Predictive biomarkers of breast ductal carcinoma *in situ* may underestimate the risk of

recurrence due to *de novo* ipsilateral breast carcinoma development

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Abstract:

Purpose: Development of ipsilateral breast carcinoma following a diagnosis of breast ductal carcinoma *in situ* (DCIS) has been assumed to represent recurrence of the primary tumour. However, this may not be the case and it is important to know how often recurrences are new primary tumours to ensure appropriate individualised therapy.

Experimental Design: Ipsilateral primary-recurrence pairs (n=78) were sequenced to test their clonal relatedness. Shared genetic events were identified from whole exome sequencing (n=54 pairs) using haplotype-specific copy number and phylogenetic analysis. The remaining pairs were sequenced by a targeted panel or low-coverage whole genome sequencing. We included 32 non-recurrent DCIS to compare the genetic profiles between recurrent and non-recurrent disease to develop a predictive biomarker.

Results: We found that 14% of DCIS recurrences were non-clonal, indicative of a new breast carcinoma. Four chromosomal changes (5q, 11q, 17q and 20q) and *TP53* mutation were enriched in clonal primaries compared with non-recurrent DCIS (p<0.05, Fisher's exact test). The prognostic value of TP53 was validated in an independent cohort using immunohistochemistry (HR=3.1; 95% CI 1.3-7.8). Non-clonal DCIS primaries had a very similar genetic profile to non-recurrent DCIS, suggesting this subset of cases would be identified as being at "low risk" of recurrence using tumour-intrinsic markers.

Conclusions: We have identified a substantial rate of new ipsilateral primary carcinomas after a diagnosis of DCIS. Our results suggest, as with invasive breast cancer, that if a recurrent tumour with an independent origin occurs, then the patient is at a high risk through the environment, the breast microenvironment and/or has a genetic predisposition. Importantly, the frequency of new primaries will influence the interpretation of findings in DCIS biomarker discovery studies as the true recurrence rate will be incorrect, affecting these efforts.

Translational relevance:

Our finding that >10% of recurrent tumours are new primaries provides genetic evidence that

the presence of DCIS confers a risk of a *de novo* breast cancer as well as recurrence.

Identifying a biomarker of such risks might allow preventive actions, such as genetic testing,

chemoprevention with tamoxifen or aromatase inhibitors, or bilateral mastectomy. The

corollary of these findings is that *de novo* primaries in DCIS biomarker studies may have

undermined efforts to find a biomarker of recurrence by reducing statistical power, since a

tumour cell-intrinsic marker is unlikely to be predictive for a new primary. Even if a tumour

molecular biomarker could stratify between non-recurrent and recurrent patients, it will

under-detect patients at risk of new primaries. This issue raises concerns about utilising only

a tumour cell-intrinsic biomarker in the clinical setting.

Keywords: ductal carcinoma *in situ*, recurrence, clonality, breast neoplasm, whole exome

sequencing, phylogenetic analysis

Introduction

Ductal carcinoma *in situ* (DCIS) is a pre-invasive breast lesion long known as a non-obligate precursor of invasive breast cancer (IBC). Because up to 25% of DCIS may recur as either DCIS or IBC (1), DCIS is treated with surgery with or without radiotherapy and/or systemic endocrine therapy. It has long been recognised that this approach overtreats many women due to the lack of accurate prognostic markers of recurrence (2, 3). Treatment options remain the same for recurrent patients with further surgery +/- radiotherapy for recurrences of DCIS, and additional systemic therapies if indicated for IBC.

There has been an assumption that all ipsilateral breast carcinomas that develop after a diagnosis of DCIS are genetically related (i.e. clonal) to the primary tumour (true recurrences), but this may not always be the case. Using somatic copy number alterations (CNA) derived from SNP arrays, we previously showed that 2/8 recurrences were non-clonal (4). Others have reported using limited resolution methodology that 18% of IBC recurrences are non-clonal (i.e. new primaries), and four cases were determined to be independent lineages to the primary DCIS using single cell DNA sequencing (5). Knowing the true recurrence rate is important not only to guide patient management but also critical in designing any study aiming to identify DCIS biomarkers of recurrence. If the rate of non-clonal recurrences is high, then tumour-intrinsic based biomarker discovery is compromised and strategies will be needed to identify those at risk of new primaries.

Here we assembled a large cohort to explore the clonal relatedness and evolutionary trajectory of primary DCIS and subsequent carcinoma pairs. For simplicity, we will refer to all such second events as "recurrences", even when non-clonal. We performed genetic analysis of both non-recurrent DCIS and primary-recurrence tumour pairs with high depth

whole exome sequencing (WES), low-resolution whole genome sequencing or a targeted

sequencing panel to provide an insight into the molecular features of recurrences.

Materials and Methods

Patient samples

Primary DCIS and recurrent DCIS/IBC (n=82, ipsilateral n=78 and contralateral n=4) as well

as non-recurrent DCIS (n=32) cases were identified through hospital databases from Royal

Melbourne Hospital (RMH), Nottingham City Hospital (UK), the prospective LifePool cohort

and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (PMCC). Patients were recorded as non-recurrent when

there was no record of a second incidence of DCIS/IBC within 7 years of the initial DCIS

diagnoses (median follow-up was 8.5 years, range 7-23). We included patients as non-

recurrent when they had undergone breast conserving surgery (i.e. no mastectomy) with a

clear/negative margin. In contrast, recurrent patients were diagnosed with either DCIS or IBC

>1 year following their initial DCIS diagnosis regardless of the surgery type. The cases are

described in Supp File 1. Overall, 55% of ipsilateral recurrences (43/78) were IBC. Archival

FFPE blocks of non-recurrent DCIS, all primary DCIS and recurrent tumours were obtained

from the associated hospitals and haematoxylin and eosin stained slides were reviewed by

pathologist(s) to choose the best areas for microdissection. Stromal regions from 10 breast

samples were micro-dissected and used in each sequencing run as a pooled normal control

and for validating rare variants. The summary of the cohorts, sequencing technologies and

aims are summarised in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Experimental design. Non-recurrent DCIS (n=32) and 82 pairs of matched primary
DCIS-recurrent tumours were microdissected followed by DNA extraction. Depending on the
sequencing technology, clonality analyses were performed either by inspecting manually for
copy number alterations (CNA) and the Clonality package or by investigating evolutionary
history by phylogenetic analysis. Mutation profiles were generated either by targeted
sequencing panel or WES and clonality analysis was performed by the Clonality package and
clonality indices CI and CI2. TSP, targeted sequencing panel; LCWGS, low coverage whole
genome sequencing; WES, whole exome sequencing.

This study was conducted under ethical approval from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

(HREC#16/PMCC/122), Melbourne Health (HREC#2008.219), St Vincent's Hospital

(HREC#022-19) and the North West-Greater Manchester Central Research Ethics Committee

15/NW/0685.

