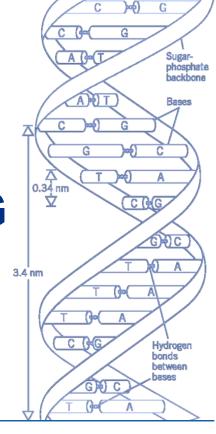
# OVERVIEW OF THE PI3KINASE PATHWAY AND PIK3CA MUTATION TESTING

This is a medical resource for scientific information and is intended for healthcare providers practicing in the United States.

Current as of May 2024



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# **OBJECTIVES**

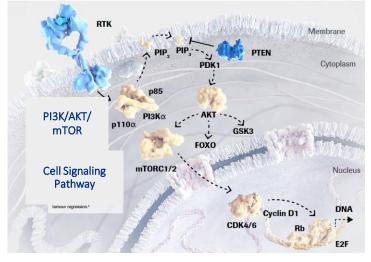
The information provided will allow for:

- 1. Understanding of the PI3K pathway and *PIK3CA* mutations and their role in oncogenesis
- 2. Discussion of *PIK3CA* mutation testing
  - a. Testing methodologies
  - b. Current guidelines for *PIK3CA* testing

PI3K=phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase; PIK3CA=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha.

# THE PI3K/AKT/mTOR CELL SIGNALING PATHWAY DRIVES MANY CELL PROCESSES AND IS FREQUENTLY ALTERED IN CANCER

Activating mutations in PIK3CA are the primary dysregulating event



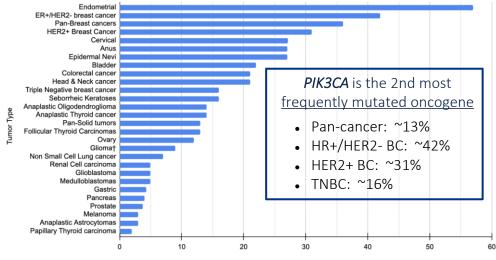
- The PI3K $\alpha$  enzyme is made up of p110 $\alpha$  catalytic and p85 regulatory protein subunits<sup>1,2</sup>
- p110 $\alpha$  is encoded by the *PIK3CA* gene<sup>1,2</sup>
- Various mutations in the *PIK3CA* gene can activate the PI3K enzyme<sup>2</sup>
- Hyperactivation of the PI3K/AKT/mTOR signaling pathway has been shown to promote both *de novo* and acquired resistance to hormone therapy in ERpositive breast cancer cell lines and xenograft models<sup>3</sup>

AKT=protein kinase B; CDK=cyclin-dependent kinase; ER=estrogen receptor; FOXO=forkhead box O; GSK3=glycogen synthase kinase 3; HER2=human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR=hormone receptor; mTOR=mammalian target of rapamycin; PDK1=phosphoinositide-dependent protein kinase-1; PI3K=phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase; PI3Kα=phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase alpha; *PIK3CA*=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha; PIP2=phosphatidylinositol (4,5)-bisphosphate; PIP3=phosphatidylinositol (3,4,5)-trisphosphate; PTEN=phosphatase and tensin homolog; Rb=retinoblastoma protein; RTK=receptor tyrosine kinase.

1. Katso R, et al. Annu Rev Cell Dev Biol. 2001;17:615–75. 2. Zhao L, Vogt PK. Oncogene. 2008;27:5486–5496. 3. Sabnis G, et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2007;13(9):2751. References for image: Vasan N, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30(Suppl 10):x3-x11; Mosele F, et al. Ann Oncol. 2020;31(3):377-386; Miller TW, et al. Breast Cancer Res. 2011;13(6):224; Hong R, et al. Cancer Res. 2018;78(4 Suppl):PD4-14; Edgar K, et al. Cancer Res. 2020;80(4 Suppl):P3-11-23.

## ACTIVATING *PIK3CA* MUTATIONS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED IN MANY TUMOR TYPES

Prevalence of *PIK3CA* gain-of-function mutations across a subset of tumor types<sup>\*</sup>



Prevalence (%)

\*Plotted *PIK3CA* mutation prevalence rates based on cited literature. Variability likely exists across studies due to factors such as sample size and testing methods.<sup>†</sup>IDH-mutant glioblastoma. BC=breast cancer; HER2=human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR=hormone receptor; IDH=isocitrate dehydrogenase; *PIK3CA*=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha; TNBC=triple-negative breast cancer.

