



“AN ESSENTIAL POINT IS THAT BOTH PREVENTION AND SCREENING INTERVENTIONS REQUIRE A LONG FOLLOW-UP TO GET A COMPLETE PICTURE, AND THIS NEEDS TO BE MORE WIDELY APPRECIATED AND ACCOMMODATED IN FUNDING STREAMS” PROFESSOR JACK CUZICK, PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF IBIS-II

IBIS II (BIG 5-02) ANASTROZOLE REDUCES BREAST CANCER OCCURRENCE BY 49%

The long term follow-up results of the International Breast cancer Intervention Study IBIS-II, published in *The Lancet*¹ end of 2019, indicate **a long term preventive benefit with the aromatase inhibitor anastrozole in postmenopausal women with oestrogen receptor (ER)-positive breast cancer who are identified at increased risk of developing breast cancer.**

Indeed, results have demonstrated a 49% overall reduction in breast cancer occurrence in patients receiving anastrozole compared to placebo. This was based on a 61% reduction during the 5-year treatment period and an additional 36% reduction in the 5 to 12-year post-treatment follow-up period.

No additional side effects were reported from the long-term follow-up.

It is hoped that these positive results will lead to a change in clinical practice with anastrozole being routinely prescribed as preventive medicine for post-menopausal women at high risk of breast cancer.

In total, 3,864 patients from 153 centres in 19 countries were recruited between February 2003 and January 2012.

The IBIS-II Prevention trial is run by the International Breast Cancer Intervention Study group (IBIS), with the support of the Breast International Group (BIG). The study was funded by Cancer Research UK, the National Health and Medical Research Council Australia, Breast Cancer Research Foundation, Sanofi Aventis, and AstraZeneca.

Reference:

¹ Cuzick J, Sestak I, Forbes JF et al. Use of anastrozole for breast cancer prevention (IBIS-II): long-term results of a randomised controlled trial. *The Lancet*, December 12, 2019 doi:[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(19\)32955-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)32955-1) [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(19\)32955-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(19)32955-1/fulltext)

IBIS-II:

- > UP TO 12 YEARS FOLLOW-UP OF PATIENTS
- > 3,864 PATIENTS ENROLLED
- > A LARGE INTERNATIONAL PREVENTION TRIAL
- > A POTENTIALLY PRACTICE-CHANGING TRIAL

