

Another disappointing result for Tecentriq in triple negative breast cancer



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Anti-PD(L)-1 antibodies have a mixed record in triple negative breast cancer, and the failure of Impassion-131, a first-line trial of Roche's Tecentriq, is another black mark. Tecentriq failed to improve PFS versus paclitaxel in PD-L1-positive patients, [Roche said](#), while a negative trend on overall survival, a secondary endpoint, was detected. The trial was not sufficiently powered to show a benefit here and the data are still immature, but the study had already been upsized and the readout delayed, suggesting that the company was struggling to tease out even a marginal benefit. [Tecentriq has accelerated approval](#) in the US as a first-line treatment of TNBC in patients with least 1% PD-L1 expression, based on the Impassion-130 trial. This was similar in design to Impassion-131, but recruited more patients and used Abraxane instead of paclitaxel as the chemo comparator. There is some [suggestion that paclitaxel could have made a difference](#): the high dose steroid premedication required to stave off side effects has been associated with [diminished efficacy of immunotherapies](#). [Tecentriq's success in a neoadjuvant TNBC](#) study earlier this year arguably makes the Impassion131 failure less important, but it is clear that there is still much to be learned about the drug's role in this disease.

Roche trials in triple-negative breast cancer

Study	Design	Primary endpoint(s)	Result
<i>Neoadjuvant</i>			
Impassion-031	Tecentriq + Abraxane vs Abraxane	pCR in PD-L1+ and all-comers	Toplined positive in PD-L1+ and all-comers
<i>Neoadjuvant + adjuvant</i>			
NeoTRIPaPDL1	Tecentriq + Abraxane vs Abraxane	EFS	Failed in Dec 2019
MO39875	Tecentriq + chemo vs chemo	pCR & EFS	Dec 2023 primary completion
<i>Adjuvant</i>			
Impassion-030	Tecentriq + chemo vs chemo	iDFS	Jan 2022 primary completion
<i>First-line</i>			
Impassion-130	Tecentriq + Abraxane vs Abraxane	OS & PFS in PD-L1+ and all-comers	Approved in $\geq 1\%$ PD-L1
Impassion-131	Tecentriq + paclitaxel vs paclitaxel	PFS in PD-L1+ and all-comers	Failed in Aug 2020
Impassion-132	Tecentriq + chemo vs chemo	OS in PD-L1+ and all-comers	Upsized by 63%, completion delayed from Jul 2019 to Jan 2023
Ipatunity-130	Ipatasertib + chemo vs chemo	PFS in PIK3CA/AKT1/PTEN-altered	Dec 2021 primary completion

Source: clinicaltrials.gov & company presentation.

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