濃度乳房

[続く](#)

¹Anderson H, Bladström A, Olsson H, et al. Familial breast and ovarian cancer: a swedish population-based register study. Am J of Epidemiol. 2000;152:1154-1163.
²Bouhey JC, Hartmann LC, Anderson SS, et al. Evaluation of the Tyrer-Cuzick (International Breast Cancer Intervention Study) model for breast cancer risk prediction in women with atypical hyperplasia. J Clin Oncol. 2010;28:3591-3596.
³Laitman Y, Simeonov M, Keinan-Boker L, et al. Breast cancer risk prediction accuracy in Jewish Israeli high-risk women using the BOADICEA and IBIS risk models. Genet Res. 2013;95:174-177.
⁴Lo LL, Milne RL, Liao Y, et al. Validation of the IBIS breast cancer risk evaluator for women with lobular carcinoma in-situ. Br J Cancer, 2018;119:36-39.
⁵Valero MG, Zabor EC, Park A, et al. The Tyrer-Cuzick model inaccurately predicts invasive breast cancer risk in women with LCIS. Ann Surg Oncol. 2020;27:736-740.

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリ2Aである。
 臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

乳癌リスクおよびBRCA1/2変異保有リスクの予測モデルの比較

	説明	組み込まれた因子	利点	限界
Claus ⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancer and Steroid Hormone Studyのデータに基づく、表ベースのリスク評価モデル。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 家族歴(第一度および第二度近親者の女性) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 近親者の乳癌診断時年齢を組み込むことができる。 乳癌の生涯リスクの算出および/または10年間隔でのリスクの算出が可能である。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 元のコホート以外での妥当性が確認されていない。 個人の乳癌危険因子(例えば、年齢、生殖歴、乳房生検の既往)が組み込まれていない。 10年乳癌リスクを算出するには追加の計算が必要であり、そのためルーチンの使用には適さない。 複雑な家族構成に表が対応していないため、すべての患者に使用できるわけではない。 近親者の男性乳癌、卵巣癌および乳癌以外の癌の家族歴が組み込まれていない。 マントル照射によるリスクが考慮されていない。 乳癌以外による死亡の競合リスクが考慮されていない。

[続く](#)

⁶Claus EB, Risch N, Thompson WD, et al. Autosomal dominant inheritance of early-onset breast cancer. Implications for risk prediction. Cancer 1994;73:643-651.

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。
臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

乳癌リスクおよびBRCA1/2変異保有リスクの予測モデルの比較

BRCA変異保有リスクモデル			
	組み込まれた因子	利点	限界
UPENNIIモデル⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 欧州および北米の861家系に基づくロジスティック回帰 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 登録なしでオンラインで利用可能である。 解析に男性乳癌と前立腺癌が含まれている。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 隣癌患者がいる家系では変異保有者の頻度が過大評価される。 発症した乳癌の受容体の状態を考慮することができない。 両方の家系について別々に情報を入力する必要があり、そのため手間がかかる。 家系全体を組み込むことができない。 未発症の個人が考慮されない。
BRCAPro ⁸	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 未発症の近親者を組み込んだ家族歴をSEERのデータと比較した結果に基づく、常染色体優性遺伝を想定したベイズ流モデルである。BRCA1/2の浸透率/保有率のデータが文献の系統的レビューに基づいている。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BRCA1/2遺伝子について個別および複合確率を予測する。 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 卵巣癌患者がいる家系では変異保有者の頻度が過小評価される。 前立腺癌患者がいる家系では変異保有者の頻度が過小評価される。 少数派の患者集団の統計について改善が必要である。 第三度近親者を組み込むことができない。 家系に関する情報が限られているか不明な場合にその情報が除外される。 年齢が不明な場合は推定しなければならない。 BRCA1/2以外の遺伝子が考慮されていない。 登録しなければ自由に利用できない。

⁷Lindor NM, Johnson KJ, Harvey H, et al. Predicting BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutation carriers: comparison of PENN II Model to previous study. Fam Cancer. 2010;9:495-502.

⁸Parmigiani G, Berry D, Aguilar O, et al. Determining carrier probabilities for breast cancer-susceptibility genes BRCA1 and BRCA-2. Am J Hum Genet.1998;62:145-158.

注意：特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリ-2Aである。

臨床試験：NCCNはすべてのがん患者にとって、最良の管理法は臨床試験にあると考えている。臨床試験への参加が特に推奨される。

NCCNのエビデンスとコンセンサスによるカテゴリー

カテゴリー1	高レベルのエビデンスに基づいており、その介入が適切であるというNCCNの統一したコンセンサスが存在する。
カテゴリー2A	比較的低レベルのエビデンスに基づいており、その介入が適切であるというNCCNの統一したコンセンサスが存在する。
カテゴリー2B	比較的低レベルのエビデンスに基づいており、その介入が適切であるというNCCNのコンセンサスが存在する。
カテゴリー3	いずれかのレベルのエビデンスに基づいてはいるが、その介入が適切であるかという点でNCCN内に大きな意見の不一致がある。

特に指定のない限り、すべての推奨はカテゴリー2Aである。

Discussion

本考察は、新たに更新されたアルゴリズムに対応させるべく更新中である。最終更新日：04/23/18

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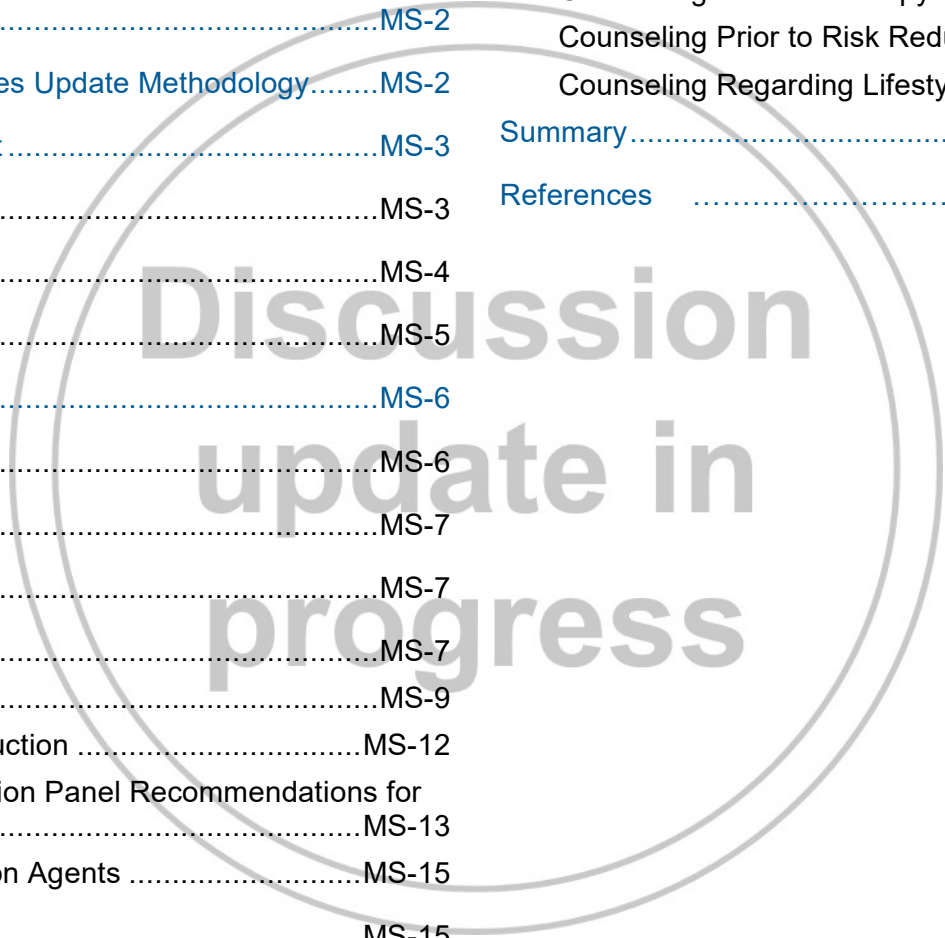
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Overview

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in American women, with an estimated 268,670 cases of invasive breast cancer and an estimated death toll of 41,400 women in 2018.¹ This highlights the need for effective breast cancer screening and risk-reduction strategies.

For a woman who does not have a personal history of breast cancer, the risk factors for the development of breast cancer can be grouped into categories, including familial/genetic factors; factors related to demographics; reproductive history; lifestyle factors; and other factors such as number of breast biopsies, especially those finding flat epithelial atypia (FEA), atypical hyperplasia (AH), or lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS), breast density, or thoracic irradiation before 30 years of age (eg, to treat Hodgkin's disease).

Estimating breast cancer risk for an individual is difficult, and most breast cancers are not attributable to risk factors other than female gender and increasing age.² In the United States, 266,120 women are diagnosed with invasive breast cancer annually, compared with approximately 2550 cases that occur annually in men.¹

The development of effective strategies for the reduction of breast cancer incidence has also been difficult, because few of the existing risk factors are modifiable and some of the potentially modifiable risk factors have social implications extending beyond concerns for breast cancer (eg, age at first live birth). Nevertheless, effective breast cancer risk-reduction strategies such as use of risk-reduction agents and risk-reduction surgery have been identified. Women and their physicians who are considering interventions to reduce risk for breast cancer must balance the demonstrated benefits with the potential morbidities of the interventions. Surgical risk-reduction strategies (eg, risk-reduction bilateral mastectomy)

may have psychosocial and/or physical consequences for the woman, and risk-reduction agents, used for non-surgical risk reduction, are associated with certain adverse effects.³⁻⁵ To assist women who are at increased risk of developing breast cancer and their physicians in the application of individualized strategies to reduce breast cancer risk, NCCN has developed these guidelines for breast cancer risk reduction.

Literature Search Criteria and Guidelines Update Methodology

Before the update of this version of the NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Risk Reduction, an electronic search of the PubMed database was performed to obtain key literature using the following search terms: Breast Cancer Risk Assessment; Breast Cancer Risk Reduction; and Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Therapies. The search results were narrowed by selecting studies in humans published in English. An updated search was carried out before the publication of this document. The PubMed database was chosen as it remains the most widely used resource for medical literature and indexes peer-reviewed biomedical literature.

Search results were confined to the following article types: Clinical Trial, Phase II; Clinical Trial, Phase III; Clinical Trial, Phase IV; Guideline; Randomized Controlled Trial; Meta-Analysis; Systematic Reviews; and Validation Studies.

The potential relevance of the PubMed search citations over the past year was examined. The data from key PubMed articles as well as articles from additional sources deemed as relevant to these Guidelines and/or discussed by the panel have been included in this version of the Discussion section (eg, e-publications ahead of print, meeting abstracts).

Any recommendations for which high-level evidence is lacking are based on the panel's review of lower-level evidence and expert opinion.

The complete details of the development and update of the NCCN Guidelines are available on the [NCCN webpage](#).

Elements of Risk and Risk Assessment

Estimation of breast cancer risk for a woman who does not have a personal history of invasive breast cancer or ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) begins with an initial assessment of familial/genetic factors associated with increased breast cancer risk for the purpose of determining whether more extensive genetic risk assessment and counseling should be undertaken.

Familial/Genetic Risk Factors

The first step in this primary assessment is a broad and flexible evaluation of the personal and family history of the individual, primarily with respect to breast and/or ovarian cancer/fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer.^{6,7}

Genetic predispositions conferring a high risk for breast cancer include hereditary breast and ovarian cancer (*BRCA1/2*),^{8,9} Li-Fraumeni syndrome (*TP53*),¹⁰ Peutz-Jeghers syndrome (*STK11*),¹¹ Cowden syndrome (*PTEN*),^{12,13} and hereditary diffuse gastric cancer (*CDH1*).¹⁴

If the individual has a known genetic predisposition for breast cancer such as mutations in *BRCA1/2*, *TP53*, *PTEN*, or other genes associated with breast cancer risk, that individual must be counseled about risk reduction options.

