

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