

BREAKOUT SESSION 5

Tackling Sex-Related Differences in Diagnosis, Treatment, and Outcomes in Cancer Care

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1. Recognise **sex-specific disparities in imaging and biomarker thresholds during cancer treatment.**
2. Suggest evidence-based monitoring approaches that specifically address sex-related variations in risk and outcomes.

Sex-specific disparities in diagnostic and therapies

- 1.EF or Cardiac MRI thresholds in women are different (a drop is differently perceived as they are normally set on male)
- 2.Troponin thresholds should be lower in women due to a smaller heart; baseline measurements are crucial as a differentiation by age; BNP are also different, higher baseline in women
- 3.EKG parameters like QT have different profiles and this started to be acknowledged
- 4.Body size normally would matter in oncology drug administration which is not always reflected in trial
- 5.Patient stratification is crucial; peri-menopause categories should be prioritized against younger as they are inherently more protected
- 6.Drugs (HF ones for example) have concerning interactions, not deeply assessed
- 7.Poor data on impact of therapies like in radio therapy; anyway, tendency to prioritize cancer treatment at the expense of the heart
- 8.Symptoms tolerance may lead to misinterpretation; cultural aspects matter impeding women to join trials
- 9.Comorbidities and multi-factorial angles are not integrated; going at scale should be the direction but for AI we need more data
- 10.Regulators should look to set a proportion of women to be enrolled in studies based on prevalence as a minimum set of parameters

Evidence-based monitoring approaches

- 1.Risk stratification studies to assess the level of monitoring, depending on gender and diseases
- 2.Granular monitoring of hormones should be enhanced and studies
- 3.Chronic measurement of biomarkers with devices, either wearable or implantable, should be assessed
- 4.Not all biomarkers, like BNP, can be monitored semi-continuously
- 5.Observational studies assessing digital technologies impact and compliance are needed
(Differences in perception of technologies is unbalanced)
- 6.RWD data