If the familial/genetic factors are not known, a thorough evaluation must be performed. The magnitude of the risk increases with the number of affected relatives in the family, the closeness of the relationship, and the

age at which the affected relative was diagnosed.¹⁵⁻¹⁷ The younger the age at diagnosis of the first- or second-degree relative, the more likely it is that a genetic component is present. The maternal *and* paternal sides of the family should be considered independently for familial patterns of cancer (see [NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial Risk Assessment: Breast and Ovarian](#)).

Hereditary cancers are often characterized by gene mutations associated with a high probability of cancer development (ie, a high penetrance genotype), vertical transmission through either mother or father, and an association with other types of tumors.^{18,19} They often have an early age of onset and exhibit an autosomal-dominant inheritance pattern (ie, they occur when the individual has a germline mutation in only one copy of a gene).

Familial cancers share some but not all features of hereditary cancers. For example, although familial breast cancers occur in a given family more frequently than in the general population, they generally do not exhibit the inheritance patterns or age of onset consistent with hereditary cancers. Familial cancers may be associated with chance clustering of sporadic cancer cases within families, genetic variation in lower penetrance genes, a shared environment, or combinations of these factors.²⁰⁻²³

If an individual or a close family member of that individual meets one or more of the criteria listed in the NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Risk Reduction under "Familial Risk Assessment" (and also [NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast and Ovarian](#)), that individual may be at increased risk for familial/hereditary breast cancer, and referral for formal genetic assessment/counseling is recommended.

A cancer genetics professional should be involved in determining whether the individual has a lifetime risk for breast cancer greater than 20% based

on models dependent on family history (eg, Claus,²⁴ Tyrer-Cuzick,²⁵ others²⁶⁻²⁸). The Claus tables may be useful in providing breast cancer risk estimates for white women with no known cancer-associated gene mutation but who have one or two first- or second-degree female relatives with breast cancer²⁴ and ovarian cancer.²⁹

BRCAPRO³⁰ and Breast and Ovarian Analysis of Disease Incidence and Carrier Estimation Algorithm (BOADICEA)³¹ are more commonly used to estimate the risk of a *BRCA* mutation. Strong genetic association between breast and ovarian cancer has been demonstrated in some families by linkage analyses. Based on a risk assessment using one or more of these models, women with a *BRCA1/2*, *TP53*, or *PTEN* gene mutation, or a pedigree strongly suggestive of genetic predisposition to breast cancer, may be identified. The [NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast and Ovarian](#) describe management strategies for women with a known or suspected *BRCA1/2*, *TP53*, or *PTEN* mutation or a pedigree strongly suggestive of genetic predisposition to breast cancer.

Other Elements of Risk

For women not considered to be at risk for familial/hereditary breast cancer, an evaluation of other elements of risk that contribute to increased breast cancer risk is recommended. These include demographic factors such as female gender, age, and ethnicity/race. There is an increased incidence of *BRCA1/2* mutation reported in women of Ashkenazi Jewish descent.³²

Reproductive history is another factor to consider. Risk factors linked to reproductive history include nulliparity,³³⁻³⁵ prolonged interval between menarche and age at first live birth (eg, early menarche or late age at first live birth),³³⁻³⁵ onset of menarche at a younger age, or onset of menopause at older age.^{36,37}

Body mass index (BMI) is an independent risk factor for breast cancer, especially in Caucasian women. Several studies have established the association between high BMI and adult weight gain and increased risk for breast cancer in postmenopausal women.³⁸⁻⁴⁸ This increase in risk has been attributed to increase in circulating endogenous estrogen levels from fat tissue.⁴⁴⁻⁴⁶ In addition, the association between BMI and risk for postmenopausal breast cancer is stronger for hormone-positive tumors.⁴⁰⁻⁴³ A meta-analysis of more than 1000 epidemiologic studies looked at cancer risk with excess body fat. Women with higher BMI experienced an increased risk of postmenopausal breast cancer (relative risk [RR] 1.1 per 5 BMI units, 95% CI 1.1–1.2).⁴⁹ Lifestyle factors such as current or prior hormone therapy (HT),⁵⁰⁻⁵⁴ alcohol consumption,^{48,55-62} and, to a lesser extent, smoking^{63,64} also contribute to the risk of developing breast cancer.

The risk for breast cancer associated with FEA is similar to that of benign proliferative disease without atypia. The data are not as strong with respect to the degree of risk or the benefits of risk-reduction therapy in this population. Proliferative lesions with atypia include atypical ductal hyperplasia (ADH), atypical lobular hyperplasia (ALH), and LCIS. These lesions are associated with an increased risk of developing breast cancer.⁶⁵⁻⁶⁷ Women with LCIS are at substantially increased risk for breast cancer. In a population-based study of 19,462 women diagnosed with LCIS from the SEER database between 1983 and 2014 in whom the cumulative incidences of subsequent breast malignancy were 11.3% (95% CI, 10.7–11.9%) and 19.8% (95% CI, 18.8–20.9%) at 10 and 20 years, respectively.⁶⁸ At a median follow-up of 8.1 years (range 0–30.9 years), primary breast cancer was diagnosed in 9.4% of the cohort.⁶⁸ Other factors to consider are number of breast biopsies, done with the intent to diagnose cancer.

Individuals receiving early thoracic irradiation encompassing the chest/breast area before age 30 (eg, to treat Hodgkin's disease) is a significant risk factor for the development of breast cancer. In the Late Effects Study Group trial, the overall risk for breast cancer associated with thoracic irradiation at a young age was found to be 56.7-fold (55.5-fold for female patients) greater than the risk for breast cancer in the general population.⁶⁹ In that study, the RR according to follow-up interval was: 0 at 5 to 9 years; 71.3 at 10 to 14 years; 90.8 at 15 to 19 years; 50.9 at 20 to 24 years; 41.2 at 25 to 29 years; and 24.5 at >29 years.⁶⁹ Results from a case-control study of women treated at a young age (≤30 years) for Hodgkin lymphoma with thoracic radiation indicated that the estimated, cumulative, absolute risk for breast cancer at 55 years of age was 29.0% (95% CI, 20.2%–40.1%) for a woman treated at 25 years of age with 40 Gy of radiation and no alkylating agents.⁷⁰ Women with a history of treatment with thoracic radiation for Hodgkin's disease are at high risk for breast cancer on the basis of radiation exposure alone.⁶⁹⁻⁷⁴

Change in breast density has been suggested as a risk factor for breast cancer.⁷⁵ Dense breast tissue as measured by mammography is increasingly recognized as an important risk factor for breast cancer.⁷⁶⁻⁸⁰ For example, a report of a large case-cohort study of women 35 years and older with no history of breast cancer who underwent mammographic screening, first at baseline and then at an average of 6 years later, suggested that longitudinal changes in breast density are associated with changes in breast cancer risk.⁷⁹

There are many elements that may reduce the risk of cancer. Breast feeding has been shown to have a protective effect in many studies.⁸¹⁻⁸⁵ An analysis of 47 epidemiologic studies (50,302 women with invasive breast cancer and 96,973 controls) estimated that for every 12 months of breastfeeding, RR for breast cancer decreases by 4.3%.⁸²

Exercise has also been shown to reduce the risk of breast cancer, especially in post-menopausal women.⁸⁶⁻⁹⁰ A most recent review of epidemiologic studies estimated that risk of breast cancer was reduced among women who were most physically active compared with those who were least active (RR, 0.88; 95% CI, 0.85–0.90).⁹⁰

Oophorectomy before age 45 years and risk-reduction therapy have a protective effect. A large prospective study examined associations of hysterectomy with bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (BSO) and simple hysterectomy in 66,802 postmenopausal women from the Cancer Prevention Study-II Nutrition Cohort. The results showed that hysterectomy with BSO performed at any age (n = 1892), compared with no hysterectomy (n = 5586), is associated with a 10% reduction in all cancers (RR, 0.90; 95% CI, 0.85–0.96).⁹¹

Cancer Risk Assessment

The modified Gail model is a computer-based, multivariate, logistic regression model that uses age, race, age at menarche, age at first live birth or nulliparity, number of first-degree relatives with breast cancer, number of previous breast biopsies, and histology of the breast biopsies to produce actuarial estimates of future breast cancer risk.⁹²⁻⁹⁵ The criteria used to determine risk by the modified Gail model are described in [Table 1](#).

The Gail model was initially modified by the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP) investigators. It has subsequently been updated using combined data from the Women's Contraceptive and Reproductive Experiences (CARE) study and the SEER database, as well as causes of death from the National Center for Health Statistics, to provide a more accurate determination of risk for African American women.⁹⁶ The model was also updated using data from the Asian

American Breast Cancer Study (AABCS) and the SEER database to provide a more accurate risk assessment for Asian and Pacific Islander women in the United States.⁹⁷ Application of the Gail model to recent immigrants from Japan or China may overestimate the risk for breast cancer.⁹⁷ The most recent version of the Gail model is available on the National Cancer Institute website (<http://www.cancer.gov/bcrisktool/Default.aspx>).

Women ≥35 years of age should have their risk for breast cancer estimated according to the modified Gail model.^{92,93,98} The Gail model is not an appropriate breast cancer risk assessment tool for women with a *BRCA1/2*, *TP53*, or *PTEN* mutation; a strong family history of breast cancer; women who received thoracic radiation to treat Hodgkin's disease (eg, mantle radiation); or those with LCIS.⁹⁹ While the Gail model can overestimate the risk for some women, in some others, notably women with AH, it can underestimate their risk making them appear to be ineligible for risk-reduction therapy. The Gail model does not apply to women with FEA.

The risk threshold required to consider the use of risk-reduction strategies must depend on an evaluation of the efficacy, morbidity, and expense of the proposed intervention. As a reasonable discriminating threshold, the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel has adopted the 1.7% or greater 5-year actuarial breast cancer risk as defined by the modified Gail model, which was used to identify women eligible for the NSABP Breast Cancer Prevention Trial (BCPT)^{100,101} and the Study of Tamoxifen and Raloxifene (STAR) trial.^{102,103}

The Tyrer-Cuzick model, in addition to considering a woman's risk of a *BRCA* mutation, also estimates her risk of developing breast cancer using not only family history but also epidemiologic variables including a personal history of AH or LCIS. Women with AH or a history of LCIS are

also at substantially increased risk for invasive breast cancer in both the affected and contralateral breast.^{65-67,104,105}

In an analysis of the Mayo Clinic cohort of more than 300 women with AH, the Gail model underestimated breast cancer risk for women with AH,⁹⁹ whereas the Tyrer-Cuzick model overestimated this risk.¹⁰⁶ Breast density is not included in any of the commonly used risk assessment models/tools.²⁷

Women with a life expectancy ≥10 years and no diagnosis/history of breast cancer who are considered to be at increased risk for breast cancer based on any of the above-mentioned assessments, should receive counseling and should undergo breast screening as detailed in the [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis](#). The counseling should be tailored to the individual, to decrease breast cancer risk (eg, risk-reduction surgery in *BRCA1/2* mutation carriers; therapy with risk-reduction agents in those without a contraindication to these agents) (see section below on *Components of Risk-Reduction Counseling*).

If life expectancy is <10 years, there is probably minimal if any benefit to risk-reduction therapy or screening (see [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis](#) and [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer](#)).

