

The benefit of extended adjuvant therapy in HER2+ eBC patients with high recurrence risk

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The application of trastuzumab significantly improved the clinical outcome of early stage HER2+ breast cancer, nevertheless, around 20% of patients who had trastuzumab still faced recurrence risk within 10 years. Moreover, there are some other factors, such as nodal status, hormone receptor status, and achieving pCR or not, and so on. Neratinib, an irreversible tyrosine kinase inhibitor, showed its efficacy with a different mechanism from mono-clonal antibodies, making it an option to extend patients' adjuvant treatment with a better outcome, especially for those who had a higher risk of recurrence than others. ExteNET trial demonstrated neratinib lowered 27% of recurrence risk in a 5-year follow-up period. The study also showed that the benefit of extended adjuvant therapy is higher in subgroups with a higher risk, such as non-pCR population. This benefit has also been recognized by guidelines, suggesting a 1-year extended adjuvant treatment is suitable for patients who have a higher risk.