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Guidelines Breast
Version 2021.12

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FUNKTIONEN
LEISTEN
STRECKEN

Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients with early and advanced Breast Cancer

Pathology



Pathology

- **Versions 2004–2020:**
Blohmer / Costa / Fehm / Friedrichs / Harbeck / Huober / Kreipe / Lück / Maass/Schneeweiss/ Sinn / Thomssen / Schmidt
- **Version 2021:**
Kreipe / Sinn / Kühn

Screened data bases: PubMed 2020.

Search Query:

(Breast Diseases/PA[mh] AND ("2010/01/01"[dp] : "2020/01/01"[dp]) AND ("english"[la] OR "german"[la]))

Guidelines screened

1. Hoon TP, Ellis I, Allison K, et al. The 2019 WHO classification of tumours of the breast. Histopathology. February 2020. doi:10.1111/his.14091.
2. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). Breast Cancer, Version 1.2020, NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. January 2020:1-223.
3. Allison KH, Hammond MEH, Dowsett M, et al. Estrogen and Progesterone Receptor Testing in Breast Cancer: ASCO/CAP Guideline Update. J Clin Oncol. 2020;38(12):JCO1902309–1366. doi:10.1200/JCO.19.02309.
4. Burstein HJ, Curigiano G, Loibl S, et al. Estimating the benefits of therapy for early-stage breast cancer: the St. Gallen International

Consensus Guidelines for the primary therapy of early breast cancer 2019. Ann Oncol. 2019;30(10):1541-1557. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdz235.

5. Untch M, Thomssen C, Bauerfeind I, et al. Primary Therapy of Early Breast Cancer: Evidence, Controversies, Consensus: Spectrum of Opinion of German Specialists on the 16th St. Gallen International Breast Cancer Conference (Vienna 2019). Geburtsh Frauenheilkd. 2019;79(6):591-604. doi:10.1055/a-0897-6457.
6. Leitlinienprogramm Onkologie (Deutsche Krebsgesellschaft, Deutsche Krebshilfe, AWMF). S3-Leitlinie Früherkennung, Diagnostik, Therapie Und Nachsorge Des Mammakarzinoms. 2017:1-448.
7. Wells CA. Pathology_Update_Breast_Screening. 2014:1-48. <http://www.euref.org/european-guidelines>.
8. The Royal College of Pathologists. Pathology reporting of breast disease in surgical excision specimens incorporating the dataset for histological reporting of breast cancer. June 2016:1-160. <https://www.rcpath.org/profession/publications/cancer-datasets.html>.
9. Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Pathologie (2002). Leitlinien zur Sicherung und Förderung der Qualitätskontrolle. https://sgpath.ch/docs/QRL/QRL_SGPath_Mamma_2017.pdf

Preanalytics: Fixation

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
Minimize time to fixation (cold ischemia time)	5	D	++
Minimal fixation time of 6 hours for optimal antigen preservation	5	D	++
Optimal fixation time 6 - 72 h for core biopsies	5	D	++
Optimal fixation time for resection specimens: 12 - 72 h	5	D	++
Use of neutral buffered formalin	5	D	++

Antigen preservation

1. Apple, S., Pucci, R., Lowe, A. C., et al. (2011). The effect of delay in fixation, different fixatives, and duration of fixation in estrogen and progesterone receptor results in breast carcinoma. *American Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 135(4), 592–598.
2. De Cecco, L., Musella, V., Veneroni, S., et al. (2009). Impact of biospecimens handling on biomarker research in breast cancer. *BMC Cancer*, 9, 409. <http://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2407-9-409>
3. Kalkman, S., Barentsz, M. W., & van Diest, P. J. (2014). The Effects of Under 6 Hours of Formalin Fixation on Hormone Receptor and HER2 Expression in Invasive Breast Cancer: A Systematic Review. *American Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 142(1), 16–22.
4. Lee, A. H. S., Key, H. P., et al. (2014). The effect of delay in fixation on HER2 expression in invasive carcinoma of the breast assessed with immunohistochemistry and in situ hybridisation. *Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 67(7), 573–575
5. Nagahashi, M., Shimada, Y., Ichikawa, H. et al. (2017). Formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded sample conditions for deep next generation sequencing. *The Journal of Surgical Research*, 220, 125–132. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2017.06.077>
6. Portier, B. P., Wang, Z., Downs-Kelly, E., et al. (2013). Delay to formalin fixation “cold ischemia time”: effect on ERBB2 detection by in-situ hybridization and immunohistochemistry. *Modern Pathology*, 26(1), 1–9. doi:10.1038/modpathol.2012.123

7. Wolff, A. C., Hammond, M. E. H., Allison, K. H. et al. (2018). Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 Testing in Breast Cancer: American Society of Clinical Oncology/College of American Pathologists Clinical Practice Guideline Focused Update. Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, arpa.2018–0902–SA. <http://doi.org/10.5858/arpa.2018-0902-SA>
8. Yildiz-Aktas, I. Z., Dabbs, D. J., & Bhargava, R. (2012). The effect of cold ischemic time on the immunohistochemical evaluation of estrogen receptor, progesterone receptor, and HER2 expression in invasive breast carcinoma. Modern Pathology, 25(8), 1098–1105. <http://doi.org/10.1038/modpathol.2012.59>

Retraction artifacts

1. Ragage, F., Debled, M., MacGrogan, G., et al. (2010). Is it useful to detect lymphovascular invasion in lymph node-positive patients with primary operable breast cancer? Cancer, 116(13), 3093–3101.
2. Lester, S. C., Bose, S., Chen, Y.-Y., et al. (2009). Protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with invasive carcinoma of the breast. Arch Pathol Lab Med, 133(10), 1515–1538.

Use of Breast Cytology*

- Nipple secretion
- Tumor
- Cyst
- Lymph node

Oxford		
LoE	GR	AGO
S	D	+
S	D	-
S	D	+/-
S	D	+/-

* Ultrasound-guided core biopsy recommended

1. Day, C, N Moatamed, AM Fimbres, et al: A Retrospective Study of the Diagnostic Accuracy of Fine-Needle Aspiration for Breast Lesions and Implications for Future Use. *Diagnostic Cytopathology* 36, no. 12 (November 30, 2008): 855–60.
2. Pinder, S E, and J S Reis-Filho. Non-Operative Breast Pathology. *Journal of Clinical Pathology* 60, no. 12 (December 20, 2006): 1297–99. doi:10.1136/jcp.2006.040519.
3. Tse, G M K, T K F Ma, P C W Lui, et al. Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of Papillary Lesions of the Breast: How Accurate Is the Diagnosis?. *Journal of Clinical Pathology* 61, no. 8 (August 2008): 945–49. doi:10.1136/jcp.2008.057489.
4. Ibrahim AE, Bateman AC, Theaker JM, et al. The role and histological classification of needle core biopsy in comparison with fine needle aspiration cytology in the preoperative assessment of impalpable breast lesions. *J Clin Pathol* 2001;54:121–5.
5. He, X., Wang, Y., Nam, G., Lourenco, A. P. et al. (2018). A 10 year retrospective review of fine needle aspiration cytology of cystic lesions of the breast with emphasis on papillary cystic lesions. *Diagnostic Cytopathology*. <http://doi.org/10.1002/dc.24123>
6. Bruzzzone, M., Saro, F., Bruno, S. et al. (2018). Synergy of cytological methods in the pathological staging of breast cancer: Axillary fine-needle aspiration and intraoperative scrape cytology of the sentinel lymph node. *Diagnostic Cytopathology*, 46(11), 919–926. <http://doi.org/10.1002/dc.23995>
7. Tiwari, P., Ghosh, S., & Agrawal, V. K. (2018). Evaluation of breast lesions by digital mammography and ultrasound along with fine-needle aspiration cytology correlation. *Journal of Cancer Research and Therapeutics*, 14(5), 1071–1074.

<http://doi.org/10.4103/0973-1482.191053>

Workup: Core Needle Biopsies (US-guided or stereotactic)

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Routine workup in step sections (14G: 1–3 step sections / 11G, 8G: 6–8 step sections)	5	D	++
▪ Correlation with imaging (density, calcifications), use of B-classification	1b	B	++
▪ Frozen section diagnosis on core biopsies	5	D	--
▪ Routine evaluation of ER/PR and HER2 status	3b	C	++
▪ Turn-around time < 24 h (histology)	5	D	+

Statement: Routine workup in step sections

1. Hahn, M., Krainick-Strobel, U., Toellner, T. et al. (2012). Interdisciplinary consensus recommendations for the use of vacuum-assisted breast biopsy under sonographic guidance: first update 2012. *Ultraschall Med*, 33(4), 366–371. <http://doi.org/10.1055/s-0032-1312831>
2. Sinn, Gerber, Brucker et al. (2017): DCIS und Risikoläsionen. In: AWMF: S3-Leitlinie Früherkennung, Diagnostik, Therapie und Nachsorge des Mammakarzinoms, S. 79 - 89.

