



REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA



AZIENDA OSPEDALIERO – UNIVERSITARIA DI SASSARI

Viale San Pietro, 10 - 07100 SASSARI – C.F. - P. IVA 02268260904

DELIBERAZIONE N. 504 DEL 08/09/2017

Oggetto: Sperimentazione dal titolo “GIM3 - FATA –First Adjuvant Trial on All aromatase inhibitors in early breast cancer. Studio di fase III di confronto tra anastrozolo, letrozolo ed exemestane e tra strategia sequenziale (2 anni di terapia con tamoxifen seguiti da 3 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) verso strategia *up-front* (5 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) nel trattamento adiuvante del carcinoma mammario ormono-responsivo in pazienti in postmenopausa.” – Modifica/Integrazione – Emendamento n.1 e n.2 alla convenzione

Struttura Proponente
Servizio Affari Generali, Legali, Comunicazione e Formazione

Conto di Costo

Direttore della Struttura Proponente
Dott.ssa Chiara Seazzu

Responsabile del Procedimento
Dott.ssa Chiara Seazzu

Estensore: Dott. Giuseppe Capai

Il Responsabile della Struttura propone l'adozione del presente provvedimento, attestandone conformità alla norma, la corrispondenza del formato cartaceo al file inserito sul SISAR atti nonché l'utilità e l'opportunità per gli obiettivi aziendali e per l'interesse pubblico.

Il Responsabile della Struttura: Dott.ssa Chiara Seazzu

Firma

Il Responsabile della Struttura e il Responsabile del procedimento, con la sottoscrizione del presente atto, attestano che l'atto è legittimo nella forma e nella sostanza. Dichiarano inoltre, di aver predisposto la dichiarazione di acquisto inderogabile, agli atti del Servizio.

Il presente provvedimento contiene dati sensibili Sì No

Il Responsabile del procedimento: Dott.ssa Chiara Seazzu

Data 08.09.2017 **Firma**

Il Responsabile della Struttura: Dott.ssa Chiara Seazzu

Data 08.09.2017 **Firma**

Il Responsabile addetto al controllo di budget con la sottoscrizione del presente atto attesta che lo stesso

È NON È (le motivazioni sono allegate alla presente)

coerente con le proiezioni economiche comunicate alla Direzione Strategica.

Spesa prevista _____ C.E. n. _____

Il Responsabile del Controllo di Gestione: Dott.ssa Sara Sanna

Data _____ **Firma** _____

Il Responsabile del Bilancio con la sottoscrizione del presente atto attesta la copertura economico/finanziaria della spesa di cui al presente provvedimento.

Il Responsabile del Bilancio: Dott.ssa Rosa Maria Bellu

Data _____ **Firma** _____

Il Responsabile del Bilancio attesta altresì che la spesa non contrasta gli obiettivi Regionali di contenimento della spesa sanitaria e di rientro dal disavanzo (nota RAS Prot. 4801 del 29.12.2016).

Il Responsabile del Bilancio: Dott.ssa Rosa Maria Bellu

Data _____ **Firma** _____

Parere del Direttore Amministrativo: Dott. Lorenzo Pescini (Delibera del Direttore Generale. n. 378 del 02.11.2016)

Favorevole Non Favorevole (con motivazioni allegate al presente atto)

Data 08.09.2017 **Firma** (DELIBERA N. 415 del 22.12.2016)

Parere del Direttore Sanitario: Dott. Nicolò Orrù (Delibera del Direttore Generale. n. 393 del 14.11.2016)

Favorevole Non Favorevole (con motivazioni allegate al presente atto)

Data 08/09/2017 **Firma**

La presente Deliberazione si compone di n.-14-pagine, di cui n.-10-pagine di allegati, che ne formano parte integrante e sostanziale

IL RESPONSABILE DEL SERVIZIO f.f.

(Dott.ssa Chiara Seazzu)

