

Breast cancer: Peer-reviewed journal articles featuring Fortrea oncologists

Breast cancer trials lead innovation in cancer therapy—whether through window-of-opportunity trial designs that enable faster decision-making, immuno-checkpoint therapies with effective early detection and management of immune-related adverse events (irAEs) to ensure continued treatment, or leveraging practice-changing registrational studies to ultimately bring new therapies to patients faster.

Fortrea supports our sponsors with a team of 50+ oncologists who employ a collaborative approach, which can result in co-authorship of peer-reviewed journal articles based on projects we've supported.

In this curated collection of publications of our oncology experts, they share key publications that reflect the latest advances, unresolved challenges and emerging opportunities in breast cancer research and treatment. These papers span foundational science, translational approaches and innovations in clinical management, offering a comprehensive view of the current landscape and future directions in breast cancer care.



2025	
Number	Authors, Title, Journal
2025.1	<p>Hamilton EP, Loibl S, Bachelot T, Gnant M, Niikura N, Park YH, Tolaney SM, Pistilli B, Rastogi P, Saini KS, Gioni I, Johnston S, Nunes R, Quintana A, Stuart M, Syta E, Walding A, Klinowska T, Mayer IA. Design of the CAMBRIA-1 and CAMBRIA-2 randomised Phase III trials investigating camizestrant vs standard endocrine therapy in patients with ER-positive/HER2-negative early breast cancer. <i>Future Oncology</i>. February 27, 2025. https://doi.org/10.1080/14796694.2025.2459548</p> <p>Summary: This paper outlines the design of the CAMBRIA-1 and CAMBRIA-2 Phase III trials, which investigate the efficacy of camizestrant compared to standard endocrine therapy in patients with ER-positive/HER2-negative early breast cancer. The trials aim to evaluate camizestrant's potential to improve outcomes by targeting estrogen receptor pathways more effectively than current therapies. By focusing on this specific breast cancer subtype, the study seeks to advance personalized treatment strategies and provide robust clinical evidence to support the use of camizestrant in early-stage breast cancer management.</p>
2024	
Number	Authors, Title, Journal
2024.1	<p>Demetriou D, Lockhat Z, Brzozowski L, Saini KS, Dlamini Z, Hull R. The convergence of radiology and genomics: Advancing breast cancer diagnosis with radiogenomics. <i>Cancers</i>. March 2024. https://www.mdpi.com/2072-6694/16/5/1076</p> <p>Summary: This paper explores the integration of radiology and genomics, termed radiogenomics, as a transformative approach to breast cancer diagnosis. It highlights the importance of molecular subtyping for prognostic and predictive purposes, given the diverse clinical behaviors of breast cancer subtypes. Radiogenomics combines genetic patterns with imaging features, offering a non-invasive method to enhance early detection, prognosis and treatment selection. This approach aspires to eventually eliminate the need for biopsy and sequencing, streamlining clinical workflows and advancing personalized patient care. However, challenges such as reproducibility, standardization and data integration remain, necessitating further research and validation in multi-institutional settings.</p> <p>The authors emphasize the disparities in breast cancer diagnosis and outcomes across populations, particularly among individuals of African heritage, underscoring the need for localized research efforts. Despite its limitations, radiogenomics is presented as a promising frontier in breast cancer research, with the potential to revolutionize patient care by correlating genomic information with imaging phenotypes.</p>
2024.2	<p>Quintana A, Saini KS, Vidal L, Peg V, Slebe F, Loibl S, Curigliano G, Schmid P, Cortes J. Window of opportunity trials with immune checkpoint inhibitors in triple-negative breast cancer. <i>ESMO Open</i>. October 2024. https://authors.elsevier.com/sd/article/S2059702924014832</p> <p>Summary: This paper investigates "window of opportunity" trials with immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) in triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC), a subtype known for its aggressive nature and limited treatment options. These trials aim to evaluate ICIs during a short preoperative period, providing insights into their mechanisms and efficacy in modulating the tumor microenvironment. The authors discuss how such trials can inform personalized therapeutic strategies, improve patient outcomes and advance the understanding of TNBC biology. Despite challenges like patient selection and trial design, the study highlights the potential of ICIs to transform TNBC treatment paradigms.</p>