Statement: Correlation with imaging

1. Heywang-Köbrunner SH, Sinnatamby R, Lebeau A, et al; Consensus Group. Interdisciplinary consensus on the uses and technique of MR-guided vacuum-assisted breast biopsy (VAB): results of a European consensus meeting. *Eur J Radiol*. 2009 Nov;72(2):289-94
2. Sinn, Gerber, Brucker et al. (2017): DCIS und Risikoläsionen. In: AWMF: S3-Leitlinie Früherkennung, Diagnostik, Therapie und Nachsorge des Mammakarzinoms, S. 79 - 89.

Statement: Frozen section diagnosis on core biopsies

1. Lebeau, Gerber, Brucker et al. (2017): Pathomorphologische Untersuchung. In: AWMF: S3-Leitlinie Früherkennung, Diagnostik, Therapie und Nachsorge des Mammakarzinoms, S. 100 - 139.
2. Dämmrich, M., Thomssen, C., Hillemanns, P. et al. (2012). Intraoperative pathologische Sofortuntersuchung in der Mammachirurgie. Der Pathologe, 33(5), 424–429. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s00292-012-1596-6>

Statement: Routine evaluation of ER/PgR and HER-2 status

1. Dekker, T. J. A., Smit, V. T. H. B. M., Hooijer, G. K. J. et al. (2013). Reliability of core needle biopsy for determining ER and HER2 status in breast cancer. Annals of Oncology, 24(4), 931–937. <http://doi.org/10.1093/annonc/mds599>
2. Meattini, I., Bicchierai, G., Saieva, C. et al. (2017). Impact of molecular subtypes classification concordance between preoperative core needle biopsy and surgical specimen on early breast cancer management: Single-institution experience and review of published literature. European Journal of Surgical Oncology : the Journal of the European Society of Surgical Oncology and the British Association of Surgical Oncology, 43(4), 642–648. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejso.2016.10.025>

Statement: Turn-around time < 24h

1. Amendoeira I, Apostolikas N, Bellocq et al. Quality assurance guidelines for pathology: Open biopsy and resection specimens. In: Perry N, Broders M, de Wolf C, Törnberg S, Holland R, von Karsa L, Puthaar E (eds) European guidelines for quality assurance in breast cancer

Workup: Breast-Conserving Specimens

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Slicing perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (or perpendicular to the nipple-peripheral axis in case of spherical specimens)	5	D	++
▪ Systematic sampling, at least 1 tissue block every 1 cm	5	D	++
▪ Inking of resection margins. Sampling of resection margins	5	D	++
▪ Documentation after slicing using specimen radiography, photo documentation or diagram	5	D	+

Guidelines

1. The Royal College of Pathologists. Pathology reporting of breast disease in surgical excision specimens incorporating the dataset for histological reporting of breast cancer. June 2016:1-160. <https://www.rcpath.org/profession/publications/cancer-datasets.html>.
2. Schnitt SJ, Moran MS, Houssami N, Morrow M. The Society of Surgical Oncology-American Society for Radiation Oncology Consensus Guideline on Margins for Breast-Conserving Surgery With Whole-Breast Irradiation in Stages I and II Invasive Breast Cancer: Perspectives for Pathologists. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. August 2014. doi:10.5858/arpa.2014-0384-ED.
3. Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Pathologie (2002). Leitlinien zur Sicherung und Förderung der Qualitätskontrolle. https://sgpath.ch/docs/QRL/QRL_SGPath_Mamma_2017.pdf
4. Lester SC, Bose S, Chen Y-Y, et al. Protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with invasive carcinoma of the breast. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 2009;133(10):1515-1538. doi:10.1043/1543-2165-133.10.1515.
5. Lester SC, Bose S, Chen Y-Y, et al. Protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with ductal carcinoma in situ of the breast. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 2009;133(1):15-25. doi:10.1043/1543-2165-133.1.15.
6. Fitzgibbons P, Connolly J, Page D. Updated protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with carcinomas of the breast. Cancer Committee. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 2000;124(7):1026-1033.

Systematic Sampling

1. Ang SC, Tapia G, Davidson EJ, et al. Positive anterior margins in breast conserving surgery: Does it matter? A systematic review of the literature. *Breast*. 2016;27:105-108. doi:10.1016/j.breast.2015.12.013.
2. Molina MA, Snell S, Franceschi D, et al. Breast specimen orientation. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2009;16(2):285-288. doi:10.1245/s10434-008-0245-z.
3. Sinn HP, Anton HW, Magener A, Fournier von D, Bastert G, Otto HF. Extensive and predominant in situ component in breast carcinoma: their influence on treatment results after breast-conserving therapy. *Eur J Cancer*. 1998;34(5):646-653. doi:10.1016/s0959-8049(97)10106-x.
4. Decker T, Ruhnke M, Schneider W. Standardisierte pathologische Untersuchung von Mamma-Exzisionspräparaten. Relevanz innerhalb eines interdisziplinären Praxisprotokolls für das Qualitätsmanagement der brusterhaltenden Therapie. *Der Pathologe*. 1997;18(1):53-59. doi:10.1007/s002920050196.

Workup: Mastectomy Specimens

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Margins always to be sampled			
▪ Skin close to tumor	S	D	++
▪ Deep margin			
▪ Other margins, if close (< 1 cm)			
▪ Attention to soft tissue margins in skin sparing mastectomy	S	D	++
▪ Routine sampling of uninvolved quadrants, skin above tumor, and retroareolar region	S	D	++
▪ Systematic sampling in prophylactic mastectomies (patients with BRCA-1/2 mutation)	S	D	++

Guidelines

1. The Royal College of Pathologists. Pathology reporting of breast disease in surgical excision specimens incorporating the dataset for histological reporting of breast cancer. June 2016:1-160. <https://www.rcpath.org/profession/publications/cancer-datasets.html>.
2. Schnitt SJ, Moran MS, Houssami N, Morrow M. The Society of Surgical Oncology-American Society for Radiation Oncology Consensus Guideline on Margins for Breast-Conserving Surgery With Whole-Breast Irradiation in Stages I and II Invasive Breast Cancer: Perspectives for Pathologists. Arch Pathol Lab Med. August 2014. doi:10.5858/arpa.2014-0384-ED.
3. Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Pathologie (2002). Leitlinien zur Sicherung und Förderung der Qualitätskontrolle. https://sgpath.ch/docs/QRL/QRL_SGPath_Mamma_2017.pdf
4. Lester SC, Bose S, Chen Y-Y, et al. Protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with invasive carcinoma of the breast. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2009;133(10):1515-1538. doi:10.1043/1543-2165-133.10.1515.
5. Lester SC, Bose S, Chen Y-Y, et al. Protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with ductal carcinoma in situ of the breast. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2009;133(1):15-25. doi:10.1043/1543-2165-133.1.15.
6. Fitzgibbons P, Connolly J, Page D. Updated protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with carcinomas of the breast. Cancer Committee. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2000;124(7):1026-1033.

Skin sparing and nipple sparing mastectomy

1. Papassotiropoulos B, Güth U, Chiesa F, et al. Prospective Evaluation of Residual Breast Tissue After Skin- or Nipple-Sparing Mastectomy: Results of the SKINI-Trial. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2019;26(5):1254-1262. doi:10.1245/s10434-019-07259-1.
2. Mota BS, Riera R, Ricci MD, et al. Nipple- and areola-sparing mastectomy for the treatment of breast cancer. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2016;11:CD008932. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD008932.pub3.
3. Zhang H, Li Y, Moran MS, Haffty BG, Yang Q. Predictive factors of nipple involvement in breast cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2015;151(2):239-249. doi:10.1007/s10549-015-3385-4.
4. Wang J, Xiao X, Wang J, et al. Predictors of nipple-areolar complex involvement by breast carcinoma: histopathologic analysis of 787 consecutive therapeutic mastectomy specimens. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2012;19(4):1174-1180. doi:10.1245/s10434-011-2107-3.
5. Petit JY, Veronesi U, Orecchia R, et al. Risk factors associated with recurrence after nipple-sparing mastectomy for invasive and intraepithelial neoplasia. *Ann Oncol*. January 2012. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdr566.
6. Weidong Li, Shuling Wang, Xiaojing Guo, et al. Nipple involvement in breast cancer: retrospective analysis of 2323 consecutive mastectomy specimens. *International Journal of Surgical Pathology*. 2011;19(3):328-334. doi:10.1177/1066896911399279.
7. Brachtel EF, Rusby JE, Michaelson JS, et al. Occult nipple involvement in breast cancer: clinicopathologic findings in 316 consecutive mastectomy specimens. *J Clin Oncol*. 2009;27(30):4948-4954. doi:10.1200/JCO.2008.20.8785.
8. Güth U, Wight E, Schötzau A, et al. Correlation and significance of histopathological and clinical features in breast cancer with skin involvement (T4b). *Hum Pathol*. 2006;37(3):264-271.
9. Torresan RZ, Santos dos CC, Okamura H, Alvarenga M. Evaluation of residual glandular tissue after skin-sparing mastectomies. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2005;12(12):1037-1044. doi:10.1245/ASO.2005.11.027.
10. Torresan RZ, Cabello dos Santos C, Brenelli H, Okamura H, Alvarenga M. Residual glandular tissue after skin-sparing mastectomies. *Breast J*. 2005;11(5):374-375. doi:10.1111/j.1075-122X.2005.00029.x.
11. Sikand K, Lee AHS, Pinder SE, Elston CW, Ellis IO. Sections of the nipple and quadrants in mastectomy specimens for carcinoma are of limited value. *SciMed Central*. 2005;58(5):543-545. doi:10.1136/jcp.2004.022665.
12. Love SM, Barsky SH. Anatomy of the nipple and breast ducts revisited. *Cancer*. 2004;101(9):1947-1957. doi:10.1002/cncr.20559.