Women with a diagnosis of DCIS should be managed according to recommendations outlined in the [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer](#).

Risk-Reduction Interventions

Lifestyle Modifications

Evidence from immigration studies indicates that in addition to family history and genetics, environmental factors play a significant role. As discussed under *Other Elements of Risk*, life style factors such as lack of

exercise and alcohol consumption are linked with risk of developing breast cancer and are some of the modifiable components.

Patients should be encouraged to maintain a healthy lifestyle and to remain up-to-date with recommendations for screening and surveillance (see *Counseling Regarding Lifestyle Modifications*).

Risk-Reduction Surgery

Risk-reducing mastectomy (RRM) should generally be considered only in women with a genetic mutation conferring a high-risk for breast cancer.

Data have supported a protective effect of bilateral oophorectomy, although now there are conflicting reports that challenge that observation.¹⁰⁷ The NCCN Guidelines for [Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast and Ovarian](#) discuss the recommendations for risk-reduction surgery (mastectomy and bilateral oophorectomy) in detail.

Risk-Reduction Agents

Risk-reduction agents (ie, tamoxifen, raloxifene, anastrozole, exemestane) are recommended for women ≥ 35 years of age only, as the utility of these agents in women younger than 35 years is unknown. Tamoxifen is the only agent indicated for premenopausal women, whereas all 4 agents may be used in postmenopausal women.

Tamoxifen for Risk Reduction

The benefits of tamoxifen, a selective estrogen receptor (ER) modulator (SERM), in the treatment of breast cancer in the adjuvant and metastatic settings are well documented. Retrospective analysis of randomized, controlled, clinical trials comparing tamoxifen to no tamoxifen in the adjuvant treatment of women with breast cancer has shown a reduction in the incidence of contralateral second primary breast cancer.¹⁰⁸⁻¹¹¹ The meta analyses by Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group

confirmed that the risk for contralateral primary breast cancer is substantially reduced (ie, a statistically significant annual recurrence rate ratio = 0.59) by 5 years of tamoxifen therapy in women with first breast cancers that are ER-positive or have an unknown ER status.¹¹²

NSABP Breast Cancer Prevention Trial

The effectiveness of tamoxifen in the setting of breast cancer treatment gave rise to the NSABP BCPT study, also known as the P-1 study. It was a randomized clinical trial of healthy women aged 60 years or older, aged 35 to 59 years with a 1.7% or greater cumulative 5-year risk for developing breast cancer, or with a history of LCIS.¹⁰⁰ Both premenopausal and postmenopausal women were enrolled in the trial and randomized in a double-blinded fashion to treatment with tamoxifen, 20 mg daily for 5 years, or placebo. Invasive breast cancer incidence was the primary study endpoint; high-priority secondary endpoints included the occurrence of thromboembolic disease, cardiovascular disease, bone fracture, endometrial cancer, noninvasive breast cancer, and breast cancer mortality. The trial was unblinded and initial findings were reported in 1998. A subsequent report on this trial has been published, which takes into account 7 years of follow-up data subsequent to the point where the study was unblinded. However, nearly one-third of the placebo participants began taking a SERM when the study was unblinded, which decreased the proportion of women in the placebo group relative to the tamoxifen group, potentially confounding the long-term results.¹⁰¹ The results of the P-1 study showed that treatment with tamoxifen decreased the short-term risk for breast cancer by 49% in healthy women aged 35 years or older who had an increased risk for the disease.¹⁰⁰ Risk-reduction benefits were demonstrated across all age groups, in pre-menopausal and post-menopausal women. The difference in average annual rates for invasive breast cancer was 3.30 cases per 1000 women (ie, 6.76 cases per 1000 women in the placebo group and 3.43 cases per 1000 women in the group

taking tamoxifen). The absolute risk reduction was 21.4 cases per 1000 women over 5 years.¹⁰⁰ In terms of numbers needed to treat, this corresponds to treatment of 47 women with tamoxifen to prevent 1 case of invasive breast cancer. Updated results indicate that breast cancer risk was reduced by 43% in this population after 7 years of follow-up.¹⁰¹ The reduction in invasive breast cancer risk in participants with AH was particularly striking (RR, 0.14; 95% CI, 0.03–0.47) in the initial study analysis, and an RR of 0.25 (95% CI, 0.10–0.52) was found after 7 years of follow-up. An additional benefit of tamoxifen was a decrease in bone fractures (RR, 0.81; 95% CI, 0.63–1.05). However, as was anticipated from the experience in studies of women taking tamoxifen following a breast cancer diagnosis, major toxicities included hot flashes, invasive endometrial cancer in postmenopausal women, and cataracts. A significant increase in the incidence of pulmonary embolism was also observed in women ≥50 years of age taking tamoxifen. The average annual rates of pulmonary embolism per 1000 women were 1.00 versus 0.31 (RR, 3.19; 95% CI, 1.12–11.15).¹⁰⁰

No differences were observed in overall rates of mortality by treatment group with a follow-up period of up to 7 years. The initial study analysis revealed that average annual mortality from all causes in the tamoxifen group was 2.17 per 1000 women compared with 2.71 per 1000 women treated with placebo, for an RR of 0.81 (95% CI, 0.56–1.16).¹⁰⁰ Annual mortality after 7 years of follow-up was 2.80 per 1,000 women compared with 3.08 per 1000 women in the tamoxifen and placebo groups, respectively, for an RR of 1.10 (95% CI, 0.85–1.43).¹⁰¹

An evaluation of the subset of patients with a *BRCA1/2* mutation in the P-1 study revealed that breast cancer risk was reduced by 62% in study patients with a *BRCA2* mutation receiving tamoxifen relative to placebo (RR, 0.38; 95% CI, 0.06–1.56). However, tamoxifen use was not

associated with a reduction in breast cancer risk in patients with a *BRCA1* mutation.¹¹³ These findings may be related to the greater likelihood of development of ER-positive tumors in *BRCA2* mutation carriers relative to *BRCA1* mutation carriers. However, this analysis was limited by the very small number of patients with a *BRCA1/2* mutation. Currently, there are no prospective studies evaluating the risk-reductive effect of tamoxifen in *BRCA* mutation carriers.

Based on the P-1 study results, in October 1998 the FDA approved tamoxifen for breast cancer risk reduction for women at increased risk for breast cancer.

European Studies of Tamoxifen

Three European studies comparing tamoxifen with placebo for breast cancer risk reduction have been reported. The Royal Marsden Hospital study was a pilot trial of tamoxifen versus placebo in women ages 30 to 70 years who were at increased breast cancer risk based largely on their family history.^{114,115} Women in the trial were allowed to continue or to initiate postmenopausal HT. With 2471 participants available for interim analysis, no difference in the frequency of breast cancer was observed between the 2 study groups. Moreover, the toxicity experienced by the 2 groups did not show statistically significant differences.¹¹⁵ An analysis of updated findings from the Royal Marsden Hospital study demonstrated a nonsignificant breast cancer risk-reduction benefit with tamoxifen use (ie, 62 cases of breast cancer in 1238 women receiving tamoxifen vs. 75 cases of breast cancer in 1233 women in the placebo arm).¹¹⁴

An analysis of blinded results from the Royal Marsden Hospital study at 20-year follow-up showed no difference in breast cancer incidence between the groups randomly assigned to tamoxifen or placebo (HR, 0.78; 95% CI, 0.58–1.04; *P* = .10).¹¹⁶ However, the incidence of ER-positive breast cancer was significantly lower in the tamoxifen arm vs. placebo arm

of the trial (HR, 0.61; 95% CI, 0.43–0.86; $P = .005$). Importantly, the difference between the 2 arms became significant only in the posttreatment period (ie, after 8 years of treatment).

The Italian Tamoxifen Prevention Study randomized 5408 women ages 35 to 70 years without breast cancer, who had undergone a previous hysterectomy, to receive tamoxifen or placebo for 5 years.¹¹⁷ Women in the trial were allowed to receive HT. No significant difference in breast cancer occurrence in the overall study population was identified at median follow-up periods of 46, 81.2, and 109.2 months.^{117–119} Thromboembolic events, predominantly superficial thrombophlebitis, were increased in women treated with tamoxifen. A subset of women in the Italian Tamoxifen Prevention Study who had used HT and were classified as at increased breast cancer risk based on reproductive and hormonal characteristics were found to have a significantly reduced risk for breast cancer with tamoxifen therapy.^{119,120} However, only approximately 13% of the patients in the trial were at high risk for breast cancer.

It is unclear why no overall breast cancer risk reduction was observed in the Italian Tamoxifen Prevention Study. Possible reasons include concurrent use of HT, and different study populations (ie, populations at lower risk for breast cancer).¹²¹

The first International Breast Cancer Intervention Study (IBIS-I) randomized 7152 women aged 35 to 70 years at increased risk for breast cancer to receive either tamoxifen or placebo for 5 years.¹²² Tamoxifen provided a breast cancer (invasive breast cancer or DCIS) risk reduction of 32% (95% CI, 8–50; $P = .013$). Thromboembolic events increased with tamoxifen (OR, 2.5; 95% CI, 1.5–4.4; $P = .001$), and endometrial cancer showed a nonsignificant increase ($P = .20$). An excess of deaths from all causes was seen in the tamoxifen-treated women ($P = .028$).

After a median follow-up of 8 years a significant reduction for all types of invasive breast cancer was reported (RR, 0.73 [95% CI, 0.58–0.91; $P = .004$]) with tamoxifen.¹²³ Although no difference in the risk for ER-negative–invasive tumors was observed between the 2 groups, those in the tamoxifen arm were found to have a 34% lower risk for ER-positive invasive breast cancer.¹²³ Slightly higher risk reduction with tamoxifen was observed for premenopausal patients. Importantly, the increased risk for venous thromboembolism (VTE) observed with tamoxifen during the treatment period was no longer significant in the posttreatment period. Gynecologic and vasomotor side effects associated with active tamoxifen treatment were not observed during the posttreatment follow-up.

The updated analysis after a median follow-up of 16 years confirmed that the preventive effect of tamoxifen continues with a significant reduction in the first 10 years (HR, 0.72 [95% CI, 0.59–0.88; $P = .001$]), and a slightly greater reduction in subsequent years (HR, 0.69, 0.53–0.91; $P = .009$).¹²⁴ A similar pattern was observed after the long-term follow-up for reduction in occurrence of invasive ER-positive breast cancer; a significant reduction for tamoxifen was also recorded for DCIS, but only in the first 10 years of follow-up. Interestingly, more ER-negative breast cancers were reported in the tamoxifen group after 10 years of follow-up than in the placebo group (HR, 2.45 [0.77–7.82]; $P = .13$).¹²⁴

The use of tamoxifen as a breast cancer risk-reduction agent has been evaluated in the STAR trial^{102,103} (see *The STAR Trial* below).

Raloxifene for Risk Reduction

Raloxifene is a second-generation SERM that is chemically different from tamoxifen and appears to have similar anti-estrogenic effects with considerably less endometrial stimulation. The efficacy of raloxifene as a breast cancer risk-reduction agent has been evaluated in several clinical studies. In 2007, the FDA expanded the indications for raloxifene to

include reduction in risk for invasive breast cancer in postmenopausal women with osteoporosis, and reduction in risk for invasive breast cancer in postmenopausal women at high risk for invasive breast cancer.

