

## Background

- Neoadjuvant therapy (NAT) is increasingly considered the treatment of choice for patients with HER2+ and triple negative breast cancer (TNBC).
- It is generally recommended to treat patients with breast cancer during pregnancy as closely as possible according to patients diagnosed outside pregnancy [1].
- Data on NAT during pregnancy are scarce.

## Materials and Methods

- We compared patients with BCP who received NAT with pregnant patients who received NAT after delivery
- Patients from the registry from the German Breast Group (GBG 29/BIG 02-03 and the INCIP initiative) with BCP who received NAT were analyzed. A non-pregnant control cohort was matched using the Propensity Score based on age, cT Stage (cT 1-2 vs 3-4), cN Stage (cN0 vs cN+), grading (1 vs 2 vs 3), ER/PgR, HER2, neoadjuvant trastuzumab therapy.

**Table 1: Baseline patient and tumour characteristics**

	Non-pregnant controls (%)	BCP (%)	P-value
<b>Age median, range</b>	34, 21-43	34, 26-42	0.880
<b>Tumour stage</b>			
cT1-2	73.3	69.5	0.541
cT3-4	26.7	30.5	
<b>Nodal status</b>			
cN+	51.4	55.2	0.678
<b>Histo Type</b>			
Lobular	5.8	3.8	0.538
<b>Grading</b>			
G3	63.8	65.7	0.324
<b>ER</b>			
negative	46.7	52.4	0.490
<b>HER2</b>			
positive	37.1	41.0	0.671
<b>TNBC</b>	33.3	35.2	0.884