13. Ho CM, Mak CKL, Lau Y, Cheung WY, Chan MCM, Hung WK. Skin involvement in invasive breast carcinoma: safety of skin-sparing mastectomy. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2003;10(2):102-107. doi:10.1245/aso.2003.05.001.
14. Simmons RM, Brennan M, Christos P, King V, Osborne M. Analysis of nipple/areolar involvement with mastectomy: can the areola be preserved? *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2002;9(2):165-168.
15. Santini D, Taffurelli M, Gelli MC, et al. Neoplastic involvement of nipple-areolar complex in invasive breast cancer. *Am J Surg*. 1989;158(5):399-403.
16. Lüttges J, Kalbfleisch H, Prinz P. Nipple involvement and multicentricity in breast cancer. A study on whole organ sections. *J Cancer Res Clin Oncol*. 1987;113(5):481-487.
17. Morimoto T, Komaki K, Inui K, et al. Involvement of nipple and areola in early breast cancer. *Cancer*. 1985;55(10):2459-2463.

Workup: Sentinel Node Biopsy			
	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
• Full workup using step sections of $\leq 500 \mu\text{m}$ on paraffin embedded tissue	5	D	++
• Cytokeratin immunohistochemistry			
• If suspicious, to detect micrometastases	2b	B	+
• For micrometastasis detection after NACT	2b	B	+
• As a routine procedure	5	D	+/-
• Frozen section (compromises paraffin histomorphology)			
• If clinical consequences	5	D	+
• If no clinical consequences from frozen section (e.g. cT1 or cT2 and cN0 and BCT)	5	D	-
• Imprint cytology instead of, or in addition to frozen section	3b	C	+/-
• RT-PCR for epithelial genes	4	D	-
• OSNA	3b	B	-

Statement: Evaluation of sentinel node biopsy

1. Maguire, A., & Brogi, E. (2016). Sentinel lymph nodes for breast carcinoma: an update on current practice. *Histopathology*, 68(1), 152–167. <http://doi.org/10.1111/his.12853>
2. Liu L-C, Lang JE, Lu Y, et al. Intraoperative frozen section analysis of sentinel lymph nodes in breast cancer patients: a meta-analysis and single-institution experience. *Cancer*. 2011;117(2):250-258. doi:10.1002/cncr.25606.

Statement: Full workup using step sections of $\geq 500 \mu\text{m}$ on paraffin embedded tissue

1. Maguire, A., & Brogi, E. (2016). Sentinel lymph nodes for breast carcinoma: an update on current practice. *Histopathology*, 68(1), 152–167. <http://doi.org/10.1111/his.12853>

Statement: Frozen section

1. Langer, I., Guller, U., Berclaz, G. et al. (2009). Accuracy of frozen section of sentinel lymph nodes: a prospective analysis of 659 breast cancer patients of the Swiss multicenter study. *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*, 113(1), 129–136.

<http://doi.org/10.1007/s10549-008-9911-x>

Statement: Imprint cytology instead or in addition of frozen section

1. Layfield et al. Intraoperative assessment of sentinel lymph nodes in breast cancer. *The British journal of surgery* (2011) vol. 98 (1) pp. 4-17
2. Upender, S., Mohan, H., Handa, U. et al. (2009). Intraoperative evaluation of sentinel lymph nodes in breast carcinoma by imprint cytology, frozen section and rapid immunohistochemistry. *Diagnostic Cytopathology*, 37(12), 871–875.
<http://doi.org/10.1002/dc.21120>

Statement: RT-PCR for epithelial genes

1. Layfield, D. M., Agrawal, A., Roche, H. et al. (2011). Intraoperative assessment of sentinel lymph nodes in breast cancer. *The British Journal of Surgery*, 98(1), 4–17. <http://doi.org/10.1002/bjs.7229>
2. Visser, M., Jiwa, M., Horstman, A. et al. (2008). Intra-operative rapid diagnostic method based on CK19 mRNA expression for the detection of lymph node metastases in breast cancer. *International Journal of Cancer Journal International Du Cancer*, 122(11), 2562–2567. <http://doi.org/10.1002/ijc.23451>

Workup: Intraoperative pathological evaluation and frozen sections

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Sentinel node biopsy for invasive cancer (compromises final paraffin histomorphology)			
▪ If clinical consequences	S	D	+
▪ No clinical consequences	S	D	-
▪ Closest margin of resection			
▪ If macroscopically < 1 cm	S	D	+
▪ If macroscopically > 1 cm	S	D	-
▪ Lesions ≥ 1 cm, without core biopsy	S	D	+
▪ Non-palpable lesions or lesions < 1 cm	S	D	-
▪ Conservation of fresh tissue (tumor banking)	S	D	+

Statement: Sentinel node biopsy for invasive cancer

1. Kühn T, Bembenek A, Decker T et al. A concept for the clinical implementation of sentinel lymph node biopsy in patients with breast carcinoma with special regard to quality assurance. Cancer 2005; 103: 451-461.
2. Grabau D, Rank F, Friis E. Intraoperative frozen section examination of axillary sentinel lymph nodes in breast cancer. APMIS 2005; 113: 7-12.
3. Van Diest PJ, Torrença H, Borgstein PJ et al. Reliability of intraoperative frozen section and imprint cytological investigation of sentinel lymph nodes in breast cancer. Histopathology 1999; 35: 14-18.

Statement: Closest margin of resection

1. Reiner-Concin A, Lax S. Mammakarzinom. In: Manual der gynäkologischen Onkologie (Reinthal R, Helfer L, Hrsg.). <http://www.ago-manual.at/inhalt/i-mammakarzinom/15-pathologie/>
2. Kraus-Tiefenbacher U, Schara A, Steil V, et al. Intraoperative radiotherapy (IORT) for breast cancer using the Intrabeam system. Tumori. 2005;91:339-45

Statement: Lesions \geq 1 cm, without core biopsy

1. Reiner-Concin A, Lax S. Mammakarzinom. In: Manual der gynäkologischen Onkologie (Reinthal R, Helfer L, Hrsg.). <http://www.ago-manual.at/inhalt/i-mammakarzinom/15-pathologie/>
2. Fitzgibbons PL, Connolly JL, Page DL. Updated protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with carcinomas of the breast. Arch Pathol Lab Med 2000; 124:1026- 1033. (ACR)
3. Amendoeira I, Apostolikas N, Bellocq et al. Quality assurance guidelines for pathology: Open biopsy and resection specimens. In: Perry N, Broders M, de Wolf C, et al (eds) European guidelines for quality assurance in breast cancer screening and diagnosis; Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg, 2006, pp 256-311

Statement: Non-palpable lesions or lesions $<$ 1 cm

1. Morrow M, Strom E, Bassett L et al. Standard for the management of ductal carcinoma in situ of the breast (DCIS). CA Cancer J Clin 2002; 52: 256-276.

Reporting: Grade of Malignancy

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Use of Nottingham grading system (Elston & Ellis 1991) for all types of invasive breast cancer	5	D	++
▪ In case of very little tumor tissue, pure nuclear grading or additional criteria, such as Ki-67 proliferation fraction, may be used	5	D	++
▪ Grading of DCIS, e.g. according to WHO-Classification, (5th ed., 2019)	5	D	++
▪ Reporting of tumor grade in numeric form (e.g. G3)	5	D	++

Grading

1. Elston C, Ellis I. Pathological prognostic factors in breast cancer. I. The value of histological grade in breast cancer: experience from a large study with long-term follow-up. *Histopathology*. 1991;19(5):403-41
2. WHO. Breast Tumours: WHO Classification of Tumours. 5 ed. Lyon (France): International Agency for Research on Cancer; 2019
3. Christgen M, Länger F, Kreipe H. Histologisches Grading beim Mammakarzinom. *Der Pathologe*. 2016;37(4):328-336. doi:10.1007/s00292-016-0182-8.
4. Chang JM, McCullough AE, Dueck AC, et al. Back to Basics: Traditional Nottingham Grade Mitotic Counts Alone are Significant in Predicting Survival in Invasive Breast Carcinoma. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2015;22 Suppl 3:S509-S515. doi:10.1245/s10434-015-4616-y.
5. Schwartz AM, Henson DE, Chen D, Rajamarthandan S. Histologic grade remains a prognostic factor for breast cancer regardless of the number of positive lymph nodes and tumor size: a study of 161 708 cases of breast cancer from the SEER Program. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 2014;138(8):1048-1052. doi:10.5858/arpa.2013-0435-OA.
6. Rakha EA, Reis-Filho JS, Baehner F, et al. Breast cancer prognostic classification in the molecular era: the role of histological grade. *Breast Cancer Res*. 2010;12(4):207. doi:10.1186/bcr2607.

