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Summary

RISK AND SURVIVAL OF PANCREATIC DUCTAL ADENOCARCINOMA IN MEN AND WOMEN WITH PATHOGENIC VARIANTS IN BRCA1 OR BRCA2: A NATIONWIDE DUTCH COHORT STUDY

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Immunology | Pancreas | Mechanisms & Personalised Medicine | Histopathology | Hepatobiliary | Digestive Oncology

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In a Dutch nationwide cohort of 7049 BRCA1/2 pathogenic variant carriers, the cumulative incidence of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma by age 80 was 1.97% for BRCA1 and 3.68% for BRCA2 carriers, with only male BRCA2 carriers exceeding the 5% surveillance threshold at 5.37%.

KEY POINTS

- Only male BRCA2 pathogenic variant carriers exceeded the 5% lifetime risk threshold for pancreatic cancer surveillance, reaching 5.37% (95% CI 3.18–8.95) by age 80, though this estimate is based on 16 cases among 591 men with a wide confidence interval.
- The standardised incidence ratio was 3.14 (95% CI 2.12–4.49) for BRCA1 carriers and 6.62 (95% CI 4.66–9.12) for BRCA2 carriers compared to the general Dutch population.
- Overall survival among 90 PDAC cases was poor, with median survival of 4.7 months and five-year survival of 6.7%, not differing from matched general-population PDAC cases.
- The findings do not support surveillance for BRCA1 pathogenic variant carriers based on carrier status alone.
- The presenter concludes that for BRCA2 carriers, particularly men, surveillance may be considered regardless of family history, preferably within a research setting, though whether surveillance improves outcomes requires prospective evaluation.

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