Tissue micro-dissection and DNA extraction

All cases were micro-dissected from 7-10 micron haematoxylin stained sections (range 4-20

sections) by manual micro-dissection to achieve >50% tumour tissue purity. DNA was

extracted using the FFPE AllPrep kit (Qiagen, Germantown, MD, USA) as per the

manufacturer's protocol. Only DNA was used in this study and Quant-iT^{TM} dsDNA High-

sensitivity Assay Kit (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) was used to determine DNA

concentration. The quality of DNA was assessed by a multiplex PCR assay with primer sets

that produce 100 - 700 bp fragments from the *GAPDH* gene as described previously (6).

Depending on the success and timing of DNA extraction (Figure 1), cases were analysed by a

targeted sequencing panel (n=46, Nottingham and LifePool samples pre-2020), whole exome

sequencing (WES, n=67, RMH, PMCC and remaining LifePool cases), or low-coverage

whole genome sequencing (LCWGS). LCWGS was chosen for the cases for which <30 ng

DNA was available.

Only rare and uncommon pathogenic variants identified by WES were validated by Sanger

sequencing with matched normal DNA extracted from stroma to rule out germline *vs* somatic

variants as previously described (7).

Library preparation for WES

Paired primary-recurrent tumour DNA was processed by the Australian Genome Research

Facility (AGRF) using the Twist Bioscience Human Comprehensive Exome v1 or v2 (Twist

Bioscience HQ, South San Francisco, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer's protocol

(Twist Target Enrichment Standard Hybridisation Protocol). Sequencing was performed on

the Illumina NovaSeq 6000 platform with 150 bp paired-end reads for a median depth of

101.29x, range: 20.39-247x. Each run had at least one stromal DNA sample as a control.

Targeted sequencing library preparation, enrichment and sequencing

Targeted sequencing of tumour DNA was performed using an Agilent SureSelect Custom

Panel targeting known IBC driver genes from large cohort studies, such as the Cancer

Genome Atlas (TCGA). This panel has previously been used (7, 8) and tailored for IBC and

DCIS driver genes such as *PIK3CA, AKT1, PIK3R1, GATA3, PTEN, TP53, ARID1A* (9)

(gene list: Supplementary File 2). Library preparation was performed by the Molecular

Genomics Core, PMCC, mostly from an input of at least 100 ng of DNA using the KAPA

HyperPrep Kit (Roche Diagnostics, Rotkreuz, Switzerland) and the SureSelect XT (Agilent,

Santa Clara, CA, USA) hybridisation capture system as described previously (7, 8).

Sequencing of target-enriched DNA libraries was performed using the Illumina Next Seq 500

generating 75 bp paired-end sequence reads. Each run had at least one stromal DNA sample

as a control.

DNA Library Prep and LCWGS

A low DNA input library preparation protocol was used only for samples with <30 ng DNA,

using the NEBNext® Ultra ^{TM} II DNA Library Prep Kit (NEB E7645S/L, New England

BioLabs ® Inc., Ipswich, MA, USA) as described previously (6, 7, 10). These libraries were

used for LCWGS as described (6, 7, 10). Briefly, an Illumina Nextseq platform (NextSeq

500) (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA) (paired-end 75 bp) was used to run the pooled,

normalised indexed libraries according to the standard Illumina protocol. The sequencing

depth achieved in the samples was approximately 2x.

Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS)

Libraries for four paired samples with matched normal (stromal DNA) were made, processed

and sequenced by AGRF using the IDT xGen Kit (USA) according to the manufacturer's

protocol, aiming to achieve 60x depth for tumour DNA and 30x for matched normal.

Data analysis for WES and targeted sequencing panel

For targeted sequencing panel and WES, paired-end sequence reads were aligned to the g1k

v37 hg19 reference genome using BWA (11). Optical duplicate reads were removed using

Picard (http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/) (v1.119), then local realignment around indels

and base quality score recalibration were performed using the Genome Analysis Tool Kit

(GATK v3.8) in accordance with their recommended best practice workflow (12). SNP and

indel variants were called using GATK Unified Genotyper, Platypus (13) and Varscan 2 (14).

Called variants were additionally annotated using the Ensembl Variant Effect Predictor

release 78 (15).

Estimating somatic mutations from targeted panel and WES

Somatic mutations in the tumour sequencing data were identified by applying the following

filters: canonical transcript; variants identified by at least two variant callers, allele depth >5

and read depth >10 unless the variant was in *PIK3CA* or *TP53*. Since matched normal DNA

was unavailable for this study, any variant with minor allele frequency present in the

GnomAD non-cancer population (version 2.0) unless known to be pathogenic (e.g. *TP53*)

was filtered out. Such pathogenic variants were validated along with their matched normal

DNA by Sanger sequencing as described previously (16) to ensure their classification as a

somatic mutation prior to clonality analysis. Any rare germline variant misclassified as

somatic mutation could lead to a false clonality signal (17). Therefore, this step of filtering

out from GnomAD non-cancer population was strictly maintained (18). Variants reported in

the literature as sequence artefacts were filtered out (19). Manual inspection of the sequence

reads using the Integrative Genomics Viewer (20) was performed before finalising the

somatic mutations. Any false positive variants due to sequencing artefacts were excluded

from the final analysis.

Estimating CNA from targeted panel and WES and multi-sample phasing from WES

Both off-target and on-target sequencing reads from the targeted panel were used to generate

genome-wide copy number data using PureCN without matched normal (21). However, 24

normal DNA samples were pooled and used as a baseline of PureCN for most WES cases

(Exome v1) except for 12 primary-recurrent pairs for which only 1 normal DNA was used

(Exome v2). Out of multiple PureCN solutions/case for CNA profiles, purity and ploidy, the

first solution (solution 1) was used for downstream analysis.

CNA profiles, purity and ploidy status from solution 1 of PureCN data from WES was then

used to generate haplotype-specific copy number changes by multi-sample phasing using

Refphase (an R package for reference phasing copy number segments) as described by

Watkins *et al.* (22) (https://bitbucket.org/schwarzlab/refphase/src/master/). Samples with

insufficient depth and low quality failed to phase and were excluded (n=2: Case DCIS00191,

DCIS00401). Haplotype-specific copy number changes by Refphase revealed mirrored

subclonal allelic imbalance (MSAI) (i.e. parallel evolutionary events) and were leveraged to

infer phylogeny reconstruction and ancestral genomes between primary-recurrent pair by

Minimum Event Distance for Intra-tumour Copy-number Comparisons-2 (MEDICC2)

(n=54/56) described below.

Estimating CNA from LCWGS

For LCWGS, reads were aligned with bwa mem (v0.7.12-r1039) to hg19 (GRCh37) after

removal of sequencing primers by cutadapt (v1.7.1) as described previously (6, 7, 10, 23) .

ControlFREEC (version 6.7) (24) was used to estimate copy number from the LCWGS data

in 50 kb windows, with default parameters, no matched normal sample and baseline ploidy

set to 2. To reduce spurious calls, blacklisted regions as identified from Scheinin *et al.* (19)

were excluded. In addition to the CNA, fraction of genome altered (FGA) was calculated as

previously described (4).