7. Rakha EA, El-Sayed ME, Lee AHS, et al. Prognostic significance of Nottingham histologic grade in invasive breast carcinoma. *J Clin Oncol*. 2008;26(19):3153-3158. doi:10.1200/JCO.2007.15.5986.

Grading of invasive lobular carcinoma

1. Rakha EA, El-Sayed ME, Menon S, Green AR, Lee AHS, Ellis IO. Histologic grading is an independent prognostic factor in invasive lobular carcinoma of the breast. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2008;111(1):121-127. doi:10.1007/s10549-007-9768-4.
2. Talman M-LM, Jensen M-B, Rank F. Invasive lobular breast cancer. Prognostic significance of histological malignancy grading. *Acta Oncol*. 2007;46(6):803-809. doi:10.1080/02841860601137397.
3. Bane AL, Tjan S, Parkes RK, Andrulis I, O'Malley FP. Invasive lobular carcinoma: to grade or not to grade. *Mod Pathol*. 2005;18(5).

Reporting: Tumor Size and Total Extent of Tumor

- Reporting of invasive tumor size taking into account macroscopic and histologic findings and clinical imaging results
- Additional reporting of total extent of invasive carcinoma in case of satellite nodules or multifocality
- Reporting of size of non-invasive component (DCIS or LCIS) when DCIS or LCIS component is extensive (more than 2x invasive Ca)

Oxford		
LoE	GR	AGO
5	D	++
5	D	++
5	D	++

Determination of tumor size

1. Pritt, B., Tessitore, J. J., Weaver, D. L. et al (2005). The effect of tissue fixation and processing on breast cancer size. Human Pathology, 36(7), 756–760.
2. Varma, S., Ozerdem, U., & Hoda, S. A. (2014). Complexities and challenges in the pathologic assessment of size (T) of invasive breast carcinoma. Advances in Anatomic Pathology, 21(6), 420–432.

Multifocality

1. Hilton, J. F., Bouganim, N., Dong, B., et al. (2013). Do alternative methods of measuring tumor size, including consideration of multicentric/multifocal disease, enhance prognostic information beyond TNM staging in women with early stage breast cancer: an analysis of the NCIC CTG MA.5 and MA.12 clinical trials. Breast Cancer Research and Treatment, 142(1), 143–151.
2. NHS (2005) Pathology Reporting of Breast Disease. IA Joint Document Incorporating the Third Edition of the NHS Breast Screening Programme's Guidelines for Pathology Reporting in Breast Cancer Screening and the Second Edition of The Royal College of Pathologists' Minimum Dataset for Breast Cancer Histopathology

<http://www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/breastscreen/publications/nhsbsp58-low-resolution.pdf>

3. Perry N, Broeders M, de Wolf C, et al. European guidelines for quality assurance in breast cancer screening and diagnosis. Fourth edition--summary document. *Annals of Oncology*. 2008 Apr 1;19(4):614–22.
4. Tot, T., Gere, M., Pekár, G., et al. (2011). Breast cancer multifocality, disease extent, and survival. *Human Pathology*, 42(11), 1761–1769.

Extensive intraductal component (EIC)

1. Mai, K. T., Perkins, D. G., & Mirsky, D. (2003). Location and extent of positive resection margins and ductal carcinoma in situ in lumpectomy specimens of ductal breast carcinoma examined with a microscopic three-dimensional view. *The Breast Journal*, 9(1), 33–38.
2. Smitt, M. C., Nowels, K., Carlson, R. W., et al. (2003). Predictors of reexcision findings and recurrence after breast conservation. *International Journal of Radiation OncologyBiologyPhysics*, 57(4), 979–985
3. Schnitt, S. J., Connolly, J. L., Khettry, U., et al. (1987). Pathologic findings on re-excision of the primary site in breast cancer patients considered for treatment by primary radiation therapy. *Cancer*, 59(4), 675–681.
4. Sinn, H. P., Anton, H. W., Magener, A., et al. (1998). Extensive and predominant in situ component in breast carcinoma: their influence on treatment results after breast-conserving therapy. *European Journal of Cancer*, 34(5), 646–653

Reporting: pTNM

Oxford		
LoE	GR	AGO
5	D	++

- Use of current UICC classification (8th ed.)
- pT 1-3: Invasive tumor size (largest focus in case of multifocality or multicentricity)
- pT4: Invasion of dermis alone does not qualify as pT4. Criteria for pT4a/b/c/d must be met.
- pT4d: Negative skin biopsy does not rule out pT4d (inflammatory carcinoma).
- pM: pM1 indicates any non-regional disease, except 2nd primary contralateral.
Use of MX is not recommended.

TNM staging (7th ed.) according to UICC und AJCC

1. Wittekind C. *TNM - Klassifikation Maligner Tumoren 8. Aufl.* John Wiley & Sons; 2016.
2. Brierley JD, Gospodarowicz MK, Wittekind C. *TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 8th ed.* John Wiley & Sons; 2016.
3. American-Joint-Committee-on-Cancer (2017) AJCC cancer staging manual 8th ed. Springer, New York; London
4. Amin MB, Greene FL, Edge SB, et al. The Eighth Edition AJCC Cancer Staging Manual: Continuing to build a bridge from a population-based to a more “personalized” approach to cancer staging. *CA Cancer J Clin.* 2017;67(2):93-99. doi:10.3322/caac.21388.

pT4b category: Involvement of the skin

1. Wieland, A., Louwman, M., Voogd, A., et al. (2004). Determinants of prognosis in breast cancer patients with tumor involvement of the skin (pT4b). *The Breast Journal*, 10(2), 123–128. doi:21279 [pii]
2. Harms, K., & Wittekind, C. (2009). Prognosis of women with pT4b breast cancer: the significance of this category in the TNM system. *European Journal of Surgical Oncology : the Journal of the European Society of Surgical Oncology and the British Association of*

Surgical Oncology, 35(1), 38–42. doi:10.1016/j.ejso.2007.11.016

pT4d category: Inflammatory breast cancer

1. Yamauchi, H., Woodward, W. A., Valero, V., et al. (2012). Inflammatory breast cancer: what we know and what we need to learn. The Oncologist, 17(7), 891–899. doi:10.1634/theoncologist.2012-0039

Reporting: Margins of Resection and R-Classification

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Evaluation of distance to all resection margins macroscopically and close margins histologically (< 1 cm)	S	D	++
▪ Reporting of minimal distance to resection margin and its topography	S	D	++
▪ R-Classification	S	D	++
R0: No residual tumor			
R1: Microscopic invasive or noninvasive carcinoma involving resection margin			
RX: Presence of residual tumor cannot be assessed (e.g. tumor in multiple specimens)			

Pathological margin assessment

1. Schnitt, S. J., Moran, M. S., Houssami, N., et al. (2014). The Society of Surgical Oncology-American Society for Radiation Oncology Consensus Guideline on Margins for Breast-Conserving Surgery With Whole-Breast Irradiation in Stages I and II Invasive Breast Cancer: Perspectives for Pathologists. *Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine*. doi:10.5858/arpa.2014-0384-ED
2. Houssami, N., & Morrow, M. (2014). Margins in breast conservation: a clinician's perspective and what the literature tells us. *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, 110(1), 2–7. doi:10.1002/jso.23594
3. Houssami, N., Macaskill, P., Marinovich, M. L., et al. (2014). The association of surgical margins and local recurrence in women with early-stage invasive breast cancer treated with breast-conserving therapy: a meta-analysis. *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, 21(3), 717–730.
4. Yeap, B. H., Muniandy, S., Lee, S.-K., et al. (2007). Specimen shrinkage and its influence on margin assessment in breast cancer. *Asian Journal of Surgery / Asian Surgical Association*, 30(3), 183–187. doi:10.1016/S1015-9584(08)60020-2
5. Dooley, W. C., & Parker, J. (2005). Understanding the mechanisms creating false positive lumpectomy margins. *American Journal of Surgery*, 190(4), 606–608. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2005.06.023

6. Keskek, M., Kothari, M., Ardehali, B. et al. (2004). Factors predisposing to cavity margin positivity following conservation surgery for breast cancer. *European Journal of Surgical Oncology*, 30(10), 1058–1064. doi:10.1016/j.ejso.2004.07.019
7. Graham, R. A., Homer, M. J., Katz, J., et al. (2002). The pancake phenomenon contributes to the inaccuracy of margin assessment in patients with breast cancer. *American Journal of Surgery*, 184(2), 89–93.