The MORE Trial

The Multiple Outcomes of Raloxifene Evaluation (MORE) trial was designed to determine whether 3 years of raloxifene treatment reduced the risk of fracture in postmenopausal women with osteoporosis.¹²⁵ A total of 7705 postmenopausal women 31 to 80 years of age were randomized to receive placebo, 60 mg/d of raloxifene, or 120 mg/d of raloxifene for 3 years. At study entry, participants were required to have osteoporosis (defined as a bone density at least 2.5 standard deviations below the mean for young women) or a history of osteoporotic fracture. The study showed a reduction in the vertebral fracture risk and an increase in bone mineral density (BMD) in the femoral neck and spine for the women treated with raloxifene, compared with those who received placebo.

After a median follow-up of 40 months in the MORE trial, breast cancer was reported in 40 patients: 27 cases in 2576 women receiving placebo and 13 cases in 5129 women receiving raloxifene.¹²⁶ The RR of developing invasive breast cancer on raloxifene, compared with placebo, was 0.24 (95% CI, 0.13–0.44). Raloxifene markedly decreased the risk for ER-positive cancers (RR, 0.10; 95% CI, 0.04–0.24) but did not appear to influence the risk of developing an ER-negative cancer (RR, 0.88; 95% CI, 0.26–3.0). Although breast cancer incidence was a secondary endpoint in the MORE trial, it is important to note that breast cancer risk was not a prospectively determined characteristic for the women enrolled and stratified into treatment arms in this study.¹²¹ Furthermore, the patients enrolled in the MORE trial were, on average, at lower risk for breast cancer and older than the patients enrolled in the P-1 study.

Side effects associated with the raloxifene use included hot flashes, influenza-like syndromes, endometrial cavity fluid, peripheral edema, and leg cramps. In addition, there was an increased incidence of deep venous thromboses (DVT) (0.7% for women receiving 60 mg/d raloxifene vs. 0.2% for placebo) and pulmonary emboli (0.3% for women receiving 120 mg/d raloxifene vs. 0.1% for placebo) associated with raloxifene treatment. However, there was no increase in the risk for endometrial cancer associated with raloxifene.

The CORE Trial

The early findings related to breast cancer risk in the MORE trial led to the continuation of this trial under the name Continuing Outcomes Relevant to Evista (CORE) trial. Because breast cancer incidence was a secondary endpoint in the MORE trial, the CORE trial was designed to assess the effect of 4 additional years of raloxifene on the incidence of invasive breast cancer in postmenopausal women with osteoporosis. A secondary endpoint was the incidence of invasive ER-positive breast cancer. Data from the CORE trial were reported in 2004.¹²⁷

During the CORE trial, the 4-year incidence of invasive breast cancer was reduced by 59% (HR, 0.41; 95% CI, 0.24–0.71) in the raloxifene group compared with the placebo group. Raloxifene, compared to placebo, reduced the incidence of invasive ER-positive breast cancer by 66% (HR, 0.34; 95% CI, 0.18–0.66) but had no effect on invasive ER-negative breast cancers.¹²⁷ Over the 8 years of both trials (MORE + CORE), the incidence of invasive breast cancer was reduced by 66% (HR, 0.34; 95% CI, 0.22–0.50) in the raloxifene group compared with the placebo group. Compared to placebo, 8 years of raloxifene reduced the incidence of invasive ER-positive breast cancer by 76% (HR, 0.24; 95% CI, 0.15–0.40). Interestingly, the incidence of noninvasive breast cancer was not

significantly different for patients in the raloxifene and placebo arms (HR, 1.78; 95% CI, 0.37–8.61).¹²⁷

The adverse events in the CORE trial were similar to those seen in the MORE trial. There was a nonsignificant increase in the risk for thromboembolism (RR, 2.17; 95% CI, 0.83–5.70) in the raloxifene group of the CORE trial compared to the placebo group. There was no statistically significant difference in endometrial events (bleeding, hyperplasia, and cancer) between the raloxifene and placebo groups during the 4 years of the CORE trial or the 8 years of the MORE and CORE trials. During the 8 years of the MORE and CORE trials, raloxifene increased the risk for hot flashes and leg cramps compared with placebo; these risks were observed during the MORE trial but not during the additional 4 years of therapy in the CORE trial. While it is possible that hot flashes and leg cramps are early events that do not persist with continued therapy, it is also possible that an increased risk for these adverse events was not observed in the CORE trial as a result of selection bias (ie, women who experienced these symptoms in the MORE trial may have chosen not to continue in the CORE trial).

The results from the CORE trial are not entirely straightforward because of the complex design of the trial. Of the 7705 patients randomized in the MORE trial, only 4011 chose to continue, blinded to therapy, in the CORE trial; this drop-off likely introduces bias in favor of the treatment group. In the CORE trial, the researchers did not randomize the patients again (1286 in the placebo arm, 2725 in the raloxifene arm), maintaining the double blinding of the original trial.

The RUTH Trial

In the Raloxifene Use for The Heart (RUTH) trial, postmenopausal women with an increased risk for coronary heart disease were randomly assigned to raloxifene or placebo arms.^{128,129} Invasive breast cancer incidence was

another primary endpoint of the trial, although only approximately 40% of the study participants had an increased risk for breast cancer according to the Gail model. Median exposure to study drug was 5.1 years and median duration of follow-up was 5.6 years.¹²⁹ Raloxifene did not reduce risk of cardiovascular events, but there was a 44% decrease in the incidence of invasive breast cancer in the raloxifene arm (HR, 0.56; 95% CI, 0.38–0.83], with a 55% lower incidence of ER-positive breast cancer (HR, 0.45; 95% CI, 0.28–0.72). No reduction in the risk for noninvasive breast cancer was found for patients receiving raloxifene, in agreement with the initial results of the STAR trial, although only 7% of breast cancers in the RUTH trial were noninvasive.

The STAR Trial

Despite issues of trial design, the results from the CORE trial and the previous MORE study provided support for concluding that raloxifene may be an effective breast cancer risk-reduction agent. However, neither of these studies was designed to directly evaluate the efficacy of raloxifene versus tamoxifen in this regard. This issue was addressed in the NSABP STAR trial (P-2), which was initiated in 1999; initial results became available in 2006.¹⁰²

In the STAR trial, 19,747 postmenopausal women 35 years or older at increased risk for invasive breast cancer as determined by the modified Gail model or with a personal history of LCIS were enrolled into one of two treatment arms (no placebo arm). The primary study endpoint was invasive breast cancer; secondary endpoints included quality of life, and incidences of noninvasive breast cancer, DVT, pulmonary embolism, endometrial cancer, stroke, cataracts, and death. At an average follow-up of approximately 4 years, no statistically significant differences between patients receiving 20 mg/d of tamoxifen or 60 mg/d of raloxifene were observed with respect to invasive breast cancer risk reduction (RR, 1.02;

95% CI, 0.82–1.28). Because there was no placebo arm, it was not possible to determine a raloxifene-versus-placebo RR for invasive breast cancer; however, tamoxifen was shown in the P-1 study to reduce breast cancer risk by nearly 50%. In addition, raloxifene was shown to be as effective as tamoxifen in reducing the risk for invasive cancer in the subset of patients with a history of LCIS or AH. However, raloxifene was not as effective as tamoxifen in reducing the risk for noninvasive breast cancer, although the observed difference was not statistically significant (RR, 1.40; 95% CI, 0.98–2.00).¹⁰⁰

At a median follow-up of nearly 8 years (81 months) involving 19,490 women, raloxifene was shown to be about 24% less effective than tamoxifen in reducing the risk for invasive breast cancer (RR, 1.24; 95% CI, 1.05–1.47), suggesting that tamoxifen has greater long-term benefit with respect to lowering invasive breast cancer risk.¹⁰³ Raloxifene remained as effective as tamoxifen in reducing the risk for invasive cancer in women with LCIS (RR, 1.13; 95% CI, 0.76–1.69), but was less effective than tamoxifen for those with a history of AH (RR, 1.48; 95% CI, 1.06–2.09). Interestingly, at long-term follow-up, the risk for noninvasive cancer in the raloxifene arm grew closer to that observed for the group receiving tamoxifen (RR, 1.22; 95% CI, 0.95–1.50). No significant differences in mortality were observed between the 2 groups. In the initial analysis of the STAR trial data, invasive endometrial cancer occurred less frequently in the group receiving raloxifene compared with the tamoxifen group, although the difference did not reach statistical significance. It is important to note, however, that the incidence of endometrial hyperplasia and hysterectomy were significantly lower in the raloxifene group compared to the tamoxifen group. However, at long-term follow-up, the risk for endometrial cancer was significantly lower in the raloxifene arm (RR, 0.55; 95% CI, 0.36–0.83).

The lower incidences of thromboembolic events (RR, 0.75; 95% CI, 0.60–0.93) and cataract development (RR, 0.80; 95% CI, 0.72–0.89) observed in the raloxifene group compared to the tamoxifen group when the STAR trial results were initially analyzed were maintained at long-term follow-up.¹⁰³ The incidences of stroke, ischemic heart disease, and bone fracture were similar in the two groups. In the initial report, overall quality of life was reported to be similar for patients in both groups, although patients receiving tamoxifen reported better sexual function.¹³⁰

Aromatase Inhibitors for Risk Reduction

A number of clinical trials have tested the use of aromatase inhibitors (AIs) in the adjuvant therapy of postmenopausal women with invasive breast cancer to reduce risk of recurrence. The first of these studies, the ATAC trial, randomized postmenopausal women with invasive breast cancer to anastrozole versus tamoxifen versus anastrozole plus tamoxifen in a double-blinded fashion.¹³¹ The occurrence of contralateral second primary breast cancers was a study endpoint. At 47 months median follow-up, a nonsignificant reduction in contralateral breast cancers was observed in women treated with anastrozole alone compared with tamoxifen (OR, 0.62; 95% CI, 0.38–1.02; $P = .062$), and a significant reduction in contralateral breast cancers was seen in the subset of women with hormone receptor-positive first cancers (OR, 0.56; 95% CI, 0.32–0.98; $P = .04$).¹³² Similar reductions in the risk for contralateral breast cancer have been observed with sequential tamoxifen followed by exemestane compared with tamoxifen alone and with sequential tamoxifen followed by letrozole compared with tamoxifen followed by placebo.^{133,134}

In the Breast International Group (BIG) 1-98 trial postmenopausal women with early-stage breast cancer were randomized to receive 5 years of treatment with one of the following therapeutic regimens: letrozole; sequential letrozole followed by tamoxifen; tamoxifen; or sequential

tamoxifen followed by letrozole. Risk for breast cancer recurrence was lower in women in the letrozole arm relative to the tamoxifen arm.¹³⁵

The results of the MAP.3 trial show promising use of exemestane in the breast cancer prevention setting. MAP.3 is a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter, multinational trial in which 4560 women were randomly assigned to either exemestane (2285 patients) or placebo (2275 patients).⁴ The study authors reported that about 5% of patients in each group had discontinued the protocol treatment. The major reasons for early discontinuation of the protocol treatments were toxic effects (15.4% in the exemestane group vs. 10.8% in the placebo group, $P < .001$) and patient refusal (6.9% vs. 6.0%, $P = .22$). After a median follow-up of 3 years, compared to the placebo exemestane was found to reduce the relative incidence of invasive breast cancers by 65%, from 0.55% to 0.19% (HR, 0.35 with exemestane; 95% CI, 0.18–0.70).⁴

Similarly, the IBIS-II trial evaluated the role of anastrozole for breast cancer prevention. The IBIS-II study included 3864 postmenopausal women at high risk for breast cancer, defined by family history of breast cancer or prior diagnosis of DCIS, LCIS, or ADH.⁵ (HR, 0.47; 95% CI, 0.32–0.68). The advantage of anastrozole was greater prevention of high-grade tumors (HR, 0.35; 95% CI, 0.16–0.74) compared with intermediate- or low-grade tumors. The follow-up period in this trial was longer than that for the MAP.3 trial. The cumulative incidence after 7 years was predicted to rise 2.8% in the anastrozole group compared with 5.6% in the placebo group.⁵

There are retrospective data that AIs can reduce the risk of contralateral breast cancer in *BRCA-1/2* patients with ER-positive breast cancer who take AIs as adjuvant therapy.¹³⁶

NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel Recommendations for Risk-Reduction Agents

Based on data from the BCPT¹⁰⁰ and STAR¹⁰² trials, Freedman et al have developed tables of benefit/risk indices for women aged 50 years and older to compare raloxifene versus no treatment (placebo) and tamoxifen versus no treatment.³ The risk and benefit of treatment with either tamoxifen or raloxifene depends on age, race, breast cancer risk, and history of hysterectomy. There are separate tables in the report listing the level of 5-year invasive breast cancer risk by age group for non-Hispanic white women with and without a uterus, black women with and without a uterus, and Hispanic women with and without a uterus. The NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel recommends using these tables³ while counseling postmenopausal women regarding use of raloxifene and tamoxifen for breast cancer risk reduction. It should be noted that these tables do not consider the greater risk reduction achieved in women with proliferative breast lesions such as AH.