Clonality analysis

Manual inspection of copy number breakpoints: All sample $\log_2$ ratio raw data generated by

PureCN were imported into Nexus (v10, BioDiscovery Inc., Hawthorne, CA) and segmented

using SNP-FASST with a stringency of 1×10^{-8} for WES and targeted sequencing panel and

1×10^{-5} for LCWGS samples. Copy number gains were called if the $\log_2$ ratio of the segment

was >0.18 and losses were called if <-0.18 as previously described (4, 7, 10). Manual

inspection of break points was performed to define the genetic relatedness of a primary-

recurrent pair (4, 7, 10, 17, 25). Paired cases sharing a non-centromeric breakpoint or >2

centromeric breakpoints with the same CNA were defined as clonal, with the exception that if

these shared events were only common breast cancer CNA (1q gain, 16q loss or 8q gain) then

clonality was defined as equivocal.

Clonality package: In addition to the manual inspection, a statistically based clonality

analysis, Clonality, an R package (v 3.6), was used based on total CNA and mutations (26,

27). This statistical approach was only used for cases run by targeted sequencing panel for

CNA. All samples were run together in the package to generate the reference distribution

(27). The paired cases were only analysed when both primary and recurrent pairs were

sequenced with the same technology. Since the package was developed based on low

resolution comparative genomic hybridisation and considers just one prominent CNA per

chromosome arm, targeted sequencing panel data were reduced to ~10,000 locations as

suggested. A p-value of 0.01-0.05 was considered as equivocal, $p<0.01$ was clonal and

$p>0.05$ was non-clonal (Supp Figure 1). Paired genome-wide copy number plots for all cases

were generated as described in the package and they all were manually verified. This manual

verification was necessary for all cases, especially if there was any discordance between

manual breakpoint inspection and the Clonality package. FFPE samples are notorious for

spurious calls, therefore, any apparent rare or uncommon very small segment of gain/deletion

might generate a low p-value and be considered clonal by the package (Supp Figure 2).

Manual verification was also needed to rule out any sequencing-specific artefacts, such as

19p which often is seen as gained on the targeted sequencing panel (Supp Figure 3). For

somatic mutation, both the targeted sequencing panel and WES data were considered. A p-

value generated by the Clonality package "get.mutation.frequencies" function suggests a

clonal pair if $p<0.05$, with TCGA breast cancer cohort used as a reference cohort as

suggested by Mauguen *et al.* (26). The p values generated by this package for both CNA and

mutational profiles are recorded in Supp File 3.

<u>Phylogeny reconstruction using MEDICC2:</u> An evolutionary method was used for most

paired cases in this study with high-depth WES data (n=54/56) and WGS data (n=4). Cases

with <20x depth or low quality were excluded (n=2: Case DCIS00191, DCIS00401). Copy

number profiles were pre-phased using Refphase to derive haplotype-specific CNA profiles

(22) and MSAI, which then was used to derive phylogenetic trees for tumour pairs using

MEDICC2 (28). An example of Refphase profile is shown in Supp Figure 4. All Refphase

and MEDICC2 profiles were manually inspected to reduce overcalling clonality due to the

presence of small shared segments, which were likely FFPE related artefacts.

<u>Clonality index only for somatic mutations:</u> An additional estimation for clonal relatedness

was performed described by Schultheis *et al*. (18), called Clonality Index (CI) and CI2. This

approach was carried out for all cases run by targeted sequencing panel and WES. The CI for

a tumour pair was defined as:

$$CI = \begin{cases} 1 - \prod_{k=1}^{n} f_k \,, n > 0 \\ \qquad 0 , n = 0 \end{cases}$$

where f_k is the percentage of tumours in TCGA (29) harbouring a given mutation (k) and *n* is

the number of shared mutations between a pair of tumours. The pair is considered genetically

related if CI is more than 0.8.

CI2 is similar to CI, but by using an R package ROCR. Unlike CI, where the threshold was

fixed as 0.8 to define any pair tumour as "clonal", the CI2 threshold will be carried out by the

ROCR package. The threshold will vary based on the average mutation rate of that tumour

type in the control dataset (TCGA-BRCA) as well as the frequency distribution of variants of

the testing cohort. In our cohort, the generated threshold by the R package was 2.83,

indicating any pair with CI2 value >2.83 was considered as clonal. Both CI and CI2 values

are detailed in Supp File 3.

Histology and Tumour Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TILs)

Estrogen receptor (ER) was determined as reported on the pathology record at the time of

diagnosis or was performed as described (30). HER2 amplification status was determined

from copy number data (4). TILs of non-recurrent and recurrent cases were available from

pathological review at the time of diagnosis or assessed later for this study by breast

pathologists (J.M.P. or N.R.). For recurrent cases, TILs were assessed from both primary

DCIS and recurrent tumours. The method for assessing TILs was developed by Pruneri *et al.*

(31) for DCIS and supported by the recent guidelines of the International Immuno-Oncology

Biomarker Working group (32-34).

TP53 immunohistochemistry

Tissue microarrays were obtained from Nottingham, UK (30) and Queensland, Australia. TP53 IHC was performed by the Peter MacCallum Dept of Anatomical Pathology using the standard clinical assay (clone DO7) as previously (16). Scoring was performed blinded to mutation status and outcome, and required at least 50 tumour cells to be present in the core. Cases were called normal if there was heterogeneous staining in <50% of cells and no contiguous areas of staining. Cases were abnormal if they carried one of three mutation-related patterns (35). Overexpression (OE) included strong nuclear staining in >5% contiguous cells and required contiguously stained cells across at least 50% of a duct containing at least 20 cells. Complete absence (CA) was no staining in any tumour cells, but positive staining in some stromal or lymphocyte cells. Cytosolic staining (CY) was diffuse cytoplasmic staining in cells in the same proportions as for OE. CY may or may not have nuclear staining also.

Statistical analysis and data visualisation

GraphPad Prism v 9.2.0 (San Diego, CA, USA), R v.4.3.2 (36) and RStudio (v 2023.09.1, Posit Software) were used to generate graphs, perform statistical tests and analyses. A *p*-value of <0.05 was considered significant unless stated otherwise. Tables and associated statistical tests results were generated using *gtsummary* (v 1.7.2)(37). The default test for continuous variables was the Wilcoxon test, for contingency tables chi-squared unless expected values were <5, in which case a Fisher's exact test was performed. Univariate and multivariable Cox regression were performed to identify clinical and molecular characteristics associated with patients' recurrence risk (*survival::coxph* v 3.5-7) (38). All cases with data for each characteristic were used in univariate analyses (n=186), however only the subset with complete data due to missing values was used in a multivariate analysis

(n=134). The proportionality assumption was checked using *cox.zph*. Internal model

calibration and validity tests were performed (*rms* package v 6.7-1(39)). Adjusted and

unadjusted survival curves were generated using the *survminer* package v 0.4.9

(*ggadjustedcurves* and *ggsurvplot*)(40).