R-Classifikation

1. Wittekind C, Compton C, Quirke P, et al. A uniform residual tumor (R) classification: integration of the R classification and the circumferential margin status. *Cancer*. 2009;115(15):3483-3488. doi:10.1002/cncr.24320.

Reporting: Lymphovascular Invasion

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ L1: Lymphovascular invasion L0: No lymphovascular invasion	5	D	++
▪ IHC for evaluation of lymphovascular invasion	3b	C	-
▪ Differentiation of peritumoral and extensive lymphovascular invasion	3b	C	++
▪ Reporting of venous invasion (V0/V1) optional, prognostic significance not established	5	D	+

Definition of L- and V-Classification

1. Wittekind C. *TNM - Klassifikation Maligner Tumoren 8. Aufl.* John Wiley & Sons; 2016.

Detection of angioinvasion

1. Manfrin, E., Remo, A., Pancione, M. et al. (2014). Comparison between invasive breast cancer with extensive peritumoral vascular invasion and inflammatory breast carcinoma: a clinicopathologic study of 161 cases. *American Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 142(3), 299–306. doi:10.1309/AJCPOXKX67KRAOVM
2. Ren, S., Abuel-Haija, M., Khurana, J. S., et al. (2011). D2-40: an additional marker for myoepithelial cells of breast and the precaution in interpreting tumor lymphovascular invasion. *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Pathology*, 4(2), 175–182.
3. Van den Eynden, G. G., Van der Auwera, I., Van Laere, S. Jet al. (2006). Distinguishing blood and lymph vessel invasion in breast cancer: a prospective immunohistochemical study. *British Journal of Cancer*, 94(11), 1643–1649.
4. Zaorsky, N. G., Patil, N., Freedman, G. M., et al. (2012). Differentiating lymphovascular invasion from retraction artifact on histological specimen of breast carcinoma and their implications on prognosis. *Journal of Breast Cancer*, 15(4), 478–480.

Prognostic significance of lymphovascular invasion

1. Gujam, F. J. A., Going, J. J., Edwards, J. et al. (2014). The role of lymphatic and blood vessel invasion in predicting survival and methods of detection in patients with primary operable breast cancer. *Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology*, 89(2), 231–241. doi:10.1016/j.critrevonc.2013.08.014
2. Colleoni, M., Rotmensz, N., Maisonneuve, P., et al. (2007). Prognostic role of the extent of peritumoral vascular invasion in operable breast cancer. *Annals of Oncology*, 18(10), 1632–1640
3. Rakha, E. A., Martin, S., Lee, A. H. S., et al. (2011). The prognostic significance of lymphovascular invasion in invasive breast carcinoma. *Cancer*, 118(15), 3670–3680.

Reporting: Evaluation of Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TIL)

Oxford		
LoE	GR	AGO
5	D	+/-

- Identification of tumors with predominant lymphocytic infiltrate (> 50%) in tumor stroma (according to Salgado et al. *)
 Consider only lymphocytic infiltrate in tumor stroma and not at the invasion front
 Do not consider central fibrosis and necrotic areas
 Report average of lymphocytic infiltrate as percentage
- * Salgado, R., Denkert, C., Demaria, S., Sirtaine, N., Klauschen, F., Pruner, G., et al. (2014). The evaluation of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) in breast cancer: recommendations by an International TILs Working Group 2014. *Annals of Oncology*

Definition and impact of predominant lymphocytic infiltration

- Kos Z, Roblin E, Kim RS, et al. Pitfalls in assessing stromal tumor infiltrating lymphocytes (sTILs) in breast cancer. *npj Breast Cancer*. 2020;6(1):17–16. doi:10.1038/s41523-020-0156-0.
- Dieci MV, Radošević-Robin N, Fineberg S, et al. Update on tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) in breast cancer, including recommendations to assess TILs in residual disease after neoadjuvant therapy and in carcinoma in situ: A report of the International Immuno-Oncology Biomarker Working Group on Breast Cancer. *Semin Cancer Biol*. 2018;52(Pt 2):16-25. doi:10.1016/j.semcancer.2017.10.003.
- Grigoriadis A, Gazinska P, Pai T, et al. Histological scoring of immune and stromal features in breast and axillary lymph nodes is prognostic for distant metastasis in lymph node-positive breast cancers. *J Pathol Clin Res*. 2018;4(1):39-54. doi:10.1002/cjp2.87.
- Tramm T, Di Caterino Tina, Jylling A-MB, et al. Standardized assessment of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes in breast cancer: an evaluation of inter-observer agreement between pathologists. *Acta Oncol*. 2018;57(1):90-94. doi:10.1080/0284186X.2017.1403040.
- Denkert C, Minckwitz von G, Darb-Esfahani S, et al. Tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes and prognosis in different subtypes of breast cancer: a pooled analysis of 3771 patients treated with neoadjuvant therapy. *Lancet Oncol*. 2018;19(1):40-50. doi:10.1016/S1470-2045(17)30904-X.

6. Salgado R, Denkert C, Demaria S, et al. The evaluation of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) in breast cancer: recommendations by an International TILs Working Group 2014. *Ann Oncol*. 2015;26(2):259-271. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdu450.
7. Denkert C, Salgado R, Demaria S. Standardized evaluation of Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TIL) in Breast Cancer for daily clinical and research practice or clinical trial setting. In:; 2014:1-14.

Reporting: Evaluation after Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Identification of tumor bed, otherwise ypTX	4	D	++
▪ Reporting of tumor size as total extent of tumor bed area involved by infiltrates of residual vital invasive carcinoma	4	D	++
▪ pCR if absence of invasive Ca. and absence of angioinvasion or LN metastases. Presence of ypTis should be recorded	2b	D	+
▪ Use of IHC to identify tumor residues (lymphnodes)	2b	B	+/-
▪ Reporting of ypTN after therapy	5	D	++
▪ Repeat IHC for ER, PR, and HER2	5	D	+/-
▪ Intraoperative frozen section (reduced sensitivity)	5	D	-
▪ Tumorregression-Scores: RCB-Score or Sataloff-Score	4	D	+/-

Specimen processing after neoadjuvant chemotherapy

1. Provenzano E, Bossuyt V, Viale G, et al. Standardization of pathologic evaluation and reporting of postneoadjuvant specimens in clinical trials of breast cancer: recommendations from an international working group. *Mod Pathol*. 2015;28(9):1185-1201. doi:10.1038/modpathol.2015.74
2. Bossuyt V, Provenzano E, Symmans WF, et al. Recommendations for standardized pathological characterization of residual disease for neoadjuvant clinical trials of breast cancer by the BIG-NABCG collaboration. *Ann Oncol*. 2015;26(7):1280-1291. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdv161
3. Sahoo S, Lester SC. Pathology of breast carcinomas after neoadjuvant chemotherapy: an overview with recommendations on specimen processing and reporting. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 2009;133(4):633-642. doi:10.1043/1543-2165-133.4.633
4. Fan F. Evaluation and reporting of breast cancer after neoadjuvant chemotherapy. *Open Pathology Journal*. 2009;3:58-63
5. Gralow JR, Burstein HJ, Wood W, et al. Preoperative therapy in invasive breast cancer: pathologic assessment and systemic therapy issues in operable disease. *J Clin Oncol*. 2008;26(5):814-819. doi:10.1200/JCO.2007.15.3510
6. Pinder SE, Provenzano E, Earl H, Ellis IO. Laboratory handling and histology reporting of breast specimens from patients who have

received neoadjuvant chemotherapy. *Histopathology*. 2007;50(4):409-417. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2559.2006.02419.x.

RCB-Score

1. RCB-Calculator: <http://www3.mdanderson.org/app/medcalc/index.cfm?pagename=jsconvert>
2. Bossuyt V, Symmans WF. Standardizing of Pathology in Patients Receiving Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2016;23(10):3153-3161. doi:10.1245/s10434-016-5317-x
3. Naidoo K, Parham DM, Pinder SE. An Audit of Residual Cancer Burden Reproducibility in a UK context. *Histopathology*. August 2016. doi:10.1111/his.13054
4. Peintinger F, Sinn B, Hatzis C, et al. Reproducibility of residual cancer burden for prognostic assessment of breast cancer after neoadjuvant chemotherapy. *Mod Pathol*. 2015;28(7):913-920. doi:10.1038/modpathol.2015.53
5. Sheri A, Smith IE, Johnston SR, et al. Residual proliferative cancer burden to predict long-term outcome following neoadjuvant chemotherapy. *Ann Oncol*. 2015;26(1):75-80. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdu508
6. Symmans, W. F., Peintinger, F., Hatzis, C., et al. (2007). Measurement of residual breast cancer burden to predict survival after neoadjuvant chemotherapy. *Journal of Clinical Oncology : Official Journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology*, 25(28), 4414–4422.