- VISTO** il Decreto Legislativo n. 502 del 30.12.1992: “Riordino della disciplina in materia sanitaria” e s.m.i.;
- VISTO** il Decreto Legislativo n. 517 del 21.12.1999: “Disciplina dei rapporti fra Servizio Sanitario Nazionale ed Università, a norma dell’art. 6 della legge 30 novembre 1998, n. 419”;
- VISTO** il Protocollo d’Intesa sottoscritto in data 11.08.2017 dalla Regione Sardegna e dalle Università degli Studi di Cagliari e di Sassari;
- PRESO ATTO** che l’Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria di Sassari ha stipulato con il Dipartimento di Endocrinologia ed Oncologia Molecolare e Clinica dell’Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, apposita sperimentazione approvata con deliberazione n.136 del 31.03.2008 dal titolo “GIM3 - FATA –First Adjuvant Trial on All aromatase inhibitors in early breast cancer. Studio di fase III di confronto tra anastrozolo, letrozolo ed exemestane e tra strategia sequenziale (2 anni di terapia con tamoxifen seguiti da 3 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) verso strategia *up-front* (5 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) nel trattamento adiuvante del carcinoma mammario ormono-responsivo in pazienti in postmenopausa”;
- PRESO ATTO** che l’AIFA (Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco) con nota del 08/09/2009 ha approvato per lo studio su indicato un nuovo grant per pazienti aumentandolo da € 100,00 ad € 200,00;
- CONSIDERATO** pertanto necessario, alla luce della nota suddetta dell’AIFA, modificare la convenzione precedentemente sottoscritta aumentando il grant da €100,00 ad €200,00 per ogni paziente arruolato e valutabile, secondo quanto previsto nell’atto integrativo che costituisce parte integrante e sostanziale del presente provvedimento;
- CONSIDERATO** che il Comitato Etico della ex ASL n.1 di Sassari, (oggi ATS ASSL di Sassari), con decisioni assunte con verbale n° Prot.Ilo 597/2017 EMENDAMENTO SOSTANZIALE 1 e con verbale n° Prot.Ilo 597/2017 EMENDAMENTO SOSTANZIALE 2, ha espresso il proprio parere favorevole in merito agli emendamenti suindicati;
- VISTO** il verbale n° Prot.Ilo 597/2017 EMENDAMENTO SOSTANZIALE CAMBIO P.I. FARRIS-SANNA, con il quale il Comitato Etico della ex ASL n.1 di Sassari, (oggi ATS ASSL di Sassari), ha autorizzato il cambio dello sperimentatore dal Prof. Antonio Farris al Dott. Giovanni Sanna;
- RILEVATO** che lo sperimentatore principale aziendale dello studio sopra specificato si individua, pertanto nella persona del Dott. Giovanni Sanna, Dirigente Medico dell’U.O.C. di Oncologia Medica dell’Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria di Sassari;
- RILEVATO** che l’integrazione alla convenzione e gli Emendamenti n.1 e n.2 riguardante lo studio di cui trattasi non determinano alcun costo per l’azienda;
- ACCERTATO** che lo studio sarà condotto nel rispetto della vigente normativa in materia, in particolar modo delle norme di ICH-GCP recepite con DM Ministero della Sanità del 15.07.1997, s.m.i., secondo il Decreto Legislativo n. 211 del 24/06/2003, altresì ai sensi del Decreto Ministeriale 17 dicembre 2004, del D.Lgs n. 200 del 6/11/2007 e sarà svolto secondo i criteri e le modalità descritte nel Protocollo di Sperimentazione esaminato e valutato con esito positivo dal Comitato Etico competente;

PROPONE

Per i motivi espressi in premessa, che qui si richiamano integralmente:

- 1) Di approvare l'integrazione e parziale modifica degli accordi in precedenza raggiunti alla convenzione riguardante lo studio di cui trattasi, secondo lo schema di atto integrativo allegato alla presente delibera per costituirne parte integrante e sostanziale;
- 2) Di approvare l'Emendamento sostanziale n.1 e l'Emendamento sostanziale n.2 riguardante lo studio sopraccitato, secondo gli schemi allegati alla presente delibera per costituirne parte integrante e sostanziale;
- 3) Di formalizzare le comunicazioni ai servizi interessati.

IL RESPONSABILE DEL SERVIZIO f.f.

(Dott.ssa Chiara Seazzu)



IL DIRETTORE GENERALE

(Dott. Antonio D'Urso)

Nominato con Decreto del Presidente della Regione Sardegna n.57 del 03.10.2016

L'anno duemiladiciassette, il giorno otto del mese di Settembre, in Sassari, nella sede legale dell'Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria.

PRESO ATTO

della proposta di deliberazione avente per oggetto: la Sperimentazione dal titolo "GIM3 - FATA -First Adjuvant Trial on All aromatase inhibitors in early breast cancer. Studio di fase III di confronto tra anastrozolo, letrozolo ed exemestane e tra strategia sequenziale (2 anni di terapia con tamoxifen seguiti da 3 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) verso strategia *up-front* (5 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) nel trattamento adiuvante del carcinoma mammario ormono-responsivo in pazienti in postmenopausa" - Modifica/Integrazione - Emendamento n.1 e n.2 alla convenzione;

DATO ATTO

che il Direttore Amministrativo ed il Direttore Sanitario hanno espresso parere favorevole;

DELIBERA

Per i motivi espressi in premessa, che qui si richiamano integralmente

Di adottare la proposta di deliberazione di cui sopra e conseguentemente:

- 1) Di approvare l'integrazione e parziale modifica degli accordi in precedenza raggiunti alla convenzione riguardante lo studio di cui trattasi, secondo lo schema di atto integrativo allegato alla presente delibera per costituirne parte integrante e sostanziale;
- 2) Di approvare l'Emendamento sostanziale n.1 e l'Emendamento sostanziale n.2 riguardante lo studio sopraccitato, secondo gli schemi allegati alla presente delibera per costituirne parte integrante e sostanziale;
- 3) Di formalizzare le comunicazioni ai servizi interessati.