Figures were produced using Biorender or R and assembled in Adobe Illustrator. Copy

number frequency plots were created using *GenVisR:cnFreq* (41). Oncoprint image was

produced through the cBioPortal (42)

Data Availability

The sequencing datasets supporting the conclusions of this article will be available through

NCBI Sequence Read Archive.

Results

Clinicopathological characteristics of the cohort

We performed genomic analysis on 82 pairs of DCIS with recurrence and 32 DCIS without

recurrence. Out of 82 pairs, four pairs were contralateral and anticipated to be non-clonal

controls but not included in summarised information or comparisons. When we compared the

recurrent and non-recurrent cohorts, there was no significant difference in patients' age at the

initial diagnosis of DCIS, ER/HER2 status of primary DCIS, or the size of primary DCIS

(Table 1). Recurrent cases were more likely to be high grade (p=0.047) and to have been

treated without radiotherapy (p<0.001) (Table 1, with further detail in Supp File 1).

Table 1. Cohort characteristics

Variable	Non-recurrent, N = 32[1]	Recurrent, N = 78[1]	p-value[2]
Age (years)	61.3 (±7.5)	60.5 (±9.5)	0.6
Unknown	0	3	
Radiotherapy	11 / 17 (65%)	13 / 71 (18%)	<0.001
Unknown	15	7	
Grade			0.047
High	14 / 32 (44%)	51 / 78 (65%)	
Intermediate	14 / 32 (44%)	16 / 78 (21%)	
Low	4 / 32 (13%)	11 / 78 (14%)	
Size (mm)	15.1 (±12.2)	18.8 (±17.1)	0.6
Unknown	0	2	
ER			0.2
Negative	4 / 32 (12.5%)	17 / 75 (23%)	
Positive	28 / 32 (87.5%)	58 / 75 (77%)	
Unknown	0	3	
HER2			0.6
Negative	24 / 32 (75%)	55 / 78 (71%)	
Positive	8 / 32 (25%)	23 / 78 (29%)	
Tumour lymphocytes	11.3 (±8.4)	14.5 (±17.3)	0.8
Unknown	5	26	

[1]Mean (SD); n / N (%)

[2]Wilcoxon rank sum test; Fisher's exact test; Pearson's Chi-squared test

All but two of the recurrent tumours had the same ER status as the primary DCIS when data

were available for both of the pair (Supp File 1). These two ER positive primary DCIS

(LP004, DCIS00498) recurred as ER negative disease. Keeping in mind that IBC grade is not

directly comparable to DCIS grade, the grade of recurrent tumours was not always similar to

the primary DCIS. When grades of both were available (75/78 pairs), 23 out of 75 pairs

(31%), recurred as a lower grade than primary (i.e. high or intermediate grade DCIS recurred

as low grade DCIS or grade 1 IBC, e.g. DCIS00009 high grade DCIS recurred as low grade

DCIS). On the other hand, 13 out of 75 pairs (18%), recurred as a higher grade than primary

(for example LP003 low grade DCIS recurred as grade 2 IBC).

Evidence for *de novo* development of ipsilateral recurrent tumours

We first investigated 26 tumour pairs (4 contralateral) using a targeted sequencing panel

(n=20) or LCWGS (n=1) or a combination (n=5) due limited DNA availability to test their

clonal relatedness (examples in Supp Fig 1). Therefore, while CNA profiles were available

for all pairs, mutation analysis was only available for 20 pairs. Clonal relatedness was

assessed for this cohort by the Clonality package, manual inspection of breakpoints and

clonality index (CI, CI2) (when mutation data was available).

Using copy number data, all contralateral tumours were genetically independent (i.e. non-

clonal), as expected, while 68% (15/22) of ipsilateral primary-recurrent pairs were genetically

related (i.e. clonal, representing true recurrences) and the remaining seven cases appeared to

be independent tumours (i.e. non-clonal). Six of these seven cases had paired mutation data

and all six pairs remained non-clonal when including these data. Out of these six cases, four

pairs had no shared mutations or CNA, and all of these carried private CNA or mutations.

Two out of these four pairs had private mutations in both primary and recurrent tumours,

further evidence for the second tumours to be new primaries. One pair (Case 3933) had two

shared copy number events but with different breakpoints including 16q loss, one of the most

common copy number events of IBC (Clonality package p =0.98) (Supp Fig 3). The

remaining pair (Case 3936) had no shared CNA but shared a *PIK3CA* (H1047R) mutation,

the most common mutation of IBC. This result suggested a non-clonal pair by Clonality

package and CI index (p=0.074, CI=0.8, CI2=2.83) (Supp File 3).

Phylogenetic analysis using haplotype-specific copy number profiles and somatic

mutations confirmed independent ipsilateral recurrent tumours

The above preliminary data was based on relatively low-resolution technologies, resulting in

limited power for clonality detection, such as manual inspection of CNA and breakpoints.

Manual inspection of breakpoints can confirm clonality but there can be uncertainty that

cases with common CN events are related or not when lacking allelic information. Therefore,

we attempted to obtain high depth WES data for the remaining paired primary-recurrent cases

(n=56). Unfortunately, two cases were unable to achieve high sequencing depth for both

samples (DCIS00191, DCIS00401). Clonality analysis was performed for these two cases by

manual inspection of copy number breakpoints and clonality index as above (Supp File 3),

which suggested clonal cases.

For the remaining cases, we undertook phylogenetic analysis using Refphase and MEDICC2.

Refphase incorporates allelic information when assessing CN events. MEDICC2 is based on

the minimum event distance between all genomes using neighbour joining taking into

account whole genome doubling (WGD) events (43). As opposed to looking at any

chromosomal event as a single event, such an analysis may reveal the evolutionary history of

CNA. Supp Fig 5 shows an example of an *apparent* non-clonal pair as defined by manual

inspection of shared CNA with different breakpoints, but that was classified as clonal (i.e.

shared ancestral genomes) by investigating their evolutionary history.

Of the 54 pairs for which the sequencing depth enabled phylogenetic analysis, 49/54 (91%)

shared an ancestral genome (i.e. clonal, Figure 2). When we investigated somatic mutations

(Figure 3) for all of these cases, five out of six non-clonal pairs remained non-clonal due to

lack of shared somatic mutations or sharing only *PIK3CA* H1047R (Case DCIS00506:

CI=0.8, CI2=2.83, p=0.06 by Clonality package) (Supp File 3). Out of these five independent

pairs, four of them with enough DNA were also subjected to whole genome sequencing with

their matched normal stromal DNA to check their clonal relatedness. The CNA profiles and

mutation status reconfirmed that three were non-clonal (e.g. Supp Figure 6), however,

DCIS00506 contained a small deletion at the end of chromosome 16 that, along with the

shared *PIK3CA* mutation and 1q gain, suggested a clonal origin (Supp Figure 7). Taken

together, high depth sequencing confirmed 4/54 cases as non-clonal (7.4%).