References: Gavgani F, et al. Int J Mol Sci. 2018;19(12):3931; Martínez-Sáez O, et al. Breast Cancer Res. 2020;22(1):45; Voutsadakis I. J Clin Med. 2021;10(2):220; Mills SZ, et al. JAMA Oncol. 2016;2(12):1565-1573; Hafner C, et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA. 2007;104(33):13450-13454; Voutsadakis I. Clin Colorectal Cancer. 2021;20(3):201-215; Qiu W, et al. Int J Cancer. 2008;122(5):1189–1194; Broderick DK, et al. Cancer Res. 2004;64(15):5048–5050; Santarpia L, et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2008;93(1):278–284; Wang Y, et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2007;92(6):2387–2390; Levine DA, et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2005;11(8):2875–2878; Brito C, et al. Clin Med Insights Oncol. 2022;16; Singh N, et al. Cancer Res. 2023;83(7):923; Li VSW, et al. BMC Cancer. 2005;5(29); Witkiewicz AK, et al. Nat Commun. 2015;6:6744; Herberts C, et al. European Urology. 2020;78(6):834-844; Omholt K, et al. Melanoma Research. 2006;16(2):197-200; Abubaker J, et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2008;93(2):611–618.

## METASTATIC HR+/HER2- BREAST CANCER PATIENTS WITH TUMORS HARBORING *PIK3CA* MUTATIONS HAVE A WORSE PROGNOSIS

In a meta-analysis of 11 trials, *PIK3CA* mutation was associated with:<sup>1</sup>

- Shorter median PFS: difference -1.8 months (95% CI: -3.4, -0.1, I<sup>2</sup>=35%, N=3,219)
- Shorter median OS: difference -8.4 months (95% CI: -13.4, -3.5, I<sup>2</sup>=58%, N=1,545)

**Methods**:<sup>1</sup> Meta-analysis of 3,219\* patients from 33 study arms across 11 randomized clinical trials of patients with HR+/HER2– mBC. Trials identified via systematic literature review. Trial arms with PI3K-targeted therapies were excluded. Meta-regression analysis was used to estimate the association between *PIK3CA* status and PFS and OS.

\*Of the 3,219 patients, 1,386 were PIK3CA-mutated and 1,833 were wild-type.

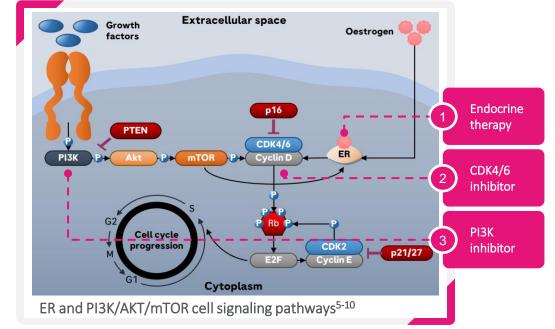
HR=hormone receptor; HER2=epidermal growth factor receptor 2; mBC=metastatic breast cancer; OS=overall survival; PFS=progression-free survival; *PIK3CA*=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha; PI3K=phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase.

1. Fillbrunn M, et al. BMC Cancer. 2022;22(1):1002.

# CROSSTALK BETWEEN THE PI3K/AKT/mTOR AND ER PATHWAYS PROVIDES A RATIONALE FOR COMBINATION THERAPIES

#### PI3K/AKT/mTOR and ER pathway crosstalk

- There is an important crosstalk between the ER and PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathways, highlighted by the high frequency of *PIK3CA* mutations (~40%) in patients with HR+ BC<sup>1</sup>
- Activation of the PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathway may promote resistance to endocrine therapy in ER+ BC<sup>2,3</sup>
- Targeting the ER, CDK4/6 and PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathways in combination could extend treatment benefit and reverse/delay the development of treatment resistance<sup>2-4</sup>



AKT=protein kinase B; BC=breast cancer; CDK=cyclin-dependent kinase; ER=estrogen receptor; mTOR=mammalian target of rapamycin; P=phosphate; PI3K=phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase; *PIK3CA*=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha; PTEN=phosphatase and tensin homolog; Rb=retinoblastoma protein.

1. Vasan N, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30:x3–x11; 2. Burris III HA. Cancer Chemother Pharmacol. 2013;71:829–842. 3. Presti D, Quaquarini E. Cancers. 2019;11:1242. 4. Cortés J, et al. Cancer Treat Rev. 2017;61:53–60. 5. Brufsky AM, Dickler MN. Oncologist. 2018;23:528. 6. Anderson EJ, et al. Int J Breast Cancer. 2020;2020:3759179 7. Miller TW, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2011;29:4452–4461. 8. LoRusso PM, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2016;34:3803–3815. 9. Martínez-Sáez O, et al. Breast Cancer Res. 2020;22:45. 10. Fillbrunn M, et al. BMC Cancer. 2022;22(1):1002.