IL DIRETTORE GENERALE

(Dott. Antonio D'Urso)

Antonio D'Urso 08-09-2017

La presente Deliberazione è in pubblicazione all'Albo Pretorio elettronico del sito dell'Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria di Sassari dal 08/09/2017 per la durata di quindici giorni

Il Responsabile del Servizio Affari Generali, Legali, Comunicazione e Formazione f.f.

(Dott.ssa Chiara Scuzzu)

Chiara Scuzzu

ATTO INTEGRATIVO

tra

il Dipartimento di Medicina Clinica e Chirurgia dell'Università degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II" (di seguito denominato "Dipartimento") con sede in Via Sergio Pansini n.5 – 80131 Napoli – P.IVA 00876220633, legalmente rappresentato dal Direttore Prof. Giovanni Di Minno, ivi domiciliato per la sua carica

e

l'Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria di Sassari (di seguito denominato "Centro Partecipante") con sede legale in Viale San Pietro n.10 - 07100, codice fiscale e P.I. 02268260904, nella persona del Legale Rappresentante Direttore Generale Dott. Antonio D'Urso

di seguito denominate le "Parti"

Premesso

- che il 23/04/2008 è stata sottoscritta una convenzione tra il Centro Partecipante ed il Dipartimento di Endocrinologia ed Oncologia Molecolare e Clinica per la sperimentazione clinica dal titolo: GIM3- FATA – First Adjuvant Trial on All aromatase inhibitors in early breast cancer. Studio di fase III di confronto tra anastrozolo, letrozolo ed exemestane e tra strategia sequenziale (2 anni di terapia con tamoxifen seguiti da 3 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) verso strategia up-front (5 anni di terapia con inibitori delle aromatasi) nel trattamento adiuvante del carcinoma mammario ormono-responsivo in pazienti in postmenopausa. Codice EUDRACT: 2006-004018-42, il cui Responsabile Scientifico è il Prof. Sabino De Placido;
- che l'Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco con nota del 08/09/2009 ha approvato per lo studio su indicato un nuovo grant per pazienti aumentandolo da € 100,00 ad € 200,00;
- che il Dipartimento di Endocrinologia ed Oncologia Molecolare e Clinica è stato disattivato il 31/12/2012 e che tutte le obbligazioni sono state trasferite al Dipartimento, a cui afferisce il Responsabile Scientifico;
- che il Comitato Etico della (Ex Asl n.1 di Sassari), oggi ASSL Sassari - ATS Sardegna, con Prot.llo 597/Emendamento sostanziale cambio P.I. Farris-Sanna del 13/06/2017, ha autorizzato il cambio dello sperimentatore dal Prof. Antonio Farris al Dott. Giovanni Sanna;

Tanto premesso e considerato, ad integrazione e parziale modifica degli accordi in precedenza raggiunti ed espressi nella convenzione sottoscritta il 23/04/2008, le Parti convengono e stipulano quanto segue:

Art. 1

Le premesse fanno parte integrante del presente atto integrativo.

Art. 2

Il compenso pattuito all'art. 7 della convenzione viene determinato, nel rispetto della nota dell'Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco citata nelle premesse, ad € 200,00 (duecento/00) per ogni paziente arruolato e valutabile.

Tale importo, ai sensi del D.P.R. n. 633 del 26/01/1972 e s.i.e m. non è assoggettabile ad IVA e verrà corrisposto dal Dipartimento al Centro Partecipante dietro presentazione di nota di debito.

Art. 3

Rimane ben inteso che tutti gli articoli della convenzione richiamata in premessa, non modificati e/o integrati dal presente atto integrativo mantengono la loro piena validità ed efficacia.