Tamoxifen Recommendations

The NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel recommends tamoxifen (20 mg/d) as an option to reduce breast cancer risk in healthy pre- and postmenopausal women ≥ 35 years of age, whose life expectancy is ≥ 10 years, and who have a $\geq 1.7\%$ 5-year risk for breast cancer as determined by the modified Gail model, or who have had LCIS (category 1). The consensus of the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel is that the risk/benefit ratio for tamoxifen use in premenopausal women at increased risk for breast cancer is relatively favorable (category 1), and that the risk/benefit ratio for tamoxifen use in postmenopausal women is influenced by age, presence of uterus, or other comorbid conditions (category 1). Early studies suggest that lower doses of tamoxifen over shorter treatment periods may reduce breast cancer risk in postmenopausal women, but these findings need to be validated in phase III clinical trials.¹³⁷ Only limited

data are currently available regarding the efficacy of tamoxifen risk reduction in *BRCA1/2* mutation carriers and women who have received prior thoracic radiation; there are no prospective studies evaluating the risk-reductive effect of tamoxifen in women with *BRCA* mutations. However, available data from a very small cohort suggest a benefit for women with a *BRCA2* mutation but possibly not for women with a *BRCA1* mutation.¹¹³

The utility of tamoxifen as a breast cancer risk-reduction agent in women <35 years of age is not known. Tamoxifen is a teratogen and is contraindicated during pregnancy or in women planning a pregnancy. There are insufficient data on the influence of ethnicity and race on the efficacy and safety of tamoxifen as a risk-reduction agent.

There is evidence that certain drugs (eg, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors [SSRIs]) interfere with the enzymatic conversion of tamoxifen to endoxifen by inhibiting a particular isoform of cytochrome P450 2D6 (CYP2D6) enzyme involved in the metabolism of tamoxifen.¹³⁸ The consensus of the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel is that alternative medications that have minimal or no impact on plasma levels of endoxifen should be substituted when possible.¹³⁸ Citalopram and venlafaxine do not disrupt tamoxifen metabolism.

It has also been reported that certain CYP2D6 genotypes are markers of poor tamoxifen metabolism.^{139,140} Nevertheless, the consensus of the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel is that further validation of this biomarker is needed before it can be used to select patients for tamoxifen therapy.

Raloxifene Recommendations

The NCCN experts serving on the Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel feel strongly that tamoxifen is a superior choice of risk-reduction agent for

most postmenopausal women desiring non-surgical risk-reduction therapy. This is based on the updated STAR trial results that showed diminished benefits of raloxifene compared to tamoxifen after cessation of therapy.¹⁰³ However, consideration of toxicity may still lead to the choice of raloxifene over tamoxifen in some women.

If raloxifene is chosen, the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel recommends use of 60 mg/d. Data regarding use of raloxifene to reduce breast cancer risk is limited to healthy postmenopausal women ≥35 years who have a ≥1.7% 5-year risk for breast cancer as determined by the modified Gail model, or who have a history of LCIS. The consensus of the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel is that the risk/benefit ratio for raloxifene use in postmenopausal women at increased risk for breast cancer is influenced by age and comorbid conditions (category 1). There are no currently available data regarding the efficacy of raloxifene risk reduction in *BRCA1/2* mutation carriers and women who have received prior thoracic radiation. Use of raloxifene to reduce breast cancer risk in premenopausal women is inappropriate unless part of a clinical trial. The utility of raloxifene as a breast cancer risk-reduction agent in women <35 years of age is not known. There are insufficient data on the influence of ethnicity and race on the efficacy and safety of raloxifene as a risk-reduction agent.

Overall, risk-reduction therapy with tamoxifen and raloxifene has been vastly underutilized.¹⁴¹ Women in whom the benefits of risk-reduction therapy far outweigh harms include those with AH (both ductal and lobular types) and LCIS.^{67,100} Women with AH and LCIS have a significantly higher risk of developing invasive breast cancer. The initial and follow-up results of the P-1 study (described in sections above) demonstrated a significant risk reduction in women with AH with tamoxifen therapy.^{100,101} Despite this, a study has documented that only 44% of women with AH or LCIS

received risk-reduction therapy.⁶⁷ Considering the opportunity that exists for a significant impact of risk-reduction therapy on reducing the incidence of breast cancer, the NCCN Panel *strongly* recommends risk-reduction therapy in women with AH.

AI Recommendations (Anastrozole and Exemestane)

The NCCN experts serving on the Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel have included exemestane and anastrozole as choices of risk-reduction agent for most postmenopausal women desiring non-surgical risk-reduction therapy (category 1). This is based on the results of the MAP.3 trial⁴ and the IBIS-II trial.⁵ The NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel recommends use of 25 mg/d of exemestane or 1 mg/d of anastrozole.

Data regarding use of AI (exemestane and anastrozole) to reduce breast cancer risk are limited to postmenopausal women 35 years of age or older with a Gail model 5-year risk score >1.66% or a history of LCIS. The consensus of the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel is that the risk/benefit ratio for use of an AI in postmenopausal women at increased risk for breast cancer is influenced by age, bone density, and comorbid conditions. Use of an AI to reduce breast cancer risk in premenopausal women is inappropriate unless part of a clinical trial. The utility of an AI as a breast cancer risk-reduction agent in women <35 years of age is not known. There are insufficient data on the influence of ethnicity and race on the efficacy and safety of AIs as a risk-reduction agent.

Exemestane and anastrozole are not currently FDA approved for breast cancer risk reduction. Currently, there are no data comparing the benefits and risks of AI to those of tamoxifen or raloxifene.

Monitoring Patients on Risk Reduction Agents

Follow-up of women treated with risk-reduction agents for breast cancer risk reduction should focus on the early detection of breast cancer and the

management of adverse symptoms or complications. Appropriate monitoring for breast cancer and the evaluation of breast abnormalities should be performed according to the guidelines described for high-risk women in the [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis](#). The population of women eligible for risk-reduction therapy with tamoxifen, raloxifene, anastrozole, or exemestane is at sufficiently increased risk for breast cancer to warrant, at a minimum, yearly bilateral mammography with consideration for tomosynthesis, a clinical breast examination every 6 to 12 months, and encouragement of breast awareness. Supplemental screening with breast MRI may be indicated for certain women at increased risk of breast cancer (see [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis](#)).

Endometrial Cancer

Results from the P-1 study indicated that women ≥50 years of age treated with tamoxifen have an increased risk of developing invasive endometrial cancer. For women ≥50 years the risk of developing endometrial cancer while on tamoxifen compared to placebo was increased (RR, 4.01; 95% CI, 1.70–10.90).^{100,101} An increased risk for endometrial cancer was *not* observed in women ≤49 years of age treated with tamoxifen in this study (RR, 1.21; 95% CI, 0.41–3.60).^{100,101} Although the only death from endometrial cancer in the P-1 study occurred in a placebo-treated subject,^{100,101} analyses of the NSABP data have revealed a small number of uterine sarcomas among the number of patients with an intact uterus taking tamoxifen. Uterine sarcoma is a rare form of uterine malignancy reported to occur in 2% to 4% of all patients with uterine cancer.¹⁴² Compared with other uterine cancers, uterine sarcomas present at a more advanced stage and thus may carry a worse prognosis in terms of disease-free and overall survival.^{143,144}

Updated results from the NSABP studies have indicated that incidence of both endometrial adenocarcinoma and uterine sarcoma is increased in women taking tamoxifen when compared to the placebo arm.¹⁴⁵ Several other studies have also supported an association between tamoxifen therapy and an increased risk of developing uterine sarcoma.^{143,144,146,147} A “black box” FDA warning has been included on the package insert of tamoxifen to highlight the endometrial cancer risk (both epithelial endometrial cancer and uterine sarcoma) of tamoxifen.¹⁴⁸ Nonetheless, the absolute risk of developing endometrial cancer is low (absolute annual risk per 1000: placebo 0.91 vs. tamoxifen 2.30). Often, for women at increased risk for breast cancer, the reduction in the number of breast cancer events exceeds that of the increase in the number of uterine cancer events.

Use of raloxifene has not been associated with an increased incidence of endometrial cancer in the MORE trial.¹²⁶ Long-term results from the STAR trial showed the incidence of invasive endometrial cancer to be significantly lower in the group receiving raloxifene compared with the tamoxifen group (RR, 0.55; CI, 0.36–0.83).¹⁰³

For women with an intact uterus, a baseline gynecologic assessment is recommended prior to administration of tamoxifen, and follow-up gynecologic assessments should be performed at each visit.¹⁴⁹ The vast majority of women with tamoxifen-associated endometrial cancer present with vaginal spotting as an early symptom of cancer. Therefore, prompt evaluation of vaginal spotting in the postmenopausal woman is essential.

At present, there is insufficient evidence to recommend the performance of uterine ultrasonography or endometrial biopsy for routine screening in asymptomatic women.¹⁵⁰⁻¹⁵² In women diagnosed with endometrial cancer while taking a risk-reduction agent, the drug should be discontinued until the endometrial cancer has been fully treated. The NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel believes that it is safe and reasonable to resume

therapy with a risk-reduction agent after completion of treatment for early-stage endometrial cancer.

Retinopathy and Cataract Formation

There have been reports of tamoxifen being associated with the occurrence of retinopathy, although most of this information has come from case studies.^{153,154} Furthermore, these reports have not been confirmed in the randomized controlled trials of tamoxifen. A 1.14 RR of cataract formation (95% CI, 1.01–1.29), compared with placebo, has been reported in the P-1 study, and individuals developing cataracts while on tamoxifen have an RR for cataract surgery of 1.57 (95% CI, 1.16–2.14), compared with placebo.¹⁰⁰ After 7 years of follow-up in the P-1 study, RRs of cataract formation and cataract surgery were similar to those initially reported.¹⁰¹ In the MORE trial, raloxifene use was not associated with an increase in the incidence of cataracts compared with placebo (RR, 0.9; 95% CI, 0.8–1.1).¹⁵⁵ In the STAR trial, the incidence of cataract development and occurrence of cataract surgery were significantly higher in the group receiving tamoxifen compared with the group receiving raloxifene.^{103,155} The rate of cataract development (RR, 0.80; 95% CI, 0.72–0.89) and the rate of cataract surgery (RR, 0.79; 95% CI, 0.70–0.90) were about 20% less in the raloxifene group than in the tamoxifen group.^{103,155} Thus, patients experiencing visual symptoms while undergoing treatment with tamoxifen should seek ophthalmologic evaluation.