**Figure 2. Example of a clonal pair and a non-clonal pair sequenced by high depth whole
exome sequencing (WES).** These profiles were generated by MEDICC2 based on haplotype-
specific copy number profiles. Firstly, in case LP005 the phylogenetic tree suggests there
were 91 clonal segments identified in the ancestral genome (internal node), indicating
truncal events in the primary DCIS and recurrent IBC. The recurrent tumour had 157
divergent CNA segments and the primary had 147, indicating subclonal events for both
tumours that occurred after the clonal events (examples: purple arrows). Chromosomes 3 to
18 magnified for visualisation. For example, gains of an "A-allele" of the first three segments
of chromosome 5 ("A" allele had 2 copies while "B" allele had 1) were shared between
primary and recurrent. Then there was a further gain of the A-allele (from 2 copies to 3
copies) and loss of heterozygosity of the B-allele (1 copy to 0) for the first 4 segments in the
primary DCIS. On the other hand, the first two segments of chromosome 5 in recurrent IBC
had gain of the B-allele to 4 copies and the first segment gained one more time for a total of
5 copies while the A-allele remained at 2. An example of mirrored subclonal allele imbalance
(MSAI) is shown on chromosome 4 (black arrow) suggesting loss of different alleles on the
same CNA segments (i.e. parallel evolution). For the case DCIS00276, a few small segments
were detected as truncal events (truncal segments =12). Manual inspection of the Refphase
profile and segmentation files derived from MEDICC2 suggested that they are not real
segments, a well-known characteristic of FFPE samples. Lack of shared CNA and mutations
suggested that this pair was non-clonal, which was confirmed by whole genome sequencing
(Supp Figure 6).

Figure 3. Oncoprint profile for somatic mutations of recurrent cases. For each paired case, both primary (blue) and recurrent (red) tumours are shown. Different types of mutation are indicated for each gene with the frequency of total mutation observed in a particular gene given. This profile was generated by the cBioportal visualisation tool(42).

The rate of detecting non-clonality was significantly different between high-resolution

analysis by WES/WGS (4/54, 7.4%) compared to low-resolution by targeted

panel/LCWGS/low WES (7/22, 31.8%), p = 0.01 Fisher's exact test). Clonality detection was

not strongly affected by purity of the tumour DNA, which was not significantly different

between non-clonal and clonal primaries (t-test p=0.33) or recurrences (t-test p=0.98).

Combining all data, 11/78 cases (14%) were non-clonal, suggesting that these so-called

recurrent tumours after the initial DCIS diagnosis are new primaries, including IBC

recurrence (6/11 (55%), which is 7.7% of all recurrences).

Association of clonality status with clinico-pathological features

The clonality status (clonal recurrence *vs* non-clonal recurrence) was not significantly

associated with the type of recurrence (IBC/DCIS, p=0.8), or the grade (p=0.6), ER status

(p=0.7) or HER2 status (p=0.5) of the primary DCIS (Table 2, Supp Figure 8). Treatment

with radiotherapy was also not associated with clonal recurrence (p=0.7). The age at

diagnosis did not affect the type of recurrence (clonal median 60.0, non-clonal 59, p=0.8).

Only the size of primary DCIS was significantly different between non-clonal (median 7.6

mm, range 2-17 mm) and clonal DCIS (median 15.5 mm, range 1.8-80 mm, p=0.023), but

was not statistically significantly different to non-recurrent DCIS (median 15.0 mm, range 2-

48 mm) (Supp Fig 8A). In addition, there was no significant difference in TILs among clonal-

primary (median 10%, range 0-90%), non-clonal primary (median 5%, range 3-5%) and non-

recurrent (median 5%, range 1-30%) (p=0.32, Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test) (Supp Fig 8B).

Table 2. Differences by recurrence clonality status

	Non-recurrent N = 32[1]	Clonal recurrence N = 67[1]	Non-clonal recurrence N = 11[1]	p-value[2]
Age	64.0 (43.0-73.0)	60.0 (42.0-84.0)	59.0 (31.0-78.0)	0.8
Unknown	0	2	1	
Radiotherapy	11 / 17 (65%)	12 / 62 (19%)	1 / 10 (10%)	<0.001
Unknown	15	5	1	
Grade				0.12
High	14 / 32 (44%)	45 / 67 (67%)	6 / 11 (55%)	
Intermediate	14 / 32 (44%)	13 / 67 (19%)	3 / 11 (27%)	
Low	4 / 32 (12.5%)	9 / 67 (13%)	2 / 11 (18%)	
Time to recurrence	N/A	3.3 (1.0-14.3)	4.7 (1.3-9.1)	
Type of recurrence				>0.9
DCIS	0 / 0 (NA%)	30 / 67 (45%)	5 / 11 (45%)	
IBC	0 / 0 (NA%)	37 / 67 (55%)	6 / 11 (55%)	
Unknown	32	0	0	
Size (mm)	15.0 (2.0-48.0)	15.5 (1.8-80.0)	7.6 (2.0-17.0)	0.072
Unknown	0	1	1	
ER status				0.4
Negative	4 / 32 (13%)	16 / 66 (24%)	1 / 9 (11%)	
Positive	28 / 32 (88%)	50 / 66 (76%)	8 / 9 (89%)	
Unknown	0	1	2	
HER2 status				0.7
negative	24 / 32 (75%)	46 / 67 (69%)	9 / 11 (82%)	
positive	8 / 32 (25%)	21 / 67 (31%)	2 / 11 (18%)	
TP53 mutation				0.026
MUT	4 / 29 (14%)	27 / 64 (42%)	3 / 10 (30%)	
WT	25 / 29 (86%)	37 / 64 (58%)	7 / 10 (70%)	
Unknown	3	3	1	
PIK3CA mutation				0.11
MUT	15 / 29 (52%)	20 / 67 (30%)	3 / 10 (30%)	
WT	14 / 29 (48%)	67 / 67 (70%)	7 / 10 (70%)	
Unknown	3	0	1	
FGA	0.2 (0.0-0.5)	0.2 (0.0-0.6)	0.0 (0.0-0.6)	0.021
Ploidy	2.0 (1.9-3.4)	2.1 (1.9-4.1)	2.1 (2.0-4.0)	0.11
Unknown	3	3	1	
WGD				0.7
N	10 / 10 (100%)	46 / 52 (88%)	4 / 4 (100%)	
Y	0 / 10 (0%)	6 / 52 (12%)	0 / 4 (0%)	
Unknown	22	15	7	
Tumour lymphocytes	5.0 (1.0-30.0)	10.0 (0.0-90.0)	5.0 (3.0-5.0)	0.3

	Non-recurrent N = 32[1]	Clonal recurrence N = 67[1]	Non-clonal recurrence N = 11[1]	p-value[2]
Unknown	5	18	8	

[1]Median (Minimum-Maximum); n / N (%);[2]Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test; Fisher's exact test. FGA, fraction

genome altered. WGD, whole genome duplication.