Napoli, _____

Per il Dipartimento

Il Direttore

Prof. Giovanni Di Minno

Sassari, _____

Per il Centro Partecipante

Il Direttore Generale

Dott. Antonio D'Urso

Il Responsabile Scientifico

Prof. Sabino De Placido

Amendment 1 (proposed October 2009) – End-point definition and sample size

1. Change of end-point definition (non substantial)

Endpoint definitions have been modified according to the STEEP guidelines (Hudis CA et al. J Clin Oncol 2007; 25(15): 2127-32). It is not a substantial amendment since only names have been changed while the content of definitions remained the same. The protocol is amended as below (the changes are in **bold**):

Page	Old text	New text
10	<p>Objectives of the study</p> <p>[..] For both comparisons, the primary end-point will be disease-free survival (DFS) defined as the time elapsed from randomization to the first among the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local or regional relapse - distant metastasis - contralateral breast cancer - other invasive cancer different than breast death. 	<p>Efficacy evaluation</p> <p>[..] For both comparisons, the primary end-point will be disease-free survival (DFS-DCIS) defined as the time elapsed from randomization to the first among the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local recurrence of disease - regional recurrence of disease - distant recurrence of disease - contralateral invasive or intraductal breast cancer - second primary malignancy other than breast - death for any cause.
11	<p>Primary Endpoint</p> <p>The primary study endpoint is Disease Free Survival (DFS), defined as the time from randomization to the occurrence of the first among the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local or regional relapse - distant metastasis - contralateral breast cancer - other invasive cancer different than breast death <p>DFS times of patients lost to follow-up or alive without any of the above at the last follow-up examination will be censored at the last follow-up examination.</p>	<p>Primary Endpoint</p> <p>The primary study endpoint is Disease Free Survival (DFS-DCIS), defined according to the STEEP system (Hudis et al. J Clin Oncol 2007; 25:2127-2132) as the time from randomization to the occurrence of the first among the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local recurrence of disease - regional recurrence of disease - distant recurrence of disease - contralateral invasive or intraductal breast cancer - second primary malignancy other than breast - death for any cause. <p>Patients lost to follow-up or alive without any of the above at the last follow-up examination will be censored at the last follow-up examination.</p>
12	<p>Secondary Endpoints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall Survival, defined as the time from randomization to death from any cause - Distant-metastasis-free survival (censoring in case of loco regional recurrence or second breast or non-breast cancer occurring before distant metastasis or death) - Cumulative incidence of contra lateral breast cancer as first event - Breast cancer-free survival (censoring deaths without breast cancer) 	<p>Secondary Endpoints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall Survival, defined as the time from randomization to death from any cause - All the outcomes defined within the STEEP systems (i.e. IDFS, DDFS, DRFS, RFS, recurrence-free interval, breast cancer-free interval, distant recurrence-free interval – see the table below) - Effects on lipid profile (haematological lipid profile evaluated at each visit) - Toxicity coded according to CTCAE (Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events of

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cumulative incidence and type of second non-breast invasive cancer - Effects on lipid profile (haematological lipid profile evaluated at each visit) - Toxicity coded according to CTCAE (Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events of National Cancer Institute v.3.0 – available at http://ctep.info.nih.gov/reporting/ctcnew.html). Data on toxicity will be collected at follow-up visits until the one planned at month 60. 	<p>National Cancer Institute v.3.0 – available at http://ctep.info.nih.gov/reporting/ctcnew.html. Data on toxicity will be collected at follow-up visits until the one planned at month 60.</p>																																																																																								
19	<p>Efficacy evaluation</p> <p>The primary outcome indicator will be the disease free survival (DFS) of the study groups.</p> <p>DFS is defined as time elapsing between the date of randomization and the date of one of the following events, whichever occurs first:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Local Recurrence of disease . Regional recurrence of disease . Distant recurrence of disease . Contralateral breast cancer . Second primary malignancy other than breast . Death for any cause 	<p>Efficacy evaluation</p> <p>According to the STEEP system (Hudis et al. J Clin Oncol 2007; 25:2127-2132) the primary outcome indicator will be the so called DFS-DCIS, defined as time elapsing between the date of randomization and the date of one of the following events, whichever occurs first:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Local Recurrence of disease . Regional recurrence of disease . Distant recurrence of disease . Contralateral invasive or intraductal breast cancer . Second primary malignancy other than breast . Death for any cause 																																																																																								
20	<p>At the end of the paragraph</p>	<p>Secondary efficacy markers will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Overall Survival (OS) defined as time elapsing between the date of randomization and the date of death for any cause - all the other outcomes defined within the STEEP system (i.e. IDFS, DDFS, DRFS, RFS, Recurrence-free interval, Breast cancer-free interval, Distant recurrence-free interval – see the table below). <div data-bbox="823 1384 1392 1617" data-label="Table"> <p>Table 1. Treatment Standardized Definitions for Breast Cancer Clinical Trial End Points in the Adjuvant Setting</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>End Point</th> <th>Primary Site of Recurrence</th> <th>Local/Regional Recurrence</th> <th>Distant Recurrence</th> <th>Death from Breast Cancer</th> <th>Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer</th> <th>Death from Unknown Cause</th> <th>Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer</th> <th>Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer</th> <th>Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer</th> <th>Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>OS</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DFS</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRFS</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RFS</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Recurrence-free interval</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Breast cancer-free interval</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Distant recurrence-free interval</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><small>NOTE: X shows that event is included in the definition of the end point. The end point is defined as the time from randomization to the date of the first occurrence of the event. OS, overall survival; DFS, disease-free survival; DRFS, distant recurrence-free survival; RFS, recurrence-free survival; Recurrence-free interval, time from randomization to the date of the first occurrence of any event; Breast cancer-free interval, time from randomization to the date of the first occurrence of any event other than breast cancer; Distant recurrence-free interval, time from randomization to the date of the first occurrence of any event other than local or regional recurrence of breast cancer.</small></p> </div>	End Point	Primary Site of Recurrence	Local/Regional Recurrence	Distant Recurrence	Death from Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Unknown Cause	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	OS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DFS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DRFS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	RFS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Recurrence-free interval	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Breast cancer-free interval	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Distant recurrence-free interval	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
End Point	Primary Site of Recurrence	Local/Regional Recurrence	Distant Recurrence	Death from Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Unknown Cause	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer	Death from Cause Other Than Breast Cancer																																																																																
OS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																																																																																
DFS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																																																																																
DRFS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																																																																																
RFS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																																																																																
Recurrence-free interval	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																																																																																
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Distant recurrence-free interval	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																																																																																

