MEDIAS KLINIKUM

## Regional Chemotherapy for triple negative breast cancer improves eligibility for surgical removal

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## **Background**:

Multiple systemic treatment lines for triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) often lead to exhaustion and bone marrow suppression while response rates remain unsatisfactory. There is a need for new treatment options that increase the eligibility for surgical excision of primary tumors and metastases.

Isolated Thoracic Perfusions ITP

in stopflow catheter angio catheter ——

aortic balloon block

stopflow catheter

diaphragm

pump with

chemofilter

upper arm pneumatic cuff v. cava balloon block ——



For isolated perfusion chemotherapy an isolated extracorporeal circuit that includes the tumor region was established with perfusion balloon catheters. Only low drug dosages were infused into the limited treatment volume. Isolated thoracic perfusion was performed for advanced primary tumors, lung metastases, and lymphatic or bone metastases in the thoracic region including the axilla. Trans-arterial chemoembolization was performed for liver metastases.







## **Results**:

47 patients with metastasized or recurrent TNBC were treated with intra arterial infusion and isolated perfusion chemotherapy. Serum cisplatin levels at the tumor site reached up to 95  $\mu$ g/ml with only limited total dosages of 50–90 mg cisplatin due to the reduced volume. The additional stopflow technique allowed for further increased drug concentration during the first five minutes and enhanced tissue drug uptake. The local response rate was 70% (33 pts). Median overall survival rate was 15 months.

## **Conclusions:**

TNBC patients that suffer from unsatisfactory response or toxicity of systemic chemotherapy might benefit from isolated perfusions and intra arterial infusion techniques. Higher local drug concentrations and lower systemic concentrations increase the efficacy and decrease adverse events. A prospective clinical trial is planned to further evaluate regain of resectability.

