

Transcript Details

This is a transcript of an educational program. Details about the program and additional media formats for the program are accessible by visiting: <https://reachmd.com/programs/advances-in-womens-health/a-look-at-whats-ahead-in-breast-cancer-care/11025/>

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A Look at What's Ahead in Breast Cancer Care

Announcer:

Welcome a special focus on breast cancer from *Advances in Women's Health*, sponsored by Lilly.

I'm Dr. Matt Birnholz. On this episode, recorded live at the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium in Chicago, we hear from Dr. Kent Osbourne, Professor of Oncology and Director of the Dan L. Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center and at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Dr. Osbourne gives us an advanced look at the future horizon for breast cancer research and treatment. Here's what he shared..

Dr. Osborne:

Well, I've been doing breast cancer research now for 42 years as a faculty member, and it's like night and day. That is, what we did in 1977 or before that when I was a fellow at the NCI is really primitive compared to what we do today. And I think individualization of therapy is going to be the answer. I'm not even talking about precision medicine with genomic assays. I think that's going to help as well. But I'm just talking about with our standard approaches now, I think we can better individualize therapy for that patient, de-escalate in some cases, escalate in other cases. I think that's where we're headed. And when we add in the genomic and proteomic assays that are going to be coming down the pike and targeted therapy based on those assays, I think that's the exciting part.

On the other hand, it's going to be harder to study because there are fewer patients that fit into each of these categories, so how do you do a randomized trial if you're looking at a subset of breast cancer that's a pretty rare subtype, and so there's going to be challenges ahead. I think we're going to have to do multiple institution trials maybe around the world in order to get enough patients to answer some of these questions, but that will be fun too.

Announcer:

That was Dr. Kent Osbourne, sharing thoughts on the future of breast cancer research and treatment. To revisit any part of this discussion and to access other episodes in this series, visit ReachMD.com/Advances-in-Women's-Health. I'm Dr. Matt Birnholz, and thank you for listening to ReachMD. Be Part of the Knowledge.