# Study Finds Solution To Eradicate Tumors In Early Breast Cancer

**Capecitabine added to standard treatment given before surgery helps to eradicate tumors in patients with early breast cancer**

BERLIN, September 23 /PRNewswire/ --- The Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group Present Data Which Highlight Benefits of Adding capecitabine to epirubicin and docetaxel in the Neoadjuvant Setting Data from the ABCSG-24 study presented at the joint 15th ECCO and 34th ESMO congress in Berlin, Germany, show that adding capecitabine (Xeloda®) to anthracycline- and taxane-containing regimens prior to surgery (neoadjuvant therapy) completely eradicated the tumor in 24 percent of women with HER2-positive or HER2-negative early breast cancer. This is an impressive finding since the proportion of women achieving total tumor eradication with standard chemotherapy1/8…3/8 for HER2-positive or HER2-negative early breast cancer is less than 20 percent (range 6-18).1/813/8

"These new data show that adding capecitabine to epirubicin and docetaxel neoadjuvant regimens when treating women with early breast cancer, results in increased efficacy compared to epirubicin and docetaxel alone. This new data could lead to improvements in treatment for women with early stages of the disease as the increased efficacy may result in prolonged overall survival," said Professor GÃ¼nther Steger, Division of Oncology, Department of Internal Medicine I, Medical University of Vienna, General Hospital Vienna, Vienna, Austria.

Despite recent advances, there is still an unmet need in the treatment and management of early breast cancer with relapse occurring in approximately 30-50 percent of patients, depending on individual risk factors, even after chemotherapy.1/823/8

In addition to the ABCSG-24 study, several other studies of neoadjuvant combination regimens that included capecitabine have shown positive efficacy results.1/833/8,1/843/8,1/853/8,1/863/8,1/873/8,1/883/8,1/893/8 The therapeutic success in these studies was measured as complete pathological response (complete disappearance of tumor cells in the breast and in the lymph nodes), which is a strong predictor for long-term survival.1/813/8, 1/8103/8

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer in the world and the most common cancer among women.1/8113/8 There are 1.1 million new cases o female breast cancer each year worldwide.1/8113/8

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