Sataloff-Score

1. Sataloff DM, Mason BA, Prestipino AJ, Seinige UL, Lieber CP, Baloch Z. Pathologic response to induction chemotherapy in locally advanced carcinoma of the breast: a determinant of outcome. *J Am Coll Surg*. 1995;180(3):297-306.

Special Studies: ER-Testing by IHC

- Immunohistochemical detection on paraffin embedded (FFPE) tissue
- Reporting percentage of pos. tumor nuclei (pos. if $\geq 10\%$, low pos. if $\geq 1\%$ – 10%)
- Staining intensity
- Only Allred Score (0–8) or Remmele Score (0–12)
- Re-evaluation on excision specimen if uncertain or triple-negative on core biopsy

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
	1a	A	++
	1a	A	++
	4	D	+
	4	D	-
	5	D	+

ASCO/CAP Guideline for ER- and PR-testing

1. Allison KH, Hammond MEH, Dowsett M, et al. Estrogen and Progesterone Receptor Testing in Breast Cancer: ASCO/CAP Guideline Update. *J Clin Oncol.* 2020;38(12):JCO1902309–1366. doi:10.1200/JCO.19.02309
2. Duffy MJ, Harbeck N, Nap M, et al. Clinical use of biomarkers in breast cancer: Updated guidelines from the European Group on Tumor Markers (EGTM). *Eur J Cancer.* 2017;75:284–298. doi:10.1016/j.ejca.2017.01.017.

IHC-testing for ER-positivity

1. Duffy MJ, Harbeck N, Nap M, et al. Clinical use of biomarkers in breast cancer: Updated guidelines from the European Group on Tumor Markers (EGTM). *Eur J Cancer.* 2017;75:284–298. doi:10.1016/j.ejca.2017.01.017.
2. Schrijver WAME, Suijkerbuijk KPM, van Gils CH, van der Wall E, Moelans CB, van Diest PJ. Receptor Conversion in Distant Breast Cancer Metastases: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *J Natl Cancer Inst.* 2018;110(6):568–580. doi:10.1093/jnci/djx273.
3. Traub L, Thill M, Nitschmann S. 20-Jahres-Ergebnisse einer 5-jährigen Hormontherapie bei Mammakarzinom : Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG). *Internist (Berl).* 2018;59(4):410–412. doi:10.1007/s00108-018-0398-1.

4. Allred, D. C. (2010). Issues and updates: evaluating estrogen receptor-alpha, progesterone receptor, and HER2 in breast cancer. *Modern Pathology*, 23 Suppl 2, S52–9. doi:10.1038/modpathol.2010.55
5. Allred, D. C., Carlson, R. W., Berry, D. A., et al. (2009). NCCN Task Force Report: Estrogen Receptor and Progesterone Receptor Testing in Breast Cancer by Immunohistochemistry. *Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network*, 7 Suppl 6, S1–S21– quiz S22–3. Retrieved from http://www.nccn.org/JNCCN/PDF/2009_estrogen_receptor_and_progesterone_receptor_immunohistochemistry.pdf
6. Gown, A. M. (2008). Current issues in ER and HER2 testing by IHC in breast cancer. *Modern Pathology*, 21, S8–S15
7. Hammond, M. E., Hayes, D. F., & Wolff, A. C. (2011). Clinical Notice for American Society of Clinical Oncology-College of American Pathologists Guideline Recommendations on ER/PgR and HER2 Testing in Breast Cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology : Official Journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology*, 29(15), e458–e458.
8. Cheang MC, Treaba DO, Speers CH, et al. Immunohistochemical detection using the new rabbit monoclonal antibody SP1 of estrogen receptor in breast cancer is superior to mouse monoclonal antibody 1D5 in predicting survival. *J Clin Oncol*. 2006 Dec 20;24(36):5637-44. Epub 2006 Nov 20.
9. Hammond et al. American Society of Clinical Oncology/College of American Pathologists guideline recommendations for immunohistochemical testing of estrogen and progesterone receptors in breast cancer. *Arch Pathol Lab Med* (2010) vol. 134 (6) pp. 907-22
10. Rocha R, Nunes C, Rocha G et al. Rabbit monoclonal antibodies show higher sensitivity than mouse monoclonals for estrogen and progesterone receptor evaluation in breast cancer by immunohistochemistry. *Pathol Res Pract*. 2008;204(9):655-62. Epub 2008 Jun 18.

IHC Scores

1. Allred, D. C., Harvey, J. M., Berardo, M., et al. (1998). Prognostic and predictive factors in breast cancer by immunohistochemical analysis. *Modern Pathology*, 11(2), 155–168.
2. Remmele, W., & Stegner, H. (1987). Vorschlag zur einheitlichen Definition eines Immunreaktiven Score (IRS) für den immunhistochemischen Östrogenrezeptor-Nachweis (ER-ICA) im Mammakarzinomgewebe. *Der Pathologe*, 8(3), 138–140.

Monoclonal Antibodies for ER-Testing

1. Cheang MC, Treaba DO, Speers CH, et al. Immunohistochemical detection using the new rabbit monoclonal antibody SP1 of estrogen receptor in breast cancer is superior to mouse monoclonal antibody 1D5 in predicting survival. J Clin Oncol. 2006 Dec 20;24(36):5637-44.

Low ER+ (1–10%)			
<p> *AGO e. V. in der DGBC e. V. in der S3 e. V. Guidelines Breast Version 2021.12 </p> <p> www.ago-online.de 0 30 00 00 00 00 0 30 00 00 00 00 0 30 00 00 00 00 </p>	Sanford AS et al. Cancer 2015	High Incidence of Germline BRCA Mutation in Patients with ER Low-Positive/PR Low-Positive/HER-2 neu Negative Tumors	314 Pat. 1–9% ER, Anteil BRCA mutierter Fälle wie bei ER -
	Deyarmin B et al. Ann Surg Oncol (2013) 20:87–93	Effect of ASCO/CAP Guidelines for Determining ER Status on Molecular Subtype	26 Pat. 1–10% ER, Genexpression eher wie TN oder HER2 enr
	Prabhu YS et al. 2014; J Cancer 5(2): 156–165.	A Majority of Low (1–10%) ER Positive Breast Cancers Behave Like Hormone Receptor Negative Tumors	21 Pat. 1–10% ER, Genexpression wie ER-, Überleben < ER+
	Yi et al. Annals Oncol. 2014	Which threshold for ER positivity? a retrospective study based on 9639 patients	251 Pat. 1–9% ER Überleben = ER-

Low ER+ Group

1. Poon IK, Tsang JY, Li J, Chan S-K, Shea K-H, Tse GM. The significance of highlighting the oestrogen receptor low category in breast cancer. *Br J Cancer*. 2020;123(8):1223-1227. doi:10.1038/s41416-020-1009-1.
2. Dixon JM, Cameron DA, Arthur LM, et al. Accurate Estrogen Receptor Quantification in Patients with Negative and Low-Positive Estrogen-Receptor-Expressing Breast Tumors: Sub-Analyses of Data from Two Clinical Studies. *Adv Ther*. 2019;378(suppl 6):771-841. doi:10.1007/s12325-019-0896-0.
3. Landmann A, Farrugia DJ, Zhu L, et al. Low Estrogen Receptor (ER)-Positive Breast Cancer and Neoadjuvant Systemic Chemotherapy: Is Response Similar to Typical ER-Positive or ER-Negative Disease? *Am J Clin Pathol*. 2018;150(1):34-42. doi:10.1093/ajcp/aqy028.
4. Chen T, Zhang N, Moran MS, Su P, Haffty BG, Yang Q. Borderline ER-Positive Primary Breast Cancer Gains No Significant Survival Benefit From Endocrine Therapy: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *Clinical breast cancer*. 2018;18(1):1-8. doi:10.1016/j.clbc.2017.06.005.
5. Reddy SM, Barcenas CH, Sinha AK, et al. Long-term survival outcomes of triple-receptor negative breast cancer survivors who are disease free at 5 years and relationship with low hormone receptor positivity. *Br J Cancer*. 2018;118(1):17-23. doi:10.1038/bjc.2017.379.

