



Correspondence

Safety of fertility preservation in women with breast cancer



Dear Editor,

The updated ASCO guidelines recommend oncologists to address the risk of infertility following cancer treatment and discuss methods for fertility preservation (FP) with all patients [1]. However, despite these recommendations, still many women are not accessing FP. We read with interest the recent Italian study by Lambertini et al. [2], which showed that although most women presenting with breast cancer at reproductive age (93.1%) were concerned about treatment-related ovarian insufficiency, only 11 of 131 decided to undergo clinically established cryopreservation strategies for FP. The main reason for not accessing FP was fear of the procedures.

We recently conducted a matched-cohort study in Sweden to follow 188 women with breast cancer who opted for FP and 378 controls using the data from the Swedish National Breast Cancer Quality Registry [3]. Due to the registry's high compliance, 94% of the patients could be included in the survival analyses. Our results indicate that FP procedures are safe in women with breast cancer. Using Cox regression models we could also adjust for confounding factors such as prognostic risk factors and type of treatment and no differences in recurrences or survival after a mean follow-up time of 6.6 years was found between the groups.

Conflict of interest

There is no conflicts of interest to disclose.

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References

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Reply to the letter “Safety of fertility preservation in women with breast cancer”



Letter

We appreciate the interest of Rodriguez-Wallberg in our PREFER study ([ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) identifier: NCT02895165) investigating preferences and choices of young women with newly diagnosed

breast cancer towards the different available strategies for ovarian function and/or fertility preservation [1]. Although more than 90% of young breast cancer patients showed to be concerned about the potential risk of developing chemotherapy-induced premature ovarian insufficiency and/or infertility, only 12% of them decided to