One hypothesis we had was that later recurrences would be more likely to be independent

tumours. However, the median time to detecting the second tumour was not significantly

different: 3.3 years for clonal and 4.7 years for non-clonal recurrences, respectively (p=0.6,

Wilcoxon rank sum test, Figure 4). Indeed, there were 8 unequivocally clonal recurrences

occurring more than 10 years after the initial diagnosis, 5 IBC and 3 DCIS. All shared at least

2 cancer driving mutations and/or copy number breakpoints and also had divergent events

such as additional variants or copy number changes. There was a trend for invasive

recurrences to have a longer time to recurrence (median 4.5 years compared to 2.8 years for

DCIS recurrences, p=0.05, Wilcoxon rank sum test, Supp Figure 9).

When looking at the consistency of clinico-pathological features between paired primary and

recurrence depending on clonality status, there was no significant difference in the TILs

between primary and clonal/non-clonal recurrences (p>0.05 for both, paired t-test). There was

also no difference in whether grade was consistent – when considering just the low-high

mismatches, only four were detected, all between clonal primaries and their recurrences. A

stricter application of grade consistency (e.g. low to intermediate called a mismatch) found

that 5/11 non-clonal primaries matched their recurrences, and 35/64 clonal (p=0.75, two-

tailed Fisher's exact test). ER status was also consistent regardless of clonality with 9/9 non-

clonal recurrences and 54/56 clonal recurrences showing the same ER status. Therefore,

neither grade nor ER status are good indicators of clonality.

Figure 4. Comparison between non-recurrent and recurrent cohort. A. Fraction of Genome altered by copy number. **B**. Ploidy. The *P*-value at top right is the three-way comparison using Kruskal-Wallis test, while the value in the middle of the plot is the comparison between cases with a clonal recurrence and non-recurrent cases by a Wilcoxon rank sum test. **C**. Genome-wide copy number frequency of non-recurrent (n=32), cases with clonal recurrence (n=67) and non-clonal recurrence (n=11). Top=chromosome number (1-X), Blue=gain, Red=loss. **D.** Time to recurrence or last follow-up. Non-recurrent cases had at least 7 years follow-up. P-value is the comparison between cases with a clonal recurrence and non-clonal cases by a Wilcoxon t-test. **E.** Copy number frequency plot for regions specifically altered in the recurrence tumours (derived from WES samples analysed by MEDICC2). This includes regions where a CNA was already present in the truncal clone, and has been further changed in the recurrence sample. Note that when different alleles have been affected by different copy number events (e.g. gain of allele "A" and loss of allele "B"), both will be represented in the frequency plot.

Phylogenetic analysis showed the presence of ongoing chromosomal instability in DCIS

and IBC recurrences

We next investigated the evolutionary history of the clonal pairs. Overall, the proportion of

the genome affected by CNA was higher in the clonal recurrences (median 30.8%) than the

index lesion (median 22.9%, p=0.027, paired t-test). This was primarily driven by an increase

in FGA in the IBC recurrences (median increase of 13%, paired t-test *p*=0.0001). In contrast,

FGA of non-clonal recurrent cases showed no significant difference between the matched

pairs (median FGA 5% *vs* 10.6%, respectively) (p=0.89, paired t-test) (Supp Figure 9).

However, MEDICC2 analyses showed that all clonal primary DCIS had the presence of

subclonal events (range 30%-80%, median 55.7%), indicating ongoing chromosomal

instability (Supp Figure 9E). There was no significant difference in terms of proportion of

clonal CNA of primaries whether they recurred as DCIS or IBC (p=0.49, Wilcoxon test, Supp

Figure 9F). The clonal diversification did not seem to be dependent on grade, ER or HER2

status or *TP53* mutation status of the primary DCIS (p all >0.05, Wilcoxon or Kruskal-Wallis

test).

MEDICC2 revealed the presence of genome doubling events. No non-recurrent DCIS (0/10)

or non-clonal de novo primaries (0/4) had WGD but 6/52 clonal primary DCIS (11%) and 8

clonal recurrences (15%) showed WGD events (p=0.7, Fisher's exact test). Genome-doubling

events were truncal for three pairs, all with IBC recurrence (Supp Figure 10). All cases also

had multiple subsequent gains and losses unique to primary and recurrence. When

considering ploidy as an alternative measure of aneuploidy, overall there was no significant

difference between primary DCIS and their clonal recurrences (p=0.23, paired t-test), but

invasive recurrences had higher ploidy than their primary DCIS (p=0.03, paired t-test),

similar to what we observed with the FGA (Supp Figure 8).

We further investigated CNA development in invasive recurrences to see whether any

specific events were enriched. Using the segments flagged as being unique to the recurrence

tumours by MEDICC2, we compared the frequency of new events in DCIS and invasive

recurrences. As expected, the invasive recurrences had globally higher levels of CNA, but

with notable increases in gain of 1q, 7q, 8q, 11q, 16p, and 20q (Figure 4).

Clonal diversification was also seen at the mutation level. Thirty-seven clonally related cases

shared somatic driver mutations, most commonly in *TP53* (n=24) and *PIK3CA* (n=16).

However, 11/63 cases carried variants present only in the primary or the recurrence sample

and 15 carried no clearly somatic variants in either sample. There was no significant

difference in the presence of matching variants between DCIS (15/30) and IBC (22/33)

recurrences (p=0.28, chi-squared test). Intriguingly, we found evidence of parallel and

convergent evolution, whereby the same gene was mutated in primary and recurrence but at a

different site. Two clonal cases carried divergent *TP53* mutations and one had different

PIK3CA mutations (parallel evolution), while two non-clonal cases had distinct *TBX3* and

PIK3CA mutations respectively (convergent evolution).

Taken together, our data shows the complex genetic evolution of DCIS and its recurrences,

mostly suggesting diverse evolutionary trajectories across cases and with a tendency for true

invasive recurrences to be more different to their primary DCIS at a copy number level.

Clonal cases showed a significant enrichment of specific CNAs and *TP53* mutation

With the aim of predicting the likelihood of a recurrence after an initial diagnosis of DCIS,

we compared recurrent cases with 32 non-recurrent cases analysed either with the targeted

sequencing panel (n=18), WES (n=11) or LCWGS (n=3). Overall, the total CNA (fraction of

the genome altered) for the non-recurrent cases was lower than recurrent clonal cases

(p=0.0486, Welch's t-test, Figure 4). Estimated ploidy was also higher in recurrent clonal

cases compared to non-recurrent cases (p=0.024). CNA such as gain of *CCND1* (on 11q) and

ZNF217 (on 20q) genes, as well as copy number changes on 17q and 5q were more evident in

clonal cases compared with non-recurrence cases (Figure 4, Supp Figure 11). However, the

change in 5q may be influenced by the greater presence of ER- cases in clonal recurrences as

this CNA was significantly different between ER positive clonal and ER negative clonal

cases (12/44 ER+ *versus* 12/15 ER-; p=0.0006, Fisher's exact test). *PIK3CA* mutations were

slightly more common in non-recurrent cases compared with clonal recurrent cases but this

was not statistically significantly different (p = 0.064, Fisher's exact test, Figure 5). However,

TP53 mutations were significantly enriched in clonal compared to non-recurrent cases

(p=0.009, Fisher's exact test, Figure 5).