Bone Mineral Density

Bone is an estrogen-responsive tissue, and tamoxifen can act as either an estrogen agonist or estrogen antagonist with respect to bone, depending on the menstrual status of a woman.^{115,156-158} In premenopausal women, tamoxifen may oppose the more potent effects of estrogen on the bone and potentially increase the risk for osteoporosis, whereas tamoxifen in the presence of typically lower estrogen levels in postmenopausal women

is associated with an increase in BMD.^{100,101} However, the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel does not recommend monitoring BMD in premenopausal patients on tamoxifen, since development of osteopenia/osteoporosis in this population is considered unlikely.

Raloxifene has been shown to increase BMD and to reduce incidence of vertebral bone fracture in postmenopausal women when compared with placebo.^{125,128} Results from the STAR trial did not reveal any difference in the incidence of bone fracture in the groups of postmenopausal women on either raloxifene or tamoxifen.^{102,103}

Changes in BMD are of concern in women on AI therapy. Therefore, a baseline BMD scan is recommended for post-menopausal women before initiating therapy with an AI such as anastrozole or exemestane.

Thromboembolic Disease and Strokes

Tamoxifen and raloxifene have been associated with an increased risk of thromboembolic events (ie, DVT, pulmonary embolism) and stroke.^{100, 101-103,126,159} Increased incidences of VTE were observed in the tamoxifen arms of all the placebo-controlled, randomized, risk-reduction trials. Although not statistically significant, all of these trials with the exception of the Royal Marsden trial (which enrolled only younger women) also showed an increase in risk for stroke for women receiving tamoxifen. This risk was found to be significantly elevated in 2 meta analyses of randomized controlled trials evaluating tamoxifen for breast cancer risk reduction or treatment.^{160,161} Comparison of the raloxifene and tamoxifen arms of the STAR trial did not show a difference with respect to incidence of stroke,^{102,103} and the risk of fatal stroke was significantly higher for women in the RUTH trial with underlying heart disease receiving raloxifene.¹²⁹ However, evidence has shown that women with a Factor V Leiden or prothrombin G20210A mutation receiving tamoxifen therapy in the P-1 study were not at increased risk of developing VTE compared to women

without these mutations.¹⁶² Although prospective screening of women for Factor V Leiden or prothrombin mutations or intermittent screening of women for thromboembolic disease is unlikely to be of value, women taking tamoxifen or raloxifene should be educated regarding the symptoms associated with DVT and pulmonary emboli. They should also be informed that prolonged immobilization may increase risk of VTE, and they should be instructed to contact their physicians immediately if they develop symptoms of DVT or pulmonary emboli. Women with documented thromboembolic disease should receive appropriate treatment for the thromboembolic condition and should permanently discontinue tamoxifen or raloxifene therapy.

Managing Side Effects of Risk-Reduction Agents

Hot flashes are a common menopausal complaint. In the P-1 study, hot flashes occurred in approximately 81% of women treated with tamoxifen and 69% of women treated with placebo.¹⁰⁰ In the STAR trial, women receiving tamoxifen reported a significantly increased incidence of vasomotor symptoms relative to women receiving raloxifene,¹³⁰ although raloxifene use has also been associated with an increase in hot flash severity and/or frequency when compared with placebo.¹²⁶ In women whose quality of life is diminished by hot flashes, an intervention to eliminate or minimize hot flashes should be undertaken. Estrogens and/or progestins have the potential to interact with SERMs and are not recommended by the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel for the treatment of hot flashes for women on a risk-reduction agent outside of a clinical trial.

Gabapentin, a gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) analog used primarily for seizure control and management of neuropathic pain, has been reported to moderate both the severity and duration of hot flashes.¹⁶³⁻¹⁶⁶ It has been hypothesized that the mode of action of gabapentin is via central

temperature regulatory centers.^{163,164} Results from a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study involving the use of gabapentin to treat hot flashes in 420 women with breast cancer have been reported. The three treatment arms of the trial were as follows: 300 mg/d gabapentin; 900 mg/d gabapentin; and placebo. Study duration was 8 weeks, and most of the women in the study (68%–75% depending on treatment arm) were taking tamoxifen as adjuvant therapy. Women in the placebo group experienced reductions in severity of hot flashes of 21% and 15% at 4 and 8 weeks, respectively, whereas those in the treatment arms reported reductions of 33% and 31% with lower-dose gabapentin, and 49% and 46% with higher-dose gabapentin at 4 and 8 weeks, respectively. Only women receiving the higher dose of gabapentin had significantly fewer and less severe hot flashes. Side effects of somnolence or fatigue were reported in a small percentage of women taking gabapentin.¹⁶⁶

Venlafaxine, a serotonin and norepinephrine inhibitor anti-depressant, has been shown to be effective in the management of hot flash symptoms in a group of breast cancer survivors, 70% of whom were taking tamoxifen. Significant declines were observed for both hot flash frequency and severity scores for all doses of venlafaxine (37.5 mg, 75 mg, and 150 mg) compared to placebo; incremental improvement was seen at 75 mg versus 37.5 mg ($P = .03$).¹⁶⁷ Participants receiving venlafaxine reported mouth dryness, reduced appetite, nausea, and constipation with increased prevalence at increased dosages. Based on these findings the authors suggested a starting dose of 37.5 mg with an increase, as necessary after one week, to 75 mg if a greater degree of symptom control is desired. However, this study followed subjects for only 4 weeks.

Another antidepressant, paroxetine, an SSRI, has also been studied for the relief of hot flash symptoms. A double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

recruited 165 menopausal women who were randomized into 3 arms (placebo, paroxetine 12.5 mg daily, or paroxetine 25 mg daily). After 6 weeks, significant reductions in composite hot flash scores were noted for both dosages of paroxetine (12.5 mg, 62% reduction and 25 mg, 65% reduction); there were no significant differences between dose levels.¹⁶⁸ Adverse events, reported by 54% of subjects receiving placebo and 58% receiving paroxetine, generally included nausea, dizziness, and insomnia.

In a stratified, randomized, double-blind, cross-over, placebo-controlled study, 151 women reporting a history of hot flashes were randomized to one of 4 treatment arms (10 mg or 20 mg of paroxetine for 4 weeks followed by 4 weeks of placebo or 4 weeks of placebo followed by 4 weeks of 10 mg or 20 mg of paroxetine).¹⁶⁹ Hot flash frequency and composite score were reduced by 40.6% and 45.6%, respectively, for patients receiving 10 mg paroxetine compared to reductions of 13.7% and 13.7% in the placebo group. Likewise, reductions of 51.7% and 56.1% in hot flash frequency and score were found in women receiving 20 mg paroxetine compared with values of 26.6% and 28.8% in the placebo group. No significant differences in efficacy were observed with the lower and higher paroxetine doses. Rates of the most commonly reported side effects did not differ among the 4 arms, although nausea was significantly increased in women receiving 20 mg paroxetine relative to the other arms, and a greater percentage of patients receiving the higher dose of paroxetine discontinued treatment.

While these reports appear promising, further randomized studies of the use of these agents in women experiencing hot flash symptoms, especially those also taking tamoxifen, are needed to assess the long-term effectiveness and safety of these agents. In this context it should be noted that evidence has suggested that concomitant use of tamoxifen with certain SSRIs (eg, paroxetine and fluoxetine) may

decrease plasma levels of endoxifen and 4-OH tamoxifen, active metabolites of tamoxifen, and may impact its efficacy.^{138,170} These SSRIs may interfere with the enzymatic conversion of tamoxifen to its active metabolites by inhibiting a particular isoform of cytochrome P-450 enzyme (CYP2D6) involved in the metabolism of tamoxifen. Caution is advised about co-administration of these drugs with tamoxifen. Citalopram and venlafaxine appear to have only minimal effects on tamoxifen metabolism.

Of interest in this context are results of a retrospective evaluation of data from the Women's Healthy Eating and Living (WHEL) randomized trial, which suggest an inverse association between hot flashes and breast cancer recurrence for women with a history of breast cancer receiving tamoxifen. These results suggest that hot flashes in women receiving tamoxifen may be an indicator of the biologic availability and, thus, effectiveness of the drug. However, additional studies are needed to further elucidate whether hot flashes are predictive of benefit from tamoxifen.¹⁷¹

A report of two nonrandomized, parallel study cohorts of women with DCIS or those at high risk for breast cancer (eg, those with LCIS, AH, or $\geq 1.7\%$ 5-year breast cancer risk by the Gail model) comparing women receiving tamoxifen alone with women receiving tamoxifen concomitantly with HT (mean duration of HT at start of study was approximately 10 years) did not show a difference in the rate of tamoxifen-induced hot flashes.¹⁷² The NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel recommends against the use of HT for women taking tamoxifen or raloxifene outside of a clinical trial.

A variety of other substances for the control of hot flashes have been described.¹⁷³ Both the oral and transdermal formulations of clonidine reduce hot flashes in a dose-dependent manner.¹⁷⁴⁻¹⁷⁶ Toxicities associated with clonidine include dry mouth, constipation, and drowsiness. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the use of a number of different herbal or food

supplements may alleviate hot flashes. Vitamin E may decrease the frequency and severity of hot flashes, but results from a randomized clinical trial demonstrated that only a very modest improvement in hot flashes was associated with this agent compared with placebo.¹⁷⁷ Results from a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, crossover trial of the use of black cohosh to treat hot flashes did not show significant differences between groups with respect to improvement in hot flash symptoms.¹⁷⁸ Some herbal or food supplements contain active estrogenic compounds, the activity and safety of which are unknown. Other strategies such as relaxation training, acupuncture, avoidance of caffeine and alcohol, and exercise for the management of hot flashes, while potentially beneficial, remain unsupported.¹⁷⁹

It should be noted that the observed placebo effect in the treatment of hot flashes is considerable, typically falling in the range 25% or more,^{163,165-169} suggesting that a considerable proportion of patients might be helped through a trial of therapy of limited duration. However, not all women who experience hot flashes require medical intervention, and the decision to intervene requires consideration of the efficacy and toxicity of the intervention. In addition, a study of women receiving tamoxifen for early-stage breast cancer showed a decrease in hot flashes over time.¹⁸⁰

Weight-bearing exercise or use of a bisphosphonate (oral/IV) or denosumab is acceptable to maintain or to improve BMD and reduce risk of fractures in postmenopausal women.

Components of Risk-Reduction Counseling

Women should be monitored according to the [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis](#). Women with known or suspected *BRCA1/2*, *TP53*, *PTEN*, or other gene mutations associated with breast cancer risk or those with a significant family history of breast and/or

ovarian cancer should also be followed according to the [NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment: Breast and Ovarian](#) whether or not they choose to undergo risk-reduction therapy. Women who have abnormal results from their clinical breast examination or bilateral mammogram or those with a history of LCIS should be managed according to the [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis](#). All women who are appropriate candidates for breast cancer risk-reduction intervention should undergo counseling that provides a description of the available strategies, including a healthy lifestyle, to decrease breast cancer risk.¹⁸¹ Options for breast cancer risk reduction should be discussed in a shared decision-making environment. The counseling should include a discussion and consideration of: 1) the individual's overall health status, including menopausal status, medical history, and medication history (eg, hysterectomy status, prior history of VTE, current use of hormones or SSRIs, previous use of a SERM); 2) absolute and relative breast cancer risk reduction achieved with the risk-reduction intervention; 3) risks of risk-reduction therapy with an emphasis on age-dependent risks; 4) the contraindications to therapy with tamoxifen and raloxifene (eg, history of VTE, history of thrombotic stroke, history of transient ischemic attack, pregnancy or pregnancy potential without an effective nonhormonal method of contraception); and 5) the common and serious side effects of tamoxifen and raloxifene.

