

## AstraZeneca-Merck's Lynparza gets FDA nod to treat pancreatic cancer

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### Lynparza approved in the US as a 1st-line maintenance treatment of germline BRCA-mutated metastatic pancreatic cancer



AstraZeneca and MSD have announced that *Lynparza* (olaparib) has been approved in the US for the maintenance treatment of adult patients with deleterious or suspected deleterious germline BRCA-mutated (gBRCAm) metastatic pancreatic adenocarcinoma (pancreatic cancer) whose disease has not progressed on at least 16 weeks of a 1st-line platinum-based chemotherapy regimen. Patients will be selected for therapy based on an FDA-approved companion diagnostic for *Lynparza*.

The approval follows the recommendation from the US FDA Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee (ODAC) on 17 December for *Lynparza* in this indication, and was based on results from the pivotal Phase III POLO trial published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* and presented at the 2019 American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting.

Results showed a statistically significant and clinically meaningful improvement in progression-free survival, where *Lynparza* nearly doubled the time patients with gBRCAm metastatic pancreatic cancer lived without disease progression or death to a median of 7.4 months vs. 3.8 months on placebo. The safety and tolerability profile of *Lynparza* in the POLO trial was in line with that observed in prior clinical trials.

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) is a US-based organisation that supports and advocates on behalf of the patients, caregivers and communities affected by pancreatic cancer.