



Study Title:	Combination Chemotherapy and Paclitaxel Plus Trastuzumab in Treating Women With Palpable Breast Cancer That Can Be Removed by Surgery
Scientific Title:	Phase III Randomized Study of Neoadjuvant Combination Chemotherapy Comprising Fluorouracil, Epirubicin Hydrochloride, and Cyclophosphamide Followed by Paclitaxel and Trastuzumab (Herceptin®) Versus Neoadjuvant Paclitaxel and Trastuzumab Followed by Combination Chemotherapy Comprising Fluorouracil, Epirubicin Hydrochloride, Cyclophosphamide and Trastuzumab in Women With Palpable and Operable Breast Cancer
Department and/or Specialty:	Breast – Neo-adjuvant
Investigator:	Michael Thompson, MD, PhD
Contact Information:	Chanda Miller
Purpose:	<p><u>Drugs</u> used in <u>chemotherapy</u> work in different ways to stop the growth of <u>tumor cells</u>, either by killing the cells or by stopping them from dividing. <u>Monoclonal antibodies</u>, such as <u>trastuzumab</u>, can block tumor growth in different ways. Some block the ability of tumor cells to grow and spread. Others find tumor cells and help kill them or carry tumor-killing substances to them. It is not yet known whether it is more effective to give <u>combination chemotherapy</u> before or after treatment with <u>paclitaxel</u> plus trastuzumab.</p> <p>This <u>randomized phase III trial</u> is studying giving <u>fluorouracil</u> together with <u>epirubicin</u> and <u>cyclophosphamide</u> followed by paclitaxel and trastuzumab to see how well it works compared with giving paclitaxel together with trastuzumab followed by fluorouracil, epirubicin, cyclophosphamide, and trastuzumab in treating women with <u>palpable</u> breast cancer that can be removed by <u>surgery</u>.</p>



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