

# Olaparib for treating BRCA mutation-positive HER2-negative advanced breast cancer after chemotherapy

Information for the public

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[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

Olaparib is available on the NHS. It is a possible treatment for HER2-negative, locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer with inherited (germline) BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutations in adults who have had:

- chemotherapy with an anthracycline and a taxane before (neoadjuvant) or after surgery (adjuvant) or for metastatic cancer, unless these treatments are not suitable, and
- endocrine treatment if they have hormone receptor-positive breast cancer, unless this is not suitable.

Cancer is described as locally advanced when it has spread to nearby tissues, and as metastatic when it has spread to other parts of the body.

## Is this treatment right for me?

Your healthcare professionals should give you clear information, talk with you about your options and listen carefully to your views and concerns. Your family can be involved too, if you wish. See [our webpage on making decisions about your care](#).

## Questions to think about

- How well does it work compared with other treatments?
- What are the risks or side effects? How likely are they?
- How will the treatment affect my day-to-day life?
- What happens if the treatment does not work?
- What happens if I do not want to have treatment? Are there other treatments available?

## Information and support

The [NHS webpages on breast cancer in women](#) and [breast cancer in men](#) may be a good place to find out more.

These organisations can give you advice and support:

- [Breast Cancer Now](#), 0808 800 6000
- [METUP UK](#), [join-us@metupuk.org.uk](mailto:join-us@metupuk.org.uk)
- [Cancer Research UK](#), 0808 800 4040
- [Macmillan Cancer Support](#), 0808 808 0000

You can also get support from your local [Healthwatch](#).

NICE is not responsible for the quality or accuracy of any information or advice provided by these organisations.

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