# **PIK3CA MUTATION SUMMARY**

- PI3K, AKT, and mTOR are major drivers in the PI3K/AKT/mTOR intracellular signaling pathway<sup>1</sup>
- *PIK3CA* is the gene that encodes the catalytic subunit of the alpha isoform of PI3K (p110α).<sup>2-3</sup> *PIK3CA* mutations lead to PI3K pathway hyperactivation and promotes resistance to ET in ER+ BC<sup>4-6</sup>
- *PIK3CA* mutations are a negative prognostic factor in ER+ BC<sup>7</sup>
- There is an important crosstalk between the ER and PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathways. Targeting the ER, CDK4/6 and PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathways in combination could extend treatment benefit and reverse/delay the development of treatment resistance<sup>8-11</sup>
- Sensitive and comprehensive methods are needed to identify patients with tumors that harbor any one (or more) activating *PIK3CA* mutations<sup>12</sup>

AKT=protein kinase B; BC=breast cancer; CDK=cyclin-dependent kinase; ER=estrogen receptor; ET=endocrine therapy; mTOR=mammalian target of rapamycin; *PIK3CA*=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha; PI3K=phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase

1. Cantrell DA. J Cell Sci. 2001;114(8):1439–1445. 2. Katso R, et al. Annu Rev Cell Dev Biol. 2001;17:615–75. 3. Zhao L, Vogt PK. Oncogene. 2008;27(41):5486–5496. 4. Miller TW, et al. J Clin Invest. 2010;120(7):2406–2413. 5. Burris III HA. Cancer Chemother Pharmacol. 2013;71(4):829–842. 6. Presti D, Quaquarini E. Cancers. 2019;11(9):1242. 7. Fillbrunn M, et al. BMC Cancer. 2022;22(1):1002. 8. Vasan N, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30(Suppl 10):x3–x11. 9. Burris III HA. Cancer Chemother Pharmacol. 2013;71(4):829–842. 10. Presti D, Quaquarini E. Cancers. 2019;11(9):1242. 11. Cortés J, et al. Cancer Treat Rev. 2017;61:53–60. 12. Martínez-Sáez O, et al. Breast Cancer Res. 2020;22(1):45.

## THREE TESTS ARE APPROVED BY THE FDA TO DETECT *PIK3CA* MUTATIONS<sup>1</sup>

#### Currently, 3 tests are FDA-approved to detect *PIK3CA* mutations in patient specimens<sup>1</sup>

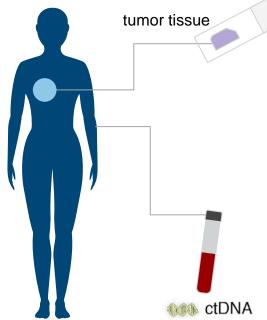
- NGS-based test for tissue specimens
- NGS-based test for blood plasma specimens
- PCR test for tissue or blood plasma specimens

#### Different factors may be considered in determining which test is most appropriate for a patient:

- NGS tests may be more comprehensive for detecting activating *PIK3CA* mutations<sup>2</sup>
- PCR is a sensitive test method that can be used to detect the most prevalent *PIK3CA* mutations in a patient specimen<sup>3</sup>
- PCR tests optimized for tissue may miss PIK3CA mutations (false negatives) in plasma ctDNA specimens<sup>3</sup>

ctDNA=circulating tumor DNA; NGS=next-generation sequencing; PCR=polymerase chain reaction; *PIK3CA*=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha. 1. FDA. List of Cleared or Approved Companion Diagnostic Devices (In Vitro and Imaging Tools). Available at <a href="https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/in-vitro-diagnostics/list-cleared-or-approved-companion-diagnostic-devices-in-vitro-and-imaging-tools">https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/in-vitro-diagnostics/list-cleared-or-approved-companion-diagnostic-devices-in-vitro-and-imaging-tools</a>. Accessed April 29, 2024; FDA. 2. Martínez-Sáez O, et al. Breast Cancer Res. 2020;22(1):45. 3. Qiagen Therascreen *PIK3CA* RGQ PCR plasma assay performance data. Available at <a href="https://www.qiagen.com/us/products/diagnostics-and-clinical-research/oncology/therascreen-solid-tumor/therascreen-pik3ca-rgq-pcr-kit-us">https://www.qiagen.com/us/products/diagnostics-and-clinical-research/oncology/therascreen-solid-tumor/therascreen-pik3ca-rgq-pcr-kit-us</a>. Accessed April 29, 2024.