2. Change of the trial size (substantial)

This amendment was prompted both by recent reports of the literature and by feasibility reasons.

A) recent reports of the literature

When the trial was initially designed:

1. there were no other studies facing the comparison of upfront vs sequential strategy
2. there was no direct estimate of the expected DFS with the sequential treatment (control arm) that was indirectly derived from published data of trials of upfront and sequential AIs as compared to tamoxifen.

At the time the FATA study was designed, indeed, there was an indirect suggestion that sequential strategy was possibly better than upfront strategy. However a possible selection bias should not be excluded because results were all coming from trials on therapy switch where randomisation occurred after two years of tamoxifen. To have an unbiased estimate of the effect of sequential strategy vs tamoxifen alone patients should be randomised at the very beginning of the treatment.

Three ongoing studies are investigating the role of the sequential strategy at the very beginning: the ABCSG 8 trial, the BIG 1-98 trial and the TEAM trial. Their intermediate results have been presented at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium in December 2008. The ABCSG 8 trial is the only one that can provide a reliable direct estimate of 5-years DFS of sequential strategy, but does not address the comparison with AI. Both BIG 1-98 and the TEAM trials aim to compare tamoxifen followed by AI with the upfront corresponding AI (letrozole for BIG 1-98 and exemestane for TEAM), but results are not yet mature for deriving a direct estimate of 5-years DFS of the sequential strategy. However these studies, together with ours, could concur to a prospective meta-analysis with a number of patients large enough to provide definitive results. It is worth noting however that GIM3-FATA still is the only trial worldwide aiming to compare the three AIs on the market.

Sequential analysis of ABCSG 8 trial on 2922 subjects with a median follow up of 55 months provides a direct estimate of the efficacy of sequential treatment of tamoxifen followed by anastrozole in comparison with tamoxifen for five years. Sequential strategy was significantly better as regard RFS (HR = 0.79; 95% CI 0.65 – 0.95) - similar and possibly better than the HR of 0.85 observed for anastrozole upfront strategy vs tamoxifen alone in the ATAC trial – and overall survival (HR = 0.77; 95% CI 0.61 – 0.97). Estimated RFS probability for sequential strategy at 5 years was equal to 0.944 better than the 0.85 value that we used for sample size definition. However it must be acknowledged that this trial included patients with prognosis slightly better than ours.

The sequential role of letrozole is investigated by the BIG 1-98 trial, where letrozole for 5 years is alternatively compared to tamoxifen followed by letrozole and letrozole followed by tamoxifen. Each comparison include about 3000 subjects. No comparison was statistically significant: sequential treatment with letrozole first had an overlapping survival with letrozole upfront, while sequence with tamoxifen first was only slightly worse (HR 1.05; 99% CI 0.84 – 1.32). Both results are puzzling: in the first comparison it is unclear why letrozole does not work anymore after the first two years, while in the second

comparison the difference in RFS is of limited value (1.5% at five years) within the limit of the hypothesis underlying the GIM3-FATA study.

