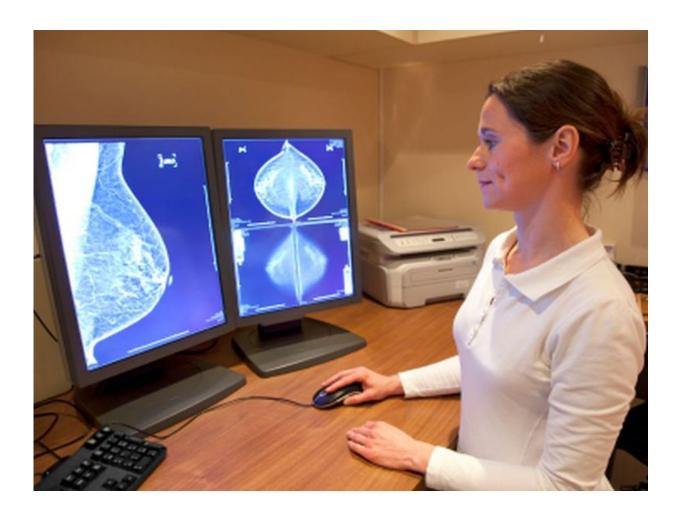


Certain breast CA patients benefit from adjuvant capecitabine

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(HealthDay)—Capecitabine (Xeloda) can extend the lives of patients



with human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative breast cancer who have residual invasive disease after receipt of neoadjuvant chemotherapy, according to a study published in the June 1 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The new trial focused on 910 women with HER2-negative residual invasive <u>breast cancer</u> after neoadjuvant chemotherapy. Participants received standard post-surgical treatment either with capecitabine or without (the control group).

The researchers found that capecitabine was associated with a reduced risk of relapse or death (30 percent over five years). At that point, 74.1 percent were still alive and recurrence-free, versus 67.6 percent of women in the control group. Five years later, 89.2 percent of capecitabine patients were still alive, compared with 83.6 percent of control patients. Among women with <u>triple-negative breast cancer</u>, 78.8 percent of capecitabine patients were alive after five years, compared with 70.3 percent of control patients.

"After standard <u>neoadjuvant chemotherapy</u> containing anthracycline, taxane, or both, the addition of adjuvant capecitabine therapy was safe and effective in prolonging disease-free survival and overall survival among patients with HER2-negative breast cancer who had residual invasive disease on pathological testing," the authors conclude.

More information: <u>Abstract/Full Text (subscription or payment may</u> <u>be required)</u>

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