# *PIK3CA* MUTATION TESTING IS CURRENTLY RECOMMENDED FOR INVASIVE HR+/HER2- BREAST CANCER<sup>1</sup>



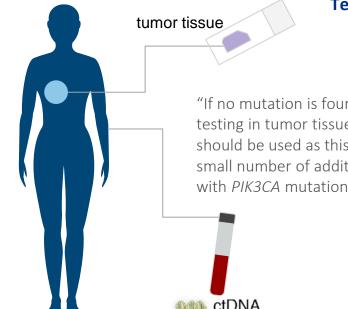
### NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines<sup>®</sup>): Breast Cancer

- Upon initial workup for recurrent/metastatic disease, comprehensive germline and somatic profiling are recommended to identify candidates for targeted therapies.<sup>1</sup>
- For HR-positive/HER2-negative, recurrent unresectable or metastatic breast cancer, assess for *PIK3CA* mutations on tumor tissue or ctDNA in peripheral blood (liquid biopsy) to identify candidates for targeted treatment.
- Tissue-based assays have greater sensitivity, but ctDNA may reflect tumor heterogeneity more accurately. If one specimen is negative for actionable biomarkers, testing on the alternative specimen can be considered.

ctDNA=circulating tumor DNA; HER2=human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR=hormone receptor; NCCN=National Comprehensive Cancer Network\* (NCCN\*); NGS=next-generation sequencing; PCR=polymerase chain reaction; *PIK3CA*=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha

1. Referenced with permission from the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines<sup>®</sup>) for Breast Cancer V2.2024.<sup>©</sup> National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. 2024. All rights reserved. Accessed March 11, 2024. To view the most recent and complete version of the guideline, go online to <u>NCCN.org</u>. NCCN makes no warranties of any kind whatsoever regarding their content, use or application and disclaims any responsibility for their application or use in any way.

# **PIK3CA MUTATION TESTING IS CURRENTLY RECOMMENDED FOR** LOCALLY RECURRENT OR METASTATIC HR+/HER2- BREAST CANCER BY ASCO<sup>1</sup>



Test can be performed on either tissue and/or plasma ctDNA<sup>1</sup>

"If no mutation is found in ctDNA. testing in tumor tissue, if available, should be used as this will detect a small number of additional patients with PIK3CA mutations"

#### ASCO Biomarkers for Systemic Therapy in Metastatic Breast Cancer: ASCO Guideline Update (June 2022)

"Patients with locally recurrent unresectable or metastatic HR+/HER2- breast cancer who are candidates for a treatment regimen that includes a PI3K inhibitor and a hormonal therapy should undergo testing for PIK3CA mutations using NGS of tumor tissue or ctDNA in plasma..."

ASCO=American Society of Clinical Oncology; ctDNA=circulating tumor DNA; HER2=human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR=hormone receptor; NGS=next-generation sequencing; PI3K=phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase; PIK3CA=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha. 1. Henry NL, et al. Biomarkers for Systemic Therapy in Metastatic Breast Cancer: ASCO Guideline Update. J Clin Oncol. 2022 Sep 20;40(27):3205-3221. doi: 10.1200/JCO.22.01063. Epub 2022 Jun 27.

# **PIK3CA MUTATION TESTING SUMMARY**

- *PIK3CA* mutation testing can be performed using tumor tissue or plasma specimens<sup>1</sup>
- *PIK3CA* mutation testing can occur via NGS or PCR<sup>1</sup>
  - Current FDA-approved NGS tests may be more comprehensive than PCR<sup>2,3</sup>
- Current guidelines recommend testing for *PIK3CA* mutations in patients with locally recurrent unresectable or metastatic HR+/HER2- breast cancer to inform treatment decisions<sup>4,5</sup>

HR=hormone receptor; HER2=human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; PCR=polymerase chain reaction; NGS=next-generation sequencing; PIK3CA=phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha.

1. FDA. List of Cleared or Approved Companion Diagnostic Devices (In Vitro and Imaging Tools). Available at <a href="https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/in-vitro-diagnostics/list-cleared-or-approved-companion-diagnostic-devices-in-vitro-and-imaging-tools">https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/in-vitro-diagnostics/list-cleared-or-approved-companion-diagnostic-devices-in-vitro-and-imaging-tools</a>. Accessed April 29, 2024. 2. Martínez-Sáez O, et al. Breast Cancer Res. 2020;22(1):45. 3. Qiagen Therascreen PIK3CA RGQ PCR plasma assay performance data. Available at <a href="https://www.giagen.com/us/products/diagnostics-and-clinical-research/oncology/therascreen-solid-tumor/therascreen-pik3ca-rgq-pcr-kit-us">https://www.giagen.com/us/products/diagnostics-and-clinical-research/oncology/therascreen-solid-tumor/therascreen-pik3ca-rgq-pcr-kit-us</a>. Accessed April 29, 2024. 4. Burnstein HJ, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2023;41(18):3423-3425. 5. Henry NL, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2022;40(27):3205-3221.