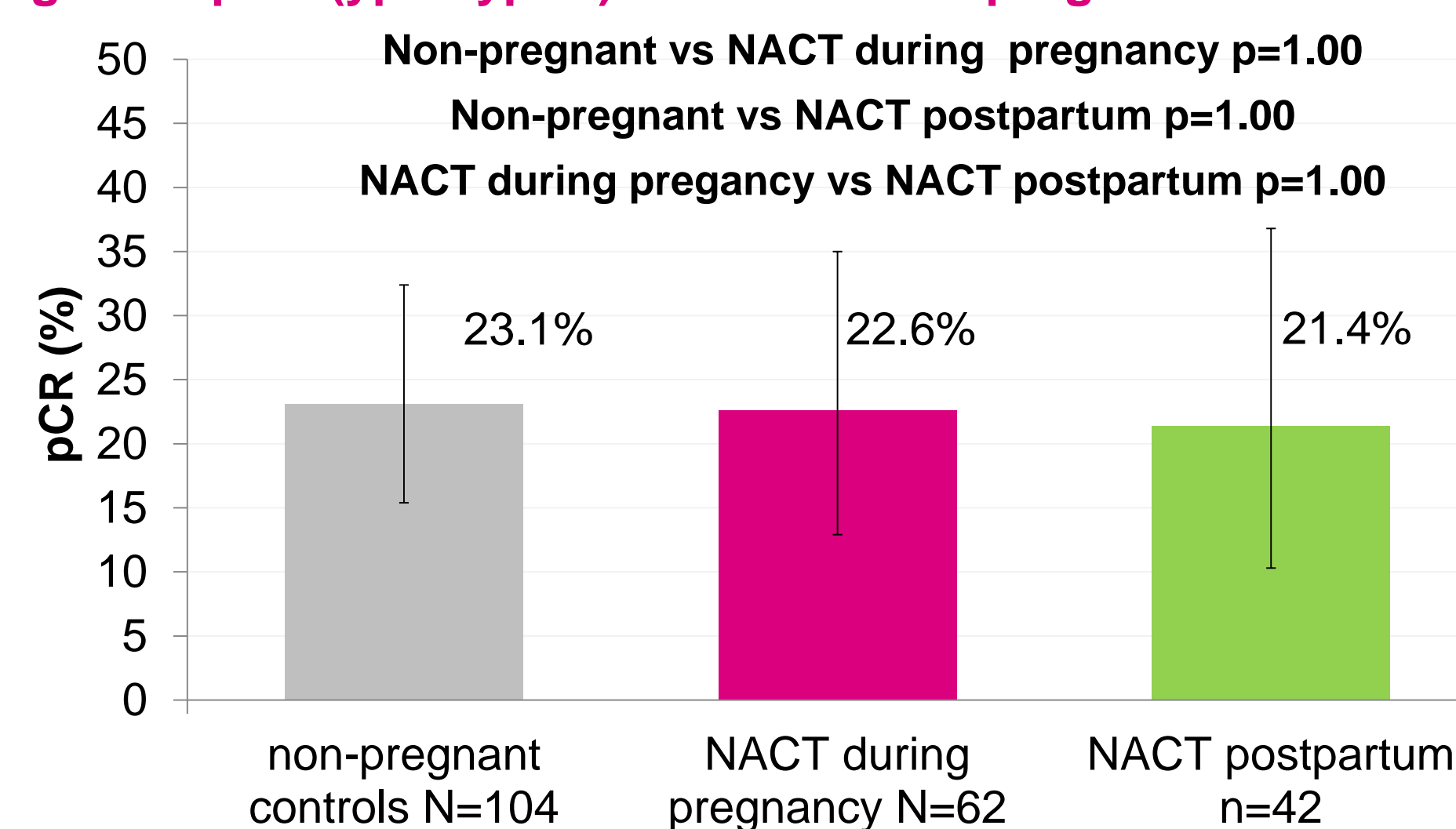
## Results

- 105/130 neoadjuvant treated BCP patients were identified with complete data, n=63 of whom received NAT during pregnancy and n=42 after delivery. BC was diagnosed in the first or second trimester in 63% of patients with NAT during pregnancy and in 19% of patients with NAT after delivery (p<0.001). Baseline characteristics were not different between pregnant and non-pregnant patients (**Table 1**).
- BCP patients were more likely to receive non-taxane regimens (**Table 2**). 60% of HER2+ non-pregnant patients received Trastuzumab neoadjuvant compared with 47.6% of BCP patients (postpartum) (p=0.283). Treatment interruptions (p=0.274), dose reductions (p=0.569) and gestational age (p=0.782) were not different between BCP patients who received NAT during pregnancy or after delivery.
- There was no difference in pCR (ypT0 ypN0) rates between control and BCP patients (**Figure 1**). There was no difference in DFS and OS for patients with NAT during pregnancy vs thereafter (**Figure 2**).

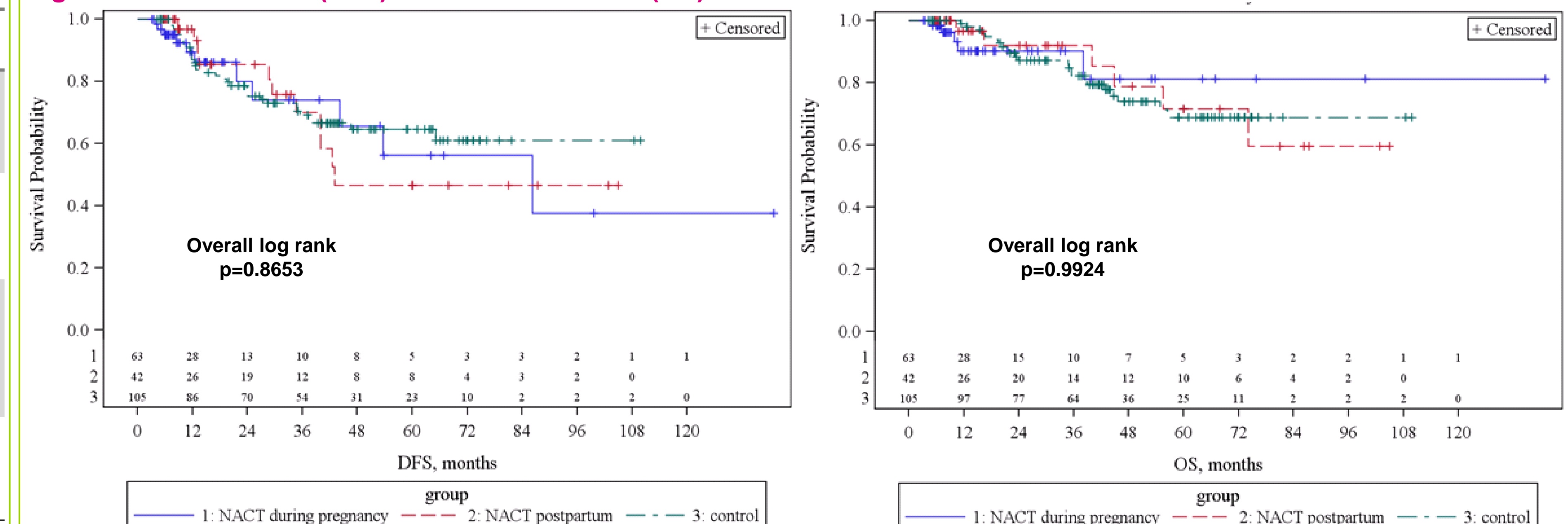
**Table 2: Chemotherapy regimens administered**

Chemotherapy		Non-pregnant controls, N(%)	BCP, N(%)	P-value
<b>Chemotherapy</b>	non-taxane	0 (0.0)	17 (16.2)	<0.001
	taxane sequence	71 (67.6)	77 (73.3)	
	taxane combination	34 (32.4)	11 (10.5)	
<b>Non-taxane, specification</b>	EC/AC	0 (0.0)	10 (9.5)	
	FEC/FAC	0 (0.0)	7 (6.7)	
	other	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	
	<b>Taxane sequence, specification</b>			
EC/AC-Doc/Pac	60 (57.1)	47 (44.8)		
	Pac-EC/AC	0 (0.0)		5 (4.8)
	FEC/FAC-Doc/Pac	0 (0.0)		17 (16.2)
	other	11 (10.5)		8 (7.6)
<b>Taxane combination, specification</b>	TAC	34 (32.4)	8 (7.6)	
	GET	0 (0.0)	2 (1.9)	
	other	0 (0.0)	1 (1.0)	

**Figure 1: pCR (ypT0 ypN0) in BCP vs non-pregnant controls**



**Figure 2: Disease-free (DFS) and overall survival (OS) in BCP vs control**



## Conclusions

Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy for patients with breast cancer during pregnancy results in the same pCR rate if given during pregnancy or after delivery and as in non-pregnant controls. Disease free and overall survival is not different between the three cohorts. **Patients with BCP can be treated with neoadjuvant therapy without compromising short and long-term outcome. This supports earlier data from the group that the survival is not different between BCP and non-pregnant controls. [2]**

## References

- [1] Loibl S, Han SN, von Minckwitz G, et al. Treatment of breast cancer during pregnancy: an observational study. *Lancet Oncol* 2012;13: 887-96. [2] Amant F, von Minckwitz G, Han SN, et al. Prognosis of women with primary breast cancer diagnosed during pregnancy: results from an international collaborative study *J Clin Oncol*. 2013;10;3:2532-9.