The TEAM trial of Pfizer is a profit study and aims to compare the tamoxifen followed by exemestane with upfront exemestane. Only first results at 2.75 years are available with a slight, although largely not definitive advantage of the exemestane arm (HR = 0.89; 95% CI 0.77 – 1.03).

Following these results we can conclude that: first, there is no large detrimental effect in waiving the AI in the first two years of treatment and the eventual result might possibly be even better. This hypothesis is still waiting to be confirmed by a direct comparison of sequential and upfront strategies. Therefore our study maintains its actuality and, in the future, could be combined together with trials from other countries to reach clinically strong conclusions. Once again it is worth remembering that FATA trial is the only one that investigates all the three AIs currently on the market.

On the previous basis we think that reconsidering the FATA study size is essential. We originally indirectly estimated the probability of 5-yr DFS with sequential treatment as equal to 0.85. The estimated RFS probability for sequential strategy at 5 years in the ABCSG 8 trial was better, namely equal to 0.944. Recognizing that ABCSG trial included patients with slightly better prognosis the estimated 5-years DFS of GIM3-FATA study may reasonably be set equal to 0.90. The minimal clinically worthwhile advantage with upfront AIs that the study should be able to detect is retained equal to 2% at 5 years, since there are not new reasons for changing. Thus, the main efficacy analysis is planned to identify an absolute 2% difference of DFS-DCIS at 5 years, that now corresponds to a HR of 0.7914.

Furthermore an interim analysis aiming only to reject the alternative hypothesis was already planned when 70% of all necessary events are observed. Partial results of the ongoing studies both seem to corroborate the high probability of a 'negative' result (i.e. the upfront strategy is not better than the sequential strategy) and make necessary reaching a clinically spendable result shortly. Thus *we plan to add two more interim analysis with the same aim, beside the final one, when 40%, 60%, 80% of all necessary events are observed. Deferring the first interim analysis to when 40% of events have been observed decreases the risk of an haphazard results with too few events.*

B) feasibility

FATA study had a difficult start, first because of the delays in accomplishing ethical and administrative procedures. As of June 2008, median time for EC approval was equal to 15 weeks and other 19 weeks were needed in median to obtain the institutional resolution to start. At the end of September 2009, 61 centres are enrolling patients, 8 centres with EC approval are awaiting for administrative resolution, and 25 are waiting for the approval by local ethical committees. However some investigators that initially were willing to participate later retreated. Overall, it is expected that the mean number of patients enrolled per month through the whole study might be around 100. With the initially planned sample size of 10.000 patients, the trial would require a too long time to produce results that might therefore be useless for patients and scientific knowledge. Thus a study size smaller than that was initially planned is strongly desirable. The new sample size made reasonable by the considerations reported in the previous paragraph, should allow a timely completion of the study and to draw conclusions clinically meaningful.

According to the previous considerations the sample size and interim analysis paragraph is amended as below (the changes are in **bold**):