Non-clonal cases had similar CNA and mutational status as non-recurrent except for a few

changes on chromosome 8 (excluding the oncogene *MYC)* (Supp Figure 11). The only

difference in clinical or histological features that indicated the likelihood of a non-clonal

recurrence compared with no recurrence was that non-clonal recurrences were less likely to

have had treatment with radiotherapy (p=0.014). Power was limited due to the small number

of non-clonal recurrence cases: non-clonal recurrences had a lower FGA and smaller size but

neither was statistically significant.

Association of TP53 with recurrence

To validate the prognostic value of *TP53* mutations, we performed TP53 IHC (Figure 5). We

first evaluated the accuracy of assessing *TP53* mutation status by IHC in DCIS. There were

35 cases available with both mutation and protein data, including 11 samples with a mutation

and 24 with normal *TP53* DNA sequence. Protein staining was concordant with the mutation

status in 31/35 (89%) of cases (Supplementary Figure 12). Of the three mutated cases called

as normal, two could be explained by sample heterogeneity as both had mutation allele

frequencies of <0.2%. The remaining case had a truncating mutation with an allele frequency

of 0.71 (p.Lys132Ter) that would have been expected to lead to protein absence. One case

lacking a mutation was called as complete absence staining, which potentially could be

explained by poor staining performance, as very few non-tumour cells stained, and only

faintly. Examples of the various staining patterns are shown in Figure 5. Overall, the

concordance was sufficiently strong to proceed to a larger-scale analysis using DCIS in a

tissue microarray. Cases analysed were treated with breast conserving surgery both with and

without radiotherapy (RT). Abnormal TP53 staining was seen in 36/186 scorable cases

(19.4%) and was associated with higher nuclear grade, negative ER and PR staining and

positive HER2 staining, but not with tumour size or patient age (Supplementary Figure 12,

Supplementary Table 5).

Abnormal TP53 status was significantly associated with ipsilateral recurrence in a univariate

Cox regression analysis (p=0.041, HR = 1.91, 95% CI 1.03-3.55, Supplementary Figure 13).

As expected, younger age was also associated with an increased risk of recurrence, while

treatment with radiotherapy was associated with decreased recurrence (HR = 0.27; 95% CI

0.11-0.64). On multivariate Cox regression analysis (n=134 cases with complete data)

including age group and radiotherapy in the model, TP53 status (HR = 3.13; 95% CI 1.26-

7.8) and radiotherapy (HR = 0.37; 95% CI 0.14-0.99) were significantly associated with

recurrence, Supplementary Figure 13). We also tested a model that included an interaction

between TP53 and radiotherapy, given the known association of TP53 with the DNA damage

response and radiation (44) (Figure 5). This model had a better concordance and validity

compared to the model without the interaction (C-index 0.72 vs 0.67). This interaction

suggests that DCIS with abnormal TP53 does not benefit from radiotherapy in the same way

that DCIS with normal TP53 does.

Figure 5. Association of mutations with recurrence Number of cases with **A.** *TP53* or **B.**

PIK3CA mutation. P-value is a 2x3 Fisher's exact test comparing primary DCIS cases with a

clonal recurrence, non-clonal recurrence and no recurrence. WT=Wild type, MUT=mutation.

C. TP53 immunohistochemistry staining patterns in DCIS: normal expression with

heterogeneous staining intensities in <50% of cells; overexpression pattern; complete

absence of TP53 with non-tumour cells showing normal staining as an internal control

(arrowheads); cytosolic staining. Black scale bar is 50 μm. **D.** Ipsilateral recurrence-free

survival curves of DCIS by TP53 status, adjusted for age and radiotherapy treatment **E**.

Ipsilateral recurrence-free survival curves of DCIS, illustrating the interaction between TP53

(p53) and radiotherapy (RT). The *p*-value is a likelihood ratio test. Compared to the TP53
abnormal/ radiotherapy untreated group, the TP53 normal/radiotherapy treated group had
a hazard ratio of 0.045 (95% CI 0.0057- 0.356). The other comparisons were not statistically
significant.

Discussion

This study challenges the previous assumption that later ipsilateral breast carcinomas after a

prior DCIS are directly related (i.e. true recurrence with clonal somatic genetic events),

particularly for recurrences that occur rapidly and/or are phenotypically the same (grade,

hormone receptor status). Clonality implies that the recurrence has arisen from tumour cells

that survived treatment. Using haplotype-specific copy number profiles we show that *de novo*

breast carcinomas can occur in 14% of patients and that clonality status cannot be accurately

predicted by shared grade or receptor status.

Lips and colleagues recently showed that 18% of IBC recurrences were unrelated to the

primary DCIS with a large paired primary-recurrence cohort (45). Paired samples were

sequenced by LCWGS and the analysis was limited by only using the total CNA profile

instead of allele-specific CNA and by focussing on chromosomal changes as single events.

Thus, the evolutionary history of a paired tumour was obscured and they could not detect

parallel evolutionary events or WGD events. Regardless, they did confirm four cases as non-

clonal using single cell DNA sequencing, reflecting independent lineages. In contrast, we

generated haplotype-specific CNA by multi-sample phasing and generated MEDICC2

profiles for more than 50 DCIS-recurrence pairs. In these profiles, shared copy number

segments were tracked as ancestral events and further gains or losses were detected in

primary or recurrent tumours. This more powerful analysis was, for example, able to detect

clonality in a case with shared ancestral CNA that was called as non-clonal by the manual

breakpoint inspection method.

Clonality analyses are always limited by technological and biological resolution. We did see

a decrease in the non-clonal proportion of cases when moving from lower (32%) to higher

(9%) resolution sequencing. Even higher resolution analysis by WGS changed the non-clonal

status of one of the four cases analysed. Notably, the majority of cases could be resolved

without point mutation data. Only two cases were determined on the basis of mutation

information, one targeted sequencing panel and one WES. It remains possible that the

apparently independent recurrences were clonally related to the primary DCIS at a level prior

to any driving somatic genetic events. The tumour could have been initiated through

epigenetic alterations, and the pair could share passenger somatic variants from an early

clonal expansion that we could not detect because of the lack of matching germline DNA for

most cases. Indeed, non-clonal primary DCIS had many fewer CN events with 6/11 cases

having <5% of the genome affected, compared to 5/67 clonal primaries and 8/32 non-

recurrent DCIS. Four of the six non-clonal DCIS with low CNA also had no somatic variants.

Because of this limitation, the mutational landscape remained understudied in our cohort, and

in-depth phylogenetic analysis such as PyClone could not be carried out. Only known breast

cancer genes, such as *PIK3CA* or *TP53* were identified and incorporated into statistical

clonality tools. Similarly, the combination of few variants and FFPE-derived DNA made it

inadvisable to attempt to estimate mutational signatures.

