

# Oncotype DX not cost-effective for low-risk breast cancer

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(HealthDay)—The multigene expression test Oncotype DX (ODX) is not

cost-effective for women with breast cancer who are at low risk for recurrence, according to research published online Jan. 22 in the *Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network*.

Shi-Yi Wang, M.D., Ph.D., from the Yale University School of Public Health in New Haven, Connecticut, and colleagues created models to calculate costs and quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) gained over the lifetime for women with [estrogen receptor](#) (ER)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative, lymph node-negative breast [cancer](#). Data from the Connecticut Tumor Registry were used to identify 2,245 patients diagnosed from 2011 through 2013. These patients were classified into three clinical risk groups based on the PREDICT risk calculator.

The researchers found that approximately 82.5 percent of patients were low-risk, 11.9 percent were intermediate-risk, and 5.6 percent were high-risk. For all risk groups, ODX had an incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER) of \$62,200 per QALY for patients aged 60 years. However, ICERs varied across clinical risk groups and ranged from \$124,600 per QALY in the low-risk group to \$28,700 per QALY in the intermediate-risk group and \$15,700 per QALY in the high-risk group. Further, ICER was sensitive to patient age; for patients aged 45 to 75 years, it ranged from \$77,100 to \$344,600 per QALY in the PREDICT low-risk group and was lower than \$100,000 per QALY in the intermediate-risk and high-risk groups.

"ODX is not cost-effective for women with clinical low-risk [breast cancer](#), which constitutes most patients with ER-positive disease," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to pharmaceutical and medical device companies.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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