Page	Old text	New text
4	<p>Synopsis - Number of subjects Up to 10000 pts will be enrolled</p>	<p>Synopsis - Number of subjects Up to 3600 pts will be enrolled to detect an absolute 2% difference of DFS-DCIS at 5 years (corresponding to a HR of 0.7914), with 2-sided significance level of 0.05, power of 0.80 and three interim analysis.</p>
23	<p>SAMPLE SIZE AND INTERIM ANALYSIS.</p> <p>The sample size is primarily calculated for the upfront vs sequential strategy comparison, due to its potential impact on clinical practice. The expected DFS with the sequential treatment was derived from published data of trials of upfront and sequential AIs as compared to tamoxifen. A 0.85 probability of 5-yr DFS with sequential treatment is calculated by multiplying the mean probability of 2-yr DFS with tamoxifen in the ATAC and BIG1-98 trials (0.93) and probability of DFS 3 years after randomization in the IES study (0.915). The minimal clinically worthwhile advantage with upfront AIs that the study should be able to detect is settled equal to 2% at 5 years following the previous considerations of toxicity and costs. Thus, the main efficacy analysis is planned to identify an absolute 2% difference of DFS at 5 years (corresponding to a HR of 0.86), assuming a 5-yr DFS probability in the sequential arm of 0.85, a 2-sided significance level of 0.05, power of 0.80 and one interim analysis, only planned to reject the alternative hypothesis according to a beta-spending function with O'Brien-Fleming boundary (futility analysis). A maximum of 1354 events are required (EAST 4 software); the interim analysis will be performed when about 950 (70%) events are observed.</p> <p>Comparison of AIs among themselves is powered to detect the same HR assumed as clinically relevant, according to the Ahnn and Anderson approach (14) 1818 events are required for the logrank comparison and should occur by the 9th year from the start. No formal statistical analysis is planned before the interim one; however, first look at results will be taken at the end of the third year of recruitment by the IDMC who will evaluate the opportunity of specific advice regarding trial continuation and communication of results.</p> <p>Assuming a recruitment rate of 2500 subjects per year and four years of recruitment, the required number of events should be reached</p>	<p>SAMPLE SIZE AND INTERIM ANALYSIS.</p> <p>The sample size is primarily calculated for the upfront vs sequential strategy comparison, due to its potential impact on clinical practice. The expected DFS-DCIS with the sequential treatment is adopted conservatively from the ABCSG 8 trial where 5-years RFS probability for sequential strategy at 5 years was equal to 0.944. Recognizing that ABCSG trial included patients with slightly better prognosis the estimated 5-years DFS of GIM3-FATA study is set equal to 0.90. The minimal clinically worthwhile advantage with upfront AIs that the study should be able to detect is settled equal to 2% at 5 years following the previous considerations of toxicity and costs. Thus, the main efficacy analysis is planned to identify an absolute 2% difference of DFS-DCIS at 5 years (corresponding to a HR of 0.7914), assuming a 5-yr DFS-DCIS probability in the sequential arm of 0.90, a 2-sided significance level of 0.05, power of 0.80 and three interim analysis, only planned to reject the alternative hypothesis according to a beta-spending function with Pocock boundary (futility analysis). A maximum of 669 events are required (EAST 5 software); the interim analyses will be performed when about 268 (40%), 402 (60%) and 535 (80%) events are observed.</p> <p>Applying the same absolute 2% difference of DFS-DCIS at 5 years and the same HR of 0.7914, 792 events would be required for the logrank comparison of the three AIs, according to the Ahnn and Anderson approach (14) to have a power of 0.80 and a significance level of 0.05. Comparison of AIs will first be performed only when the result of the primary comparison will be conclusive, either at the end of the study or at an interim analysis. With the required maximum of 669 events the three-arm comparison has a power of 0.725 (14).</p> <p>Assuming a recruitment rate of 1200 subjects per year 3.600 subjects should be recruited in 3 years of recruitment. Results</p>

	<p>within 7 years from study start. The 950 events needed for interim analysis should be observed by 5.7 years from the start; in case of 'stopping' for futility, results will be reported, but follow up will continue as planned (no treatment shift is needed, indeed) and treatment effect on overall survival would be eventually assessed without dilution.</p> <p>6-months progress reports will be provided for the first 7 years, then yearly reports will be given. First look at results (only unblinded to IDMC) will be taken at the end of the third year of recruitment</p>	<p>of interim analyses will be unblinded only to IDMC. In case of 'stopping' for futility, results will be reported, but follow up will continue as planned (no treatment shift is needed, indeed) and treatment effect on overall survival would be eventually assessed without dilution.</p> <p>6-months progress reports will be provided for the first 4 years, then yearly reports will be given.</p>
23	<p>Statistical analyses</p> <p>All statistical analyses will be based on an intention-to-treat strategy. CONSORT rules (15) will be applied to describe study flow and protocol deviations. According to study design, analyses will be conducted separately (and at different times given the different number of events that are required) for the two questions.</p> <p>All DFS curves will be drawn with the Kaplan-Meier method. Statistical significance of differences will be tested by a multivariable Cox's model including stratification variables and categories of centre as covariates. Proportionality assumption will be checked by entering a time-dependent covariate of treatment by log(time) interaction. First order interactions between treatment and stratification variables will be tested. HR and 95% CI will also be calculated for subgroup categories of stratification variables and depicted as Forest plot.</p> <p>According to study design, one interim analysis, planned to reject the alternative hypothesis according to a beta-spending function with O'Brien-Fleming boundary (futility analysis), will be performed when about 950 (70% of the whole expected number) events are observed for the comparison of the two strategies.</p> <p>As for the comparison of the three AIs, global null hypothesis of treatment equivalence will be first tested by logrank test; if the overall comparison will be significant, pairwise comparisons between AIs will be performed with Bonferroni-Holm adjustment.</p> <p>As for toxicity analyses, for each patient and for each type of toxicity, the worst degree ever suffered will be used for the analysis.</p> <p>In the comparison between strategies, the whole</p>	<p>Statistical analysis</p> <p>All statistical analyses will be based on an intention-to-treat strategy. CONSORT rules (15) will be applied to describe study flow and protocol deviations. According to study design, analyses will be conducted separately (and at different times given the different number of events that are required) for the two questions.</p> <p>Curves will be drawn with the Kaplan-Meier method. Statistical significance of differences will be tested by a multivariable Cox's model including stratification variables and categories of centre as covariates. Proportionality assumption will be checked by entering a time-dependent covariate of treatment by log(time) interaction. First order interactions between treatment and stratification variables will be tested. HR and 95% CI will also be calculated for subgroup categories of stratification variables and depicted as Forest plot.</p> <p>According to study design, three interim analysis, only planned to reject the alternative hypothesis according to a beta-spending function with Pocock boundary (futility analysis) will be performed when about 268 (40%), 402 (60%) and 535 (80%) events are observed for the comparison of the two strategies.</p> <p>As for the comparison of the three AIs, global null hypothesis of treatment equivalence will be first tested by logrank test; if the overall comparison will be significant, pairwise comparisons between AIs will be performed with Bonferroni-Holm adjustment.</p> <p>As for toxicity analyses, for each patient and for each type of toxicity, the worst degree ever suffered will be used for the analysis.</p> <p>In the comparison between strategies, the whole</p>