We did not investigate tumour heterogeneity in any form and we extracted DNA only from

one block per sample. Therefore, we would have failed to identify any independent clones

present synchronously but in a different region of the primary DCIS to that which we

analysed, as previously reported for polyclonal DCIS cases (46, 47). This could be resolved

in the future through multi-region sampling including 3D genome sequencing; or, in an era of

spatial biology, profiling cases by interrogating the whole tumour at very high resolution,

which may indicate how non-clonal populations are spatially resolved. Nevertheless, the size

of non-clonal tumours was smaller than clonal cases, suggesting this possibility would be

unlikely. Previously, in a study of synchronous DCIS/IBC we identified 3/21 cases that were

non-clonal. All three non-clonal DCIS were in a different block to the IBC and were

contained within tumours >25 mm in size (48). Another possibility would be an existing

occult "second" primary tumour elsewhere in the same breast at the time of the primary DCIS

diagnosis (multi-focality) that was not detected by mammogram (49). Additional concerning

foci have been reported on pre-operative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) but missed by

conventional mammogram. Due to limited breast MRI in Australia and the UK, we could not

rule out this possibility. In addition to this, the precise locations of recurrent tumours were

unavailable for many cases in our cohort and so the distance between them and the primary

DCIS could not be investigated.

Although any recurrence is clinically important, we were particularly interested in whether

the paired analysis could inform us of the genetic events underpinning the DCIS-IBC

transition. This was challenging due to high inter-tumour heterogeneity, and some clonal

primary-recurrent tumour pairs showed strong clonal diversification reflecting ongoing

chromosomal instability. We also showed the presence of parallel evolution in clonal

DCIS/IBC recurrences, an event that has been shown in many tumour types including IBC

(22), which might indicate a strong microenvironmental selection pressure. Each DCIS clone

we analysed might not be a direct ancestor or even close relative to the recurring IBC.

Despite this complexity, we did find that invasive recurrences had higher levels of CNA,

including enrichment for some chromosomal loci. Three IBC recurrent pairs showed WGD as

a truncal event, with an additional two cases developing WGD. Previous studies examining

evolution of DCIS to IBC have commonly analysed synchronous tumours, which are limited

by the possibility that populations of IBC cells travelled through the ducts and created

"DCIS-like" ducts. For example, Pareja and colleagues made an attempt to understand the

evolutionary bottleneck of DCIS progression to IBC by phylogenetic analysis of WES data in

a small cohort of non-low-grade pure DCIS and DCIS synchronous with IBC (50). They and

others showed that DCIS co-existing with IBC had similar genetic events including CNA but

also showed evidence of WGD events in DCIS and clonal diversification (50-52). However,

this study lacked recurrent samples and so couldn't capture the biology of true DCIS

recurrences occurring later in time. We have now shown similar truncal WGS and clonal

diversity in our time-separated lesions and with the greater power of these pairs were also

able to identify CN events enriched in the IBC recurrences. The increases in specific CN

events in invasive recurrences reflect the overall enrichment for some of these regions in

primary DCIS with recurrences, suggesting that some cases acquired these events after

surgery, or had these events present in a clone in the primary DCIS that was not sampled by

our analysis. However, these differences may also reflect continued evolution of aneuploidy

of these chromosome regions during the acquisition of an invasive phenotype. In our previous

study of DCIS synchronous with IBC, we similarly noted an increased amplitude of CN gain

in IBC regions on chromosomes 8q and 11q (48).

Our data indicates the development of independent ipsilateral tumours including as IBC after

a DCIS diagnosis. The rate of independence did not seem to be related to the initial treatment

options, such as radiotherapy and endocrine therapy. A hypothesis we had that breast tumours

recurring after radiotherapy would be more likely to be non-clonal due to the DNA-damaging

effects of RT was not supported by our data, although our power was limited (RT+/clonal:

12/62, RT+/non-clonal: 1/10) due to a relatively low proportion undergoing radiotherapy

treatment (53).

The finding that 14% of so-called recurrences are actually *de novo* new primary tumours

supports the idea that some patients might have a high-risk microenvironment and/or genetic

predisposition for new tumour development. We were unable to identify any tumour or

patient characteristics that could indicate non-clonal recurrence, although we lacked family

history and other indicative epidemiological information that might inform risk. Our findings

may affect management of patients with *de novo* rather than recurrent tumours, as such

patients may benefit then from genetic testing or preventive therapy in the same manner as

someone with a strong family history, known genetic predisposition or bilateral breast cancer

(54). Indeed, *BRCA* mutation carriers have a higher risk of in-breast recurrence after a

diagnosis of invasive breast cancer treated by breast conserving surgery compared to non-

carriers. The risk is particularly elevated for new primary tumours and in the longer term. We

detected probable germline pathogenic/likely pathogenic variants in one non-clonal case (in

ATM) and two clonal recurrence cases (in *BRCA2* and *PALB2*). Unfortunately, the low

number of cases and lack of germline data precluded establishing any increase in prevalence

of germline variants in non-clonal recurrence cases.

We were able to validate the prognostic, and potentially predictive association of TP53

abnormality in an independent data set using IHC. Along with the enrichment of key CNA in

the clonal recurrent cohort our findings suggest these molecular biomarkers could be used to

personalise treatment. Our clonality study does raise two issues in developing such a

biomarker: firstly, will the discovery and validation of tumour-intrinsic biomarkers be

compromised by including non-clonal cases? Our data suggest that for strong biomarkers, it

may have a limited impact: the odds ratio for *TP53* mutations dropped from 4.49 (95% CI

1.33-19.8) to 4.2 (95% CI 1.27-18.3) when non-clonal cases were included. However, a

recent study that did not control for clonality of recurrence did not see enrichment in the same

CN regions (55). The second and more important implication is whether the application of a

tumour-intrinsic DCIS biomarker will lead to undertreatment of the patients who are at risk of

a *de novo* tumour. These patients could carry a "low risk" tumour molecular profile in their

primary DCIS that might lead to a less aggressive treatment course. This impact could be

alleviated by the development of complementary tumour microenvironmental biomarkers

(56) as well as identification of germline risk factors through mainstreaming of pathogenic

variant detection in women with DCIS. Although elements of the tumour microenvironment

have previously been associated with recurrence risk, such as stromal lymphocytes and

collagen structures, no studies have yet evaluated whether these are associated with clonal

recurrences or *de novo* primaries.

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The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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samples.

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Figure 1

DCIS: Ductal carcinoma *in situ*; IBC: Invasive breast cancer, LC WGS: Low coverage whole genome sequencing; TSP: Targeted Sequencing Panel, WES: Whole Exome Sequencing; SCNA: Somatic copy number alterations

Figure 2

Example of a clonal pair: LP005, ER- HER2+ HG DCIS recurred as ER+ HER2+ G3 IBC

Example of a non-clonal pair: DCIS00276, ER+ HER2- DCIS recurred as ER+, HER2- IG DCIS

Legend:
- — phased a- allele copy number
- — phased b- allele copy number
- ⧄ No copy number information
- ● Diploid ancestor
- ● Internal/ancestral node
- ▲ Primary/Recurrent only event
- ✕ Small segments, not real
- Loss relative to ancestral node
- Gain relative to ancestral node
- Both gain & loss relative to ancestral node
- ↑ Shared event
- ↑ MSAI

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

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