Full list of published journals continued:

2023	
Number	Authors, Title, Journal
2023.1	<p>Filho PN, Albuquerque C, Pilon M, Debiassi M. Immune checkpoint inhibitors in breast cancer: A narrative review. <i>Oncology & Therapy</i>. March 2023. https://doi.org/10.1007/s40487-023-00224-9</p> <p>Summary: This paper provides a narrative review of immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) in breast cancer, focusing on their mechanisms, clinical applications and challenges. It highlights how ICIs, by targeting immune checkpoints like PD-1/PD-L1, can enhance the immune system's ability to recognize and attack tumor cells. The authors discuss the varying efficacy of ICIs across breast cancer subtypes, particularly in triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC), which has shown the most promise. Despite advancements, the review underscores challenges such as resistance mechanisms, patient selection and the need for biomarkers to predict response, emphasizing the importance of ongoing research to optimize ICI use in breast cancer treatment.</p>
2023.2	<p>Dlamini Z, Molefi T, Khanyile R, Mkhabele M, Damane B, Kokoua A, Bida M, Saini KS, Chauke-Malinga N, Luvhengo TE, Hull R. From incidence to intervention: A comprehensive look at breast cancer in South Africa. <i>Oncology & Therapy</i>. November 2023. https://doi.org/10.1007/s40487-023-00248-1</p> <p>Summary: The article provides a comprehensive overview of breast cancer care in South Africa, highlighting rising incidence rates, persistent disparities in screening and treatment access and the challenges posed by resource limitations. It emphasizes the importance of early detection, equitable care and system-wide improvements, including patient education, workforce development and infrastructure upgrades. The paper also reviews treatment pathways and outcomes, advocating for targeted interventions to reduce barriers and improve survival rates.</p>



Full list of published journals continued:

Number	Authors, Title, Journal
2023.3	<p>Cantini L, Trapani D, Guidi L, Bielo LB, Scafetta R, Koziej M, Vidal L, Saini KS, Curigliano G. Neoadjuvant therapy in hormone receptor-positive/HER2-negative breast cancer. <i>Cancer Treatment Reviews</i>. December 2023. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ctrv.2023.102669</p> <p>Summary: This paper reviews the role of neoadjuvant therapy in hormone receptor-positive/HER2-negative breast cancer, focusing on its potential to improve surgical outcomes and provide prognostic insights. The authors discuss how neoadjuvant approaches, including endocrine therapy and chemotherapy, can reduce tumor size, enabling breast-conserving surgery while offering a window to assess treatment response. By tailoring therapy based on individual tumor biology, the study emphasizes the importance of personalized strategies to optimize outcomes in this breast cancer subtype. Challenges such as resistance and patient selection are also highlighted, underscoring the need for further research to refine these approaches.</p>
2021	
Number	Authors, Title, Journal
2021.1	<p>Saini KS, Punie K, Twelves C, Bortini S, de Azambuja E, Anderson S, Criscitiello C, Awada A, Loi S. Antibody-drug conjugates, immune-checkpoint inhibitors and their combination in breast cancer therapeutics. <i>Expert Opinion in Biologic Therapy</i>. June 2021. https://doi.org/10.1080/14712598.2021.1936494</p> <p>Summary: The article reviews the evolving role of antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) and immune-checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) in the treatment of breast cancer, particularly advanced and hard-to-treat subtypes. It summarizes the scientific rationale and clinical evidence supporting the use of several approved ADCs and ICIs, and discusses the potential benefits and challenges of combining these modalities to improve patient outcomes. The authors highlight promising early efficacy and safety results from ongoing trials, and emphasize that next-generation ADCs, rational combinations with ICIs and the development of predictive immune biomarkers could further enhance therapeutic effectiveness and expand treatment options for patients with refractory disease.</p>



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