6. Fujii T, Kogawa T, Dong W, et al. Revisiting the definition of estrogen receptor positivity in HER2-negative primary breast cancer. *Ann Oncol*. 2017;28(10):2420-2428. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdx397.
7. Viale G. Controversies in treatment selection for patients with equivocal ER and HER2 results. *Breast*. 2017;34 Suppl 1:S61-S63. doi:10.1016/j.breast.2017.06.030.
8. Nordenskjöld A, Fohlin H, Fornander T, Löfdahl B, Skoog L, Stål O. Progesterone receptor positivity is a predictor of long-term benefit from adjuvant tamoxifen treatment of estrogen receptor positive breast cancer. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2016;160(2):313-322. doi:10.1007/s10549-016-4007-5.
9. Sanford RA, Song J, Gutierrez-Barrera AM, et al. High incidence of germline BRCA mutation in patients with ER low-positive/PR low-positive/HER-2 neu negative tumors. *Cancer*. 2015;121(19):3422-3427. doi:10.1002/cncr.29572.
10. Balduzzi A, Bagnardi V, Rotmensz N, et al. Survival outcomes in breast cancer patients with low estrogen/progesterone receptor expression. *Clinical breast cancer*. 2014;14(4):258-264. doi:10.1016/j.clbc.2013.10.019
11. Yi M, Huo L, Koenig KB, et al. Which threshold for ER positivity? a retrospective study based on 9639 patients. *Ann Oncol*. 2014;25(5):1004-1011. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdu053
12. Gloyeske NC, Dabbs DJ, Bhargava R. Low ER+ breast cancer: Is this a distinct group? *Am J Clin Pathol*. 2014;141(5):697-701. doi:10.1309/AJCP34CYSATWFDPQ
13. Prabhu JS, Korlimarla A, Desai K, et al. A Majority of Low (1-10%) ER Positive Breast Cancers Behave Like Hormone Receptor Negative Tumors. *J Cancer*. 2014;5(2):156-165. doi:10.7150/jca.7668
14. Reisenbichler ES, Lester SC, Richardson AL, Dillon DA, Ly A, Brock JE. Interobserver concordance in implementing the 2010 ASCO/CAP recommendations for reporting ER in breast carcinomas: a demonstration of the difficulties of consistently reporting low levels of ER expression by manual quantification. *Am J Clin Pathol*. 2013;140(4):487-494. doi:10.1309/AJCP1RF9FUIZRDP
15. Deyarmin B, Kane JL, Valente AL, et al. Effect of ASCO/CAP guidelines for determining ER status on molecular subtype. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2013;20(1):87-93. doi:10.1245/s10434-012-2588-8
16. Rakha EA, Lee AHS, Roberts J, et al. Low-estrogen receptor-positive breast cancer: the impact of tissue sampling, choice of antibody, and molecular subtyping. *J Clin Oncol*. 2012;30(23):2929–30—authorreply2931. doi:10.1200/JCO.2012.43.2831.

17. Iwamoto T, Booser D, Valero V, et al. Estrogen receptor (ER) mRNA and ER-related gene expression in breast cancers that are 1% to 10% ER-positive by immunohistochemistry. *J Clin Oncol.* 2012;30(7):729-734. doi:10.1200/JCO.2011.36.2574.
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Special Studies: PR-Testing by IHC

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
• Immunohistochemical detection on paraffin embedded (FFPE) tissue	1a	A	++
• Reporting percentage of pos. tumor nuclei (pos. if $\geq 10\%$)	1a	A	++
• Only Allred Score (0 - 8) or Remmele Score (0 - 12)	4	D	-

IHC-testing for PR-positivity

1. Allred, D. C. (2010). Issues and updates: evaluating estrogen receptor-alpha, progesterone receptor, and HER2 in breast cancer. *Modern Pathology*, 23 Suppl 2, S52–9. doi:10.1038/modpathol.2010.55
2. Allison KH, Hammond MEH, Dowsett M, et al. Estrogen and Progesterone Receptor Testing in Breast Cancer: ASCO/CAP Guideline Update. *J Clin Oncol*. 2020;38(12):JCO1902309–1366. doi:10.1200/JCO.19.02309

Prognostic significance

1. Braun, L., Mietzsch, F., Seibold, P., et al. (2013). Intrinsic breast cancer subtypes defined by estrogen receptor signalling - prognostic relevance of progesterone receptor loss, 26(9), 1161–1171.
2. Prat, A., Cheang, M. C. U., Martin, M., et al. (2013). Prognostic Significance of Progesterone Receptor-Positive Tumor Cells Within Immunohistochemically Defined Luminal A Breast Cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology : Official Journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology*, 31(2), 203–209.

Aberrant Expression of ER in triple negative breast cancer

1. Cserni, G., Francz, M., Kálmán, E., et al. (2011). Estrogen receptor negative and progesterone receptor positive breast carcinomas-how frequent are they? Pathology Oncology Research : POR, 17(3), 663–668. doi:10.1007/s12253-011-9366-y
2. Hefti, M. M., Hu, R., Knoblauch, N. W., et al. (2013). Estrogen receptor negative/progesterone receptor positive breast cancer is not a reproducible subtype. Breast Cancer Research : BCR, 15(4), R68.

IHC Scores

1. Allred, D. C., Harvey, J. M., Berardo, M., et al. (1998). Prognostic and predictive factors in breast cancer by immunohistochemical analysis. Modern Pathology, 11(2), 155–168.
2. Remmele, W., & Stegner, H. (1987). Vorschlag zur einheitlichen Definition eines Immunreaktiven Score (IRS) für den immunhistochemischen Östrogenrezeptor-Nachweis (ER-ICA) im Mammakarzinomgewebe. Der Pathologe, 8(3), 138–140.



Additional Special Studies:
Molecular Analysis of ER/PR Status

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
• Evaluation of hormone receptors using validated gene expression test kits	3b	A	+/-
• Exclusive evaluation of hormone receptors by RNA-quantification	5	D	-
• Use of molecular receptor analysis for subtyping	3b	A	+/-

Clinical significance of mRNA expression of ESR-alpha, PgR and concordance with IHC results

1. Dixon JM, Cameron DA, Arthur LM, et al. Accurate Estrogen Receptor Quantification in Patients with Negative and Low-Positive Estrogen-Receptor-Expressing Breast Tumors: Sub-Analyses of Data from Two Clinical Studies. *Adv Ther.* 2019;378(suppl 6):771-841. doi:10.1007/s12325-019-0896-0.
2. Chapman J-AW, Sgroi DC, Goss PE, et al. Relapse-free survival of statistically standardized continuous RT-PCR estrogen receptor (ER), progesterone receptor (PR), and human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2): NCIC CTG MA.14. *Breast Cancer Res Treat.* 2016;157(1):101-108. doi:10.1007/s10549-016-3806-z.
3. Oosterkamp HM, Hijmans EM, Brummelkamp TR, et al. USP9X downregulation renders breast cancer cells resistant to tamoxifen. *Cancer Res.* 2014;74(14):3810-3820. doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-13-1960.
4. Viale G, Slaets L, Bogaerts J, et al. High concordance of protein (by IHC), gene (by FISH; HER2 only), and microarray readout (by TargetPrint) of ER, PgR, and HER2: results from the EORTC 10041/BIG 03-04 MINDACT trial. *Ann Oncol.* 2014;25(4):816-823. doi:10.1093/annonc/mdu026.
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doi:10.1016/S0959-8049(14)70112-1.

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HER2-Analysis by IHC

Reporting of immunohistochemistry (IHC):

- 3+ staining pattern: HER2+ if strong complete circular membrane staining of > 10% invasive cells
- 2+ staining pattern: If > 10% circular but moderate/weak membrane staining or ≤ 10% strong staining, U-shaped staining in micropapillary carcinoma: ISH required (CISH, SISH, FISH)

Oxford		
LoE	GR	AGO
1a	A	++
1a	A	++

ASCO/CAP Guideline on HER2-Testing

- Wolff AC, Hammond MEH, Allison KH, et al. Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 Testing in Breast Cancer: American Society of Clinical Oncology/College of American Pathologists Clinical Practice Guideline Focused Update. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. May 2018;arpa.2018-0902-SA. doi:10.5858/arpa.2018-0902-SA.

IHC and molecular HER2-Testing

- Liu Z-H, Wang K, Lin D-Y, et al. Impact of the updated 2018 ASCO/CAP guidelines on HER2 FISH testing in invasive breast cancer: a retrospective study of HER2 fish results of 2233 cases. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2019;175(1):51-57. doi:10.1007/s10549-019-05148-5.
- Prat A, Pascual T, De Angelis C, et al. HER2-enriched subtype and ERBB2 expression in HER2-positive breast cancer treated with dual HER2 blockade. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. April 2019. doi:10.1093/jnci/djz042.
- Gordian-Arroyo AM, Zynger DL, Tozbikian GH. Impact of the 2018 ASCO/CAP HER2 Guideline Focused Update. *Am J Clin Pathol*. 2019;152(1):17-26. doi:10.1093/ajcp/aqz012.