The 2009 ASCO Guidelines comparing the effectiveness of breast cancer risk-reduction agents provide some estimates of either the number needed to treat (NNT) to prevent breast cancer or the number needed to harm (NNH) by causing a specific side effect in a single patient receiving a specific risk-reduction agent.¹⁸² Both NNT and NNH can be useful aids in communicating risks and benefits of tamoxifen and raloxifene in this setting (eg, using long-term data from the IBIS-1 trial, NNH with respect to

VTE was determined to be 73 with tamoxifen, whereas this value was 150 for patients receiving raloxifene using data from the RUTH study).

Counseling Prior to Therapy with Risk-Reduction Agents

Counseling sessions with women who are considering non-surgical breast cancer risk reduction should incorporate an explanation of data from the P-1, STAR, MAP.3, and/or IBIS-II trial as appropriate.

Germline mutations in *PTEN* occur in 85% of patients with Cowden syndrome, an inherited condition associated with increased endometrial carcinoma risk. Therefore, increased risk for endometrial cancer in women with *PTEN* mutations should be discussed while considering tamoxifen.

Counseling on Use of a SERM for Breast Cancer Risk Reduction

The P-1 study showed that the toxicity profile of tamoxifen is much more favorable in younger women, and the benefits in RR reduction are similar across all age groups and risk groups.¹⁰⁰ The tamoxifen treatment risk/benefit ratio is especially favorable in women between the ages of 35 and 50 years. Unfortunately, individualized data regarding the risk/benefit ratio for tamoxifen are not generally available except for the broad age categories of ages 50 years and younger versus older than 50 years of age. Tamoxifen, unlike raloxifene, is a risk-reduction agent that can be used by premenopausal women. In addition, tamoxifen may be more effective than raloxifene in reducing the incidence of noninvasive breast cancer, although the difference is not statistically significant at long-term follow-up.^{102,103} Further, tamoxifen was reported by patients in the STAR trial to be associated with better sexual function than raloxifene.¹³⁰ However, tamoxifen has been associated with an increased incidence of invasive endometrial cancer relative to placebo in women ≥ 50 years of age,^{100,101} and an increased incidence of endometrial hyperplasia and invasive endometrial cancer relative to raloxifene,^{102,103} possibly making it a less attractive choice in women with a uterus. Use of raloxifene to reduce

breast cancer risk may be preferred by postmenopausal women with a uterus or those at risk for developing cataracts. All women receiving a breast cancer risk-reduction agent should be counseled with respect to signs and symptoms of possible side effects associated with use of these agents, and the recommended schedules for monitoring for the presence of certain adverse events. Contraindications to tamoxifen or raloxifene include history of VTE, thrombotic stroke, transient ischemic attack, current pregnancy or pregnancy potential without effective method of contraception, or known inherited clotting trait.

The optimal duration of SERM therapy for breast cancer risk reduction is not known. The P-1 and STAR trials studied 5 years of risk-reduction therapy with either tamoxifen or raloxifene.^{100,102} However, based on the updated STAR results, which showed that the benefits of raloxifene diminished after cessation of therapy,¹⁰³ continuing raloxifene beyond 5 years might be an approach to maintain the risk-reduction activity of the agent.

The use of tamoxifen for periods longer than 5 years has been evaluated in the *adjuvant treatment* setting. Results of two randomized trials on extended adjuvant tamoxifen treatment^{183,184} have demonstrated that tamoxifen for up to 10 years is more effective than shorter durations at preventing cancer *recurrence* and improving breast cancer survival. The option of 10 years of adjuvant tamoxifen therapy is now recommended for both premenopausal women and postmenopausal women for preventing cancer recurrence in the [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer](#) and the ASCO Guidelines.¹⁸⁵ There are limited data on tamoxifen use for more than 5 years in the risk-reduction setting. Until further information is available, a period of 5 years appears to be appropriate for tamoxifen therapy when the agent is used to reduce breast cancer risk.

After completing 5 years of tamoxifen therapy, women should continue to be monitored according to the [NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis](#) and should continue to undergo monitoring for late toxicity, especially for endometrial cancer and cataracts.

The prolonged effectiveness of tamoxifen as an agent to reduce breast cancer risk, particularly with respect to the development of ER-positive disease, is supported by results of several placebo-controlled, randomized trials at long-term follow-up.^{101,116,123} The results from the STAR trial suggest that although a 5-year course of raloxifene retains considerable benefit with respect to the prevention of invasive breast cancer at a median follow-up of 81 months, the breast cancer preventive benefit of 5 years of tamoxifen therapy is significantly greater.¹⁰³

The NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel recommends using the tables from the Freedman et al publication³ while counseling postmenopausal women regarding use of raloxifene and tamoxifen for breast cancer risk reduction.

Counseling on Use of an AI for Breast Cancer Risk Reduction

Currently, there are no data comparing the benefits and risks of AIs (exemestane or anastrozole) to those of tamoxifen or raloxifene. Data regarding exemestane are from the single, large, randomized MAP.3 trial⁴ limited to postmenopausal women 35 years of age or older with a Gail model 5-year breast cancer risk of 1.7% or a history of LCIS, which may be used while counseling patients. The data show that exemestane has a completely different toxicity profile than the SERMs. Compared to the placebo group in the MAP.3 trial, exemestane had no increased risk of serious side effects. The incidence of osteoporosis, cardiac events, and bone fractures were identical for women in the MAP.3 trial taking exemestane and for those taking the placebo. However, follow-up was only 35 months. Women taking exemestane had a small, but not

statistically significant increase in menopausal symptoms, such as hot flashes (18.3% vs. 11.9%) and arthritis (6.5% vs. 4.0%).⁴

Data regarding anastrozole are from a single, large, randomized trial, IBIS-II.⁵ The trial included postmenopausal women 40 to 70 years of age with a higher risk of developing cancer compared with the general population. Women who did not meet these criteria but had a Tyrer-Cuzick model 10-year breast cancer risk >5% were also included.⁵ Musculoskeletal and vasomotor events were reported in both arms of the trial and were found to be significantly higher in the anastrozole arm ($P = .0001$); fracture rates were similar in both arms.⁵ The optimal duration of AI therapy is currently unknown. Changes in BMD are of concern in women receiving AI therapy. Therefore, a baseline BMD scan is recommended before initiating exemestane therapy. The role of calcium, vitamin D, and a healthy lifestyle in maintaining bone health must be emphasized in healthy postmenopausal women who are receiving exemestane.

Counseling Prior to Risk Reduction Surgery

For women at very high risk for breast cancer who are considering RRM, it is important that the potential psychosocial effects of RRM are addressed, although these effects have not been well studied.¹⁸⁶⁻¹⁸⁸ Such surgery has the potential to negatively impact perceptions of body image, ease of forming new relationships, and the quality of existing relationships. Moreover, the procedure also eliminates the breast as a sexual organ. Multidisciplinary consultations are recommended prior to surgery, and should include a surgeon familiar with the natural history and therapy of benign and malignant breast disease¹⁸⁹ to enable the woman to become well informed regarding treatment alternatives, the risks and benefits of surgery, nipple-sparing mastectomy, and surgical breast reconstruction options. Immediate breast reconstruction is an option for many women following RRM, and early consultation with a reconstructive surgeon is

recommended for those considering either immediate or delayed breast reconstruction.¹⁹⁰ Psychological consultations may also be considered.

Discussions regarding the risk for ovarian cancer and the option of risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy (RRSO) for breast and ovarian cancer risk reduction should also be undertaken with women who are known carriers of a *BRCA1/2* mutation. Other topics that should be addressed with respect to RRSO include the increased risk for osteoporosis and cardiovascular disease associated with premature menopause, as well as the potential effects of possible cognitive changes, accelerated bone loss, and vasomotor symptoms on quality of life. Furthermore, the surgery itself may have some associated complications.

It has been reported that short-term HT in women undergoing RRSO did not negate the reduction in breast cancer risk associated with the surgery.¹⁹¹ In addition, results of a case-control study of *BRCA1* mutation carriers showed no association between use of HT and increased breast cancer risk in postmenopausal *BRCA1* mutation carriers.¹⁹¹ However, the consensus of the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel is that caution should be used when considering HT use in mutation carriers following RRSO, given the limitations inherent in nonrandomized studies (see also section below on *Breast Cancer Risks Associated with Hormone Therapy*).^{192,193} It is unlikely that a prospective randomized study on the use of RRSO for breast cancer risk reduction will be performed. Whether the resulting reduction in the risk for breast cancer from this procedure is preferable to an RRM is likely to remain a personal decision.¹⁹⁴ Table 2 provides estimates based on a Monte Carlo simulation model of the survival impact of breast and ovarian risk-reduction strategies. These data can be used as a tool to facilitate shared decision-making regarding choice of a risk-reduction approach, particularly with respect to issues related to risk-reduction surgery (see [Table 2](#)).

Counseling Regarding Lifestyle Modifications

There is evidence to indicate that certain lifestyle characteristics, such as obesity, increased alcohol consumption, and use of certain types of HT, are factors or markers for an elevated risk for breast cancer. However, the association between a lifestyle modification and a change in breast cancer risk is not as clear. Nevertheless, a discussion of lifestyle characteristics associated with increased risk for breast cancer also provides “a teachable moment” for the promotion of overall health, and an opportunity to encourage women to make choices and changes compatible with a healthy lifestyle.

Breast Cancer Risks Associated with Hormone Therapy

The Women’s Health Initiative (WHI) enrolled 161,809 postmenopausal women 50 to 79 years of age into a set of clinical trials from 1993 through 1998. Two of these trials were randomized controlled studies involving the use of HT (estrogen with/without progestin) in primary disease prevention: a trial involving 16,608 women with intact uteri at baseline randomized to receive estrogen plus progestin or placebo,¹⁹⁵ and a trial of 10,739 women with prior hysterectomy randomized to receive estrogen alone or placebo.¹⁹⁶ The former trial was terminated early due to evidence of breast cancer harm, along with a global index associated with overall harm. In that study, a 26% increased incidence of breast cancer was observed in the treatment group (HR, 1.26; 95% CI, 1.00–1.59). An increased incidence of abnormal mammograms was also observed for women in the WHI who received estrogen plus progestin, and was attributed to an increase in breast density.¹⁹⁷ Of greater concern is that HT was associated with a significant increase in rates of both breast cancer incidence and breast cancer-related mortality,¹⁹⁸ although the increased risk for breast cancer rapidly declined following cessation of HT.¹⁹⁹

An increased risk for breast cancer was not observed in the trial of women who had undergone hysterectomies and were receiving unopposed estrogen. In fact, the rate of breast cancer was lower in the group receiving estrogen relative to the placebo group, although this difference was not considered to be statistically significant.¹⁹⁶ The lower incidence of breast cancer seen among women randomized to estrogen alone during the intervention period became statistically significant with extended follow-up for a mean of 10.7 years.²⁰⁰ However, an increased incidence of abnormal mammograms was observed in the group of women receiving estrogen,²⁰¹ as well as a doubling of the risk for benign proliferative breast disease.²⁰² Analysis of the data from this randomized controlled WHI trial showed use of estrogen alone to significantly increase mammographic breast density compared with women receiving placebo; this effect was observed for at least a 2-year period.²⁰³ Contrary to the results from the WHI randomized controlled trials, results from several prospective, population-based, observational studies have shown use of estrogen-only HT to be associated with increased risks for breast cancer. These studies include the Black Women’s Health Study where use of estrogen alone for a duration of 10 years or longer was associated with a nonsignificant increase in risk for invasive breast cancer (RR = 1.41; 95% CI, 0.95–2.10);²⁰⁴ the Million Women Study of women 50 to 64 years of age, which showed an association between current use of estrogen-only HT and increased risk for breast cancer (RR = 1.30; 95% CI, 1.21–1.40; $P < .0001$);²⁰⁵ and the Nurses’ Health Study, which demonstrated a significantly increased breast cancer risk after long-term use (20 years or longer) of estrogen alone (RR, 1.42; 95% CI, 1.13–1.77).²⁰⁶