<p>pattern of toxicity (all grades) will be considered for each item; analysis will be done by a linear rank test with significance level set at 0.01.</p> <p>In the comparison of the three AIs, global null hypothesis of treatment equivalence will be first tested by nonparametric ANOVA at 0.01 level; if the overall comparison will be significant, pairwise comparisons between AIs will be done by a linear rank test with Bonferroni-Holm adjustment.</p>	<p>pattern of toxicity (all grades) will be considered for each item; analysis will be done by a linear rank test with significance level set at 0.01.</p> <p>In the comparison of the three AIs, global null hypothesis of treatment equivalence will be first tested by nonparametric ANOVA at 0.01 level; if the overall comparison will be significant, pairwise comparisons between AIs will be done by a linear rank test with Bonferroni-Holm adjustment.</p>
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EUDRACT number: 2006-004018-42

AIFA code: FARM5K3MEE

Protocol title:

A phase III study comparing anastrozole, letrozole and exemestane, upfront (for 5 years) or sequentially (for 3 years after 2 years of tamoxifen), as adjuvant treatment of postmenopausal patients with endocrine-responsive breast cancer.

Nickname:

GIM3-FATA – First Adjuvant Trial on All aromatase inhibitors in early breast cancer.

EMENDAMENTO 2

L'emendamento sostanziale 2 comporta (i numeri tra parentesi si riferiscono alle pagine del nuovo protocollo modificate in seguito all'emendamento):

- L'esplicitazione formale degli obiettivi secondari di efficacia secondo il sistema STEEP, in buona parte implicitamente già previsti nel protocollo nel paragrafo degli endpoint secondari (pag. 4, 10, 20)
- L'aggiunta tra gli obiettivi secondari di un'analisi di tossicità dopo un anno di trattamento non prevista dal protocollo originario (pag. 10, 15). Sebbene la tossicità nel breve periodo dei diversi trattamenti sia già nota, infatti, non esistono in letteratura confronti diretti fra i tre inibitori delle aromatasi all'interno dello stesso studio. L'analisi non comporta la raccolta di nuove informazioni nella scheda raccolta dati.
- La valutazione tra gli obiettivi secondari dell'effetto dei trattamenti sul profilo lipidico e sulla comparsa di sindrome metabolica dopo i primi due anni di trattamento (prima dello switch ad inibitore delle aromatasi nei bracci con terapia sequenziale) e alla fine dei 5 anni di trattamento (pag. 10, 15-16). E' noto, infatti, che alla deprivazione estrogenica segue una modificazione del profilo metabolico e della distribuzione del grasso corporeo. L'insorgenza di sindrome metabolica può stimolare la produzione di IGF-1 con conseguente comparsa di resistenza al trattamento ormonale. Ancora una volta lo studio GIM3-FATA è l'unico a poter valutare l'effetto dei tre inibitori delle aromatasi all'interno dello stesso studio. L'analisi non comporta la raccolta di nuove informazioni nella scheda raccolta dati.
- L'aggiunta di uno studio biologico ancillare esplorativo per identificare marcatori molecolari predittivi della risposta tumorale e dell'insorgenza di eventuale farmacoresistenza (pag. 10, 26-30, 37-39). E' di estrema attualità e rilevanza per la pratica clinica il riconoscimento di eventuali pattern di espressione molecolare associati ai fenotipi resistenti; il disegno di GIM3-FATA fornisce un'opportunità unica per studiare le eventuali interazioni dei biomarcatori con i tre inibitori delle aromatasi. Lo studio ancillare comporta la raccolta di informazioni aggiuntive nella scheda raccolta dati, che viene modificata di conseguenza. Viene anche prodotto un foglio informativo per il paziente per il consenso alla partecipazione nello studio ancillare.