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HER2-Analysis by ISH when IHC 2+

- **Single-Color In-Situ-Hybridisation (ISH):**
 - HER2+ if signal counts ≥ 6 in at least 20 cohesive cells
 - negative if signal counts < 4 signals/nucleus
 - 2-Color ISH recommended for ≥ 4 and < 6 signals/nucleus
- **Two-Color In-Situ-Hybridisation (ISH):**
 - Group 1: Ratio ≥ 2.0 and signals/nucleus ≥ 4.0 -> HER2+
 - Group 2: Ratio ≥ 2.0 and signals/nucleus < 4.0
-> HER2- (no benefit of anti-HER2 therapy)
 - Group 3: Ratio < 2.0 and signals/nucleus ≥ 6.0
-> HER2+ (but benefit of anti-HER2 therapy not certain)
 - Group 4: Ratio < 2.0 and signals/nucleus ≥ 4.0 und < 6
-> HER2- (no benefit of anti-HER2 therapy)
 - Group 5: Ratio < 2.0 und signals/nucleus < 4.0 -> HER2-

Oxford		
LoE	GR	AGO
3a	C	++
3a	D	++

ASCO/CAP Guideline on HER2-Testing

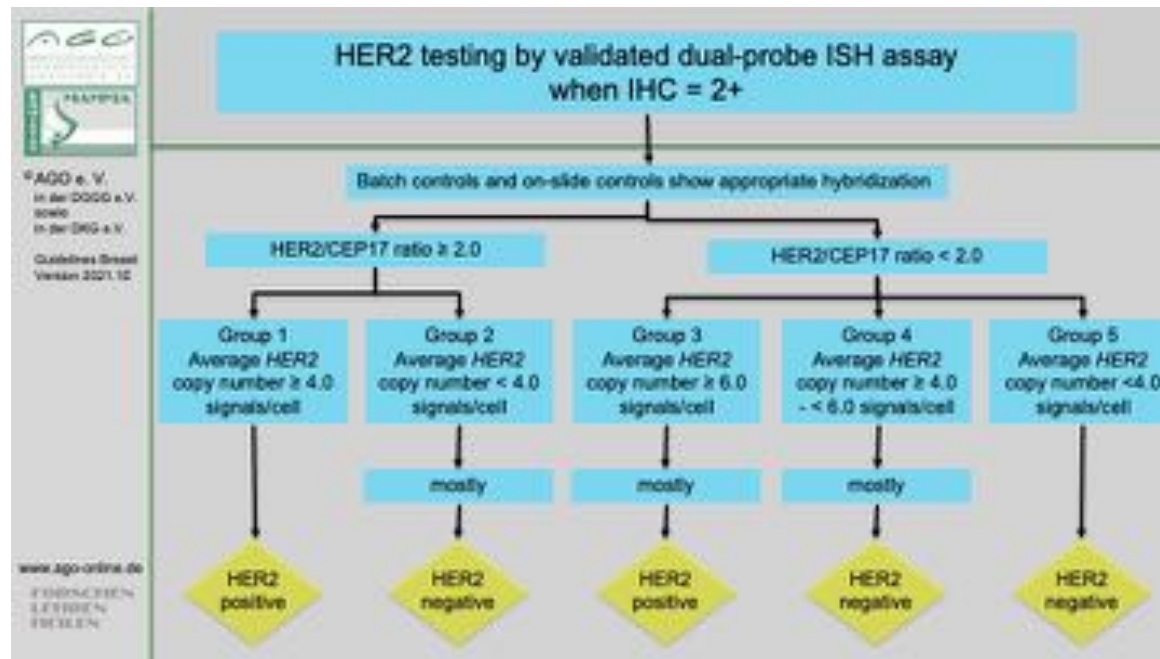
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ISH HER2-Testing

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ASCO/CAP Guideline on HER2-Testing

1. Wolff AC, Hammond MEH, Allison KH, et al. Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 Testing in Breast Cancer: American Society of Clinical Oncology/College of American Pathologists Clinical Practice Guideline Focused Update. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. May 2018:arpa.2018-0902-SA. doi:10.5858/arpa.2018-0902-SA.

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HER2 Testing on Core Biopsies

False positive immunohistochemical labeling may occur in core biopsies. Therefore, methods of individual laboratories should be validated by comparison of core biopsies and resection specimens. Background staining should be evaluated by comparison with normal duct epithelium.

Alternatively, all G1 and G2 cases with HER2 3+ in core biopsies may be analyzed by ISH or may be re-evaluated in the resection specimen.

False positivity is likely when HER+ was reported in G1 tumors of the following types: Infiltrating ductal or lobular carcinoma, ER and PR positive, Tubular (at least 90% pure), Mucinous (at least 90% pure) Cribriform (at least 90% pure), Adenoid cystic carcinoma (90% pure).

In case of discrepancy between core biopsy and specimen, the HER2 overexpressing sample should be re-evaluated by a different method. If still discrepancy – anti-HER2-treatment if amplified in one of both samples. Expected rate of HER2-overexpression: 15% HER2 positive

ASCO/CAP Guideline on HER2-Testing

1. Wolff AC, Hammond MEH, Allison KH, et al. Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 Testing in Breast Cancer: American Society of Clinical Oncology/College of American Pathologists Clinical Practice Guideline Focused Update. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. May 2018;arpa.2018–0902–SA. doi:10.5858/arpa.2018-0902-SA.

	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
Therapy decisions should only be based on IHC and ISH	1a	A	++
Evaluation of HER2 using validated gene expression test kits	3b	B	-
Evaluation of HER2-amplification by RNA-sequencing	5	D	-
Use of molecular HER2-testing for subtyping	3b	B	+/-

1. Prat A, Pascual T, De Angelis C, et al. HER2-enriched subtype and ERBB2 expression in HER2-positive breast cancer treated with dual HER2 blockade. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. April 2019. doi:10.1093/jnci/djz042.
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	Oxford		
	LoE	GR	AGO
▪ Counting of tumor nuclei at the invasion front	5	D	++
▪ Semiquantitative eyeballing or counting of labelled cells in core needle biopsies	2	A	++
▪ Consideration of weakly stained tumor nuclei	5	D	++
▪ Reporting of Ki-67 positive nuclei as percentage	5	D	++
▪ Establishing of laboratory standards and cut-off values	5	D	++
▪ Use of image analysis for objective Ki-67 evaluation	5	D	+
▪ Determination of Ki-67 dynamics after short term (2-4 weeks) endocrine therapy*	1b	B	+

* See chapter: Neoadjuvant Systemic Therapy

Ki-67 Methods and Reproducibility

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Impact of Ki-67 staining

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2. Ignatiadis M, Azim HA, Desmedt C, et al. The Genomic Grade Assay Compared With Ki67 to Determine Risk of Distant Breast Cancer Recurrence. *JAMA Oncol*. 2016;2(2):217-224. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2015.4377.
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15. doi:10.1200/JCO.2008.18.2808.

Ki-67 Image Analysis

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Ki67 als dynamischer Marker nach Kurzzeit endokriner Therapie

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Predictive PD-L1 Assay

Immunohistochemical assay

Immune Score (IC): Cytoplasmic staining of at least 1% of the leucocyte stromal infiltrate (lymphocytes, macrophages, plasma cells, granulocytes outside of abscesses) for prediction of atezolizumab efficacy in triple-negative metastatic breast cancer

Metastatic or primary tumor tissue

Detection with antibodies equivalent to Impassion 130 study reagents

Combined positive score (CPS): positive cells (tumor cells, lymphocytes, and macrophages) divided by the total number of tumor cells multiplied by 100; ≥ 10 = positive) for prediction of pembrolizumab efficacy in metastatic triple-negative breast cancer (FDA approval, EMA pending)

Oxford

LoE GR AGO

2 A ++

2 A ++

3 B +

3 B +/-

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Mutational studies in mBC: „Precision medicine“ for targeted therapies

Gene	Therapeutic Relevance	Gene region	Source	Oxford		
				LoE	GR	AGO
BRCA1, BRCA2	PARP inhibitor	all exons	Germline: blood cells Somatic: tissue	1b 2b	A B	++ +/-
PIK3CA	Alpelisib	exons 7,9 and 20	Primary tumor, metastases, plasma	1b	A	++
HER2-mutation (irrespective of HER2- status)	Neratinib, Lapatinib	kinase and extracellular domain; S350, L755, V777, Y772_A775dup	Primary tumor, metastases, plasma	4	C	+/-
ESR1	Resistance vs aromatase inhibit.	exons 4,7 und 8	metastases, plasma	2b	B	+/-
NRX gene fusion	Larotrectinib, Entrectinib	Gene fusions and splice variants	Tumor tissue, in particular secretory breast cancer	2a	B	+
MSI	Pembrolizumab	Mikrosatellite instability	tissue	2a	B	+

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MSI

FDA Zulassung entitätsübergreifend (23.5.17): Full prescribing information for pembrolizumab is available at:
https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2017/125514s014lbl.pdf

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