It has been noted that there are important differences in the populations enrolled in the WHI randomized clinical trials relative to the women followed in the observational studies with respect to duration of exposure to HT and age at initiation of HT.²⁰⁷ For example, many of the women in

the WHI clinical trials did not start receiving HT until years after menopause, whereas those in the population-based studies were more likely to initiate HT at menopause and to have been exposed to such treatment for longer periods of time. One hypothesis put forward to explain the apparent contradictions in the summary of studies of HT described above is that short-term use of estrogen following a period of estrogen deprivation may decrease breast cancer risk by inducing apoptosis of occult breast cancer tumors, whereas long-term use of estrogen may initiate and promote the growth of new tumors, thereby increasing breast cancer risk.²⁰⁸ However, further studies are needed to evaluate this hypothesis. Another possible explanation for the decrease in breast cancer risk observed in the first 2 years of the WHI randomized controlled trial of postmenopausal women receiving estrogen plus progestin may be related to HT effects on breast tissue and subsequent interference with the ability of mammography to detect new breast cancer tumors.²⁰⁷

The use of estrogen/progestin therapy and estrogen therapy alone has also been associated with increased risk for cardiovascular disease (eg, stroke) and decreased risk for bone fractures.^{195,196} However, a secondary analysis from the WHI randomized controlled trials showed a trend for more effective reduction in the risk for cardiovascular disease with initiation of HT closer to menopause compared with administration of HT to women who experienced a greater time gap between menopause and the start of such therapy.²⁰⁹ Nevertheless, results from a large French cohort control study show a significantly increased risk for breast cancer in women receiving short-term (ie, 2 years or less) estrogen and progesterone shortly after menopause when compared with nonusers.²¹⁰

The NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel recommends against the use of HT for women taking tamoxifen, raloxifene, anastrozole, or exemestane outside of a clinical trial.

Alcohol Consumption

Numerous studies have demonstrated that the intake of moderate amounts of alcohol (1–2 drinks per day) is associated with an increased risk for breast cancer.^{48,57-59} A 10% increase in breast cancer risk for every 10 grams of alcohol consumed each day was seen in analyses of 2 cohort studies.^{56,60} A population-based study of 51,847 postmenopausal women provided evidence to support an association between increased alcohol consumption and an increased likelihood of development of ER-positive breast cancer.⁶¹ A meta-analysis of epidemiologic studies shows a small but significant association between breast cancer and light alcohol intake (RR, 1.05; 95% CI, 1.02–1.08).⁶² Even one drink per day modestly elevates breast cancer risk.⁴⁸ However, the effect of a reduction in alcohol consumption on the incidence of breast cancer has not been well studied.

The consensus of the NCCN Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel is that alcohol consumption should be limited to ≤ 1 drink per day. The panel has defined one drink as 1 ounce of liquor, 6 ounces of wine, or 8 ounces of beer.

Exercise and BMI

Increased levels of physical activity have been associated with a decreased risk for breast cancer.^{48,211-214} For example, the effect of exercise on breast cancer risk was evaluated in a population-based study of 90,509 women between the ages of 40 and 65 years.²¹⁴ An RR of 0.62 (95% CI, 0.49–0.78) was observed for women who reported more than 5 hours of vigorous exercise per week compared to women who did not participate in recreational activities. These results are supported by another population-based, case-control study of 4538 case patients with newly diagnosed invasive breast cancer and control patients grouped according to race (eg, 1605 black and 2933 white patients). Both black and white women with annual lifetime exercise activity levels exceeding

the median activity level for active control subjects were found to have a 20% lower risk for breast cancer when compared to inactive women (OR, 0.82; 95% CI, 0.71–0.93).²¹¹ In addition, a prospective assessment evaluating the association of physical activity among 45,631 women showed the greatest reduction in breast cancer risk for women who reported walking/hiking for ≥ 10 hours per week (RR, 0.57; 95% CI, 0.34–0.95).²¹² A study of 320 postmenopausal sedentary women randomly assigned to 1 year of aerobic exercise or a control group showed modest but significant changes in serum levels of estradiol and sex hormone-binding globulin from baseline (ie, a decrease and an increase in these levels, respectively).²¹⁵ However, it has been suggested that other, as yet unidentified, mechanisms are more likely to be responsible for the association between increased activity level and decreased risk for breast cancer.²¹⁶

As discussed under the section on *Elements of Risk*, here is a substantial amount of evidence indicating that overweight or obese women have a higher risk for postmenopausal breast cancer.

Results from the Nurses' Health Study evaluating the effect of weight change on the incidence of invasive breast cancer in 87,143 postmenopausal women suggested that women experiencing a weight gain of 25.0 kg or more since age 18 have an increased risk for breast cancer when compared with women who have maintained their weight (RR, 1.45; 95% CI, 1.27–1.66).⁴⁶ Furthermore, women who had never used postmenopausal HT and lost 10.0 kg or more since menopause and kept the weight off had a significantly lower risk for breast cancer than women who had maintained their weight (RR, 0.43; 95% CI, 0.21–0.86). Interestingly, there is evidence that the risk for breast cancer is lower in premenopausal women who are overweight compared with women who are not overweight.⁴⁸

Results from a case-control study of 1073 pairs of women with *BRCA1/2* mutations indicated that a weight loss of 10 or more pounds in women with the *BRCA1* mutation between the ages of 18 and 30 was associated with a decreased risk of developing breast cancer between the ages of 30 and 40 years. (OR, 0.35; 95% CI, 0.18–0.67).²¹⁷

Patients should be encouraged to exercise and stay active, and should be counseled on maintaining a healthy body weight and BMI.

Diet

While there is no clear evidence that specific dietary components can effectively reduce breast cancer risk, weight gain and obesity in adulthood are risk factors for the development of postmenopausal breast cancer.^{46–48} Results from a number of population-based studies have suggested that the effect of diet composition on breast cancer risk may be much greater during adolescence and early adulthood.^{218,219}

In a prospective study of 993,466 women observed for 11 to 20 years, no association between total fruit and vegetable intake and overall risk of breast cancer was identified.²²⁰ However, there is some evidence of decreased breast cancer risk with a diet high in fruits and vegetables.^{221–223} A case-control study showed that a diet rich in fruits and vegetables may be associated with a decreased risk for breast cancer, including among women who were less physically active throughout their lifetimes.²²⁴

Epidemiologic studies suggest that vitamin D (from dietary sources and the sun) may play a protective role with respect to decreasing risk for breast cancer development.^{218,225,226} Furthermore, there is some evidence to suggest that such protection is greatest for women who had more prolonged skin exposure to sunlight and higher dietary intake of sources of vitamin D during adolescence.^{227,228} Studies are in progress to evaluate the role of vitamin D on breast cancer risk.

Other Lifestyle Changes

Counseling should also involve discussion of other factors that may have a protective effect, if appropriate, such as planning first childbirth at a younger age and encouraging breastfeeding.

Clinical Trials

Risk-reduction counseling should include a discussion of breast cancer risk-reduction interventions available in clinical trials.

Summary

Breast cancer risk assessment provides a means of identifying healthy women without a history of personal breast cancer, who are at increased risk for future development of this disease. All women should be counseled regarding healthy lifestyle recommendations to decrease breast cancer risk and to avoid lifestyles that would adversely impact their chance of developing the disease. However, many of the risk factors for breast cancer are not modifiable. The demonstration that tamoxifen, raloxifene, anastrozole, or exemestane substantially decreases the future risk for breast cancer provides an opportunity for a risk-reduction intervention.

The risks and benefits associated with use of risk-reduction agents for an individual woman should be evaluated and discussed with the woman as part of a shared decision-making process. Women in whom benefits of risk-reduction therapy significantly exceed the harms are those with AH or LCIS. Therefore, the NCCN Panel strongly recommends risk-reduction therapy in these women. Women taking a risk-reduction agent must be closely monitored for potential side effects associated with use of these agents. In special circumstances, such as in women who are carriers of a BRCA1/2 mutation, where the risk for breast cancer is very high, the performance of a bilateral mastectomy or BSO may be considered for breast cancer risk reduction. Women considering either surgery should undergo multidisciplinary consultations prior to surgery so as to become well informed about all treatment alternatives, the risks and benefits of

risk-reduction surgery, and, in the case of bilateral mastectomy, the various reconstruction options available. The NCCN Guidelines for Breast Cancer Risk Reduction Panel strongly encourages women and health care providers to participate in clinical trials to test new strategies for decreasing the risk for breast cancer. Only through the accumulated experience gained from prospective and well-designed clinical trials will additional advances in breast cancer risk reduction be realized.

Table 1
Criteria Used in Calculation of 5-year Risk for Breast Cancer According to the Modified Gail Model
(Available at www.breastcancerprevention.org)

Question	Response
Age	_____
Age at menarche (first menstrual period)	_____
Age at first live birth or nulliparity	_____
Number of breast biopsies	_____
Atypical hyperplasia	Y / N
Number of first-degree relatives with breast cancer	_____
Race/Ethnicity	Caucasian, African American, Hispanic, Other

Table 2

Survival Probability According to Breast/Ovarian Cancer Risk-Reduction Strategy at Age 70* for 25-Year-Old *BRCA1/2* Mutation Carrier

Variable	Survival Probability (%) in <i>BRCA1</i> Mutation Carriers	Survival Probability (%) in <i>BRCA2</i> Mutation Carriers
No intervention	53% [BCD=41%;OCD=36%]	71% [BCD=36%;OCD=20%]
RRSO only at age 40	68% [BCD=45%;OCD=12%]	77% [BCD=30%;OCD=4%]
RRSO only at age 50	61% [BCD=51%;OCD=20%]	75% [BCD=42%;OCD=6%]
RRM only at age 25	66% [BCD=5%;OCD=58%]	79% [BCD=4%;OCD=30%]
RRM only at age 40	64% [BCD=13%;OCD=53%]	78% [BCD=9%;OCD=28%]
Breast screening only from ages 25–69	59% [BCD=26%;OCD=46%]	75% [BCD=21%;OCD=25%]
RRSO at age 40 and RRM at age 25	79% [BCD=6%;OCD=21%]	83% [BCD=3%;OCD=6%]
RRSO at age 40 and breast screening from ages 25–69	74% [BCD=30%;OCD=15%]	80% [BCD=18%;OCD=5%]
RRSO at age 40, RRM at age 40, and breast screening from ages 25–39	77% [BCD=18%;OCD=18%]	82% [BCD=9%;OCD=6%]

*Survival probability for 70-year-old woman from general population = 84%[Probability of death as a result of breast cancer (BCD) or ovarian cancer (OCD); RRSO – risk-reducing bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy; RRM – risk-reducing bilateral mastectomy; Breast screening – annual mammography and MRI] Data from: Kurian AW, Sigal BM, Plevritis SK. Survival analysis of cancer risk reduction strategies for *BRCA1/2* mutation carriers. J Clin Oncol 2010;28:222-231.

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