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## No Association between Genetic Variants in Angiogenesis and Inflammation Pathway Genes and Breast Cancer Survival among Chinese Women

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### Abstract

**Background**—Angiogenesis and inflammation are implicated in breast cancer prognosis; however, the role of individual germline variation in related genes is unknown.

**Methods**—A two-stage candidate pathway association study was conducted among 6,983 Chinese women. Stage 1 included 2,884 women followed for a median of 5.7 years; Stage 2 included 4,099 women followed for a median of 4.0 years. Cox proportional hazards regression was used to estimate the effects of genetic variants on disease-free survival (DFS) and overall survival (OS).

**Results**—Stage 1 included genotyping of 506 variants in 22 genes; analysis was conducted for 370 common variants. Nominally significant associations with DFS and/or OS were found for 20 loci in ten genes in Stage 1; variants in 19 loci were successfully genotyped and evaluated in Stage 2. In analyses of both study stages combined, nominally significant associations were found for nine variants in seven genes; none of these associations surpassed a significance threshold level corrected for the total number of variants evaluated in this study.

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**Conclusions**—No association with survival was found for 370 common variants in 22 angiogenesis and inflammation pathway genes among Chinese women with breast cancer.

**Impact**—Our data do not support a large role for common genetic variation in 22 genes in breast cancer prognosis; research on angiogenesis and inflammation genes should focus on common variation in other genes, rare host variants, or tumor alterations.

### Keywords

breast cancer survival; genetic variants; angiogenesis genes; inflammation pathway genes; Chinese women

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## Introduction

Breast cancer prognosis is largely determined by disease stage and tumor characteristics, such as estrogen receptor (ER) and human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) status; however, considerable heterogeneity in disease outcome persists beyond categorization on such factors (1). As angiogenesis is critical for tumor growth (2) and inflammation can also promote cancer initiation and development (3), individual genetic variation in genes in these pathways may contribute to the variability of disease outcomes. Prior studies have reported associations between angiogenesis and inflammation related genes and breast cancer survival (4–9) but are generally limited by small sample size and/or lack of replication. Therefore, this study was undertaken in order to comprehensively evaluate genetic variants across 22 angiogenesis and inflammatory pathway genes for associations with breast cancer survival. To reduce the possibility of false positive findings, a two-stage study was undertaken in order to first identify, and then test for replication, associations with breast cancer survival. Genes evaluated included *CCL2*, *CCL5*, *CCR2*, *COL18A1*, *FGFR4*, *FLT1*, *HIF1A*, *HPGD*, *IL1B*, *IL6*, *KDR*, *MMP1*, *MMP3*, *MMP7*, *MMP9*, *PLAU*, *PTGES*, *PTGIS*, *PTGS2*, *SERPINE1*, *THBS1*, and *VEGFA*.

## Subjects and Methods

### Study Population

Breast cancer cases from the Shanghai Breast Cancer Study (SBCS), the Shanghai Breast Cancer Survival Study (SBCSS), and the Shanghai Women's Health Study (SWHS) were evaluated. Study design and data collection procedures have been previously described for the SBCS (10), the SBCSS (11), and the SWHS (12, 13). Cancer diagnoses were histologically confirmed; clinical characteristics and treatment information were obtained by medical records abstraction. Breast cancer outcomes were determined by active follow up surveys and linkage with the Vital Statistics Registry database from the Shanghai Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Survival time was defined as beginning at the time of cancer diagnosis and ending at either relapse or breast cancer death for disease-free survival (DFS), any death for overall survival (OS), or else censored at the date of last contact. Approval was granted by all relevant institutional review boards; all participants provided informed consent.

## Genotyping and SNP Selection

Twenty-two genes related to angiogenesis and inflammatory pathways were selected for study based on a literature review conducted at the initiation of this study. Genes included *CCL2*, *CCL5*, *CCR2*, *COL18A1*, *FGFR4*, *FLT1*, *HIF1A*, *HPGD*, *IL1B*, *IL6*, *KDR*, *MMP1*, *MMP3*, *MMP7*, *MMP9*, *PLAU*, *PTGES*, *PTGIS*, *PTGS2*, *SERPINE1*, *THBS1*, and *VEGFA*. Details on methods and quality control procedures have been previously described (13, 14). Briefly, DNA was extracted from either blood or buccal cell samples and analyzed by either of four genotyping platforms. Stage 1 genotyping was conducted by Affymetrix Targeted Genotyping for 1,062 breast cancer cases or the Affymetrix Genome-Wide Human SNP Array 6.0 for 2,918 breast cancer cases. Stage 2 genotyping was conducted with a custom-designed Illumina iSelect Beadchip for 1,613 breast cancer cases or the Sequenom iPLEX MassArray platform for 2,601 breast cancer cases. To maximize our coverage of genetic variation across genes, all genetic variants in these genes ( $\pm 5$  kb) that were genotyped by either of our Stage 1 genotyping platforms with minor allele frequencies (MAF)  $> 5\%$  were evaluated. Variants with nominally significant Stage 1 associations with DFS or OS were evaluated for inclusion in Stage 2; only those with consistent directions of associations between DFS and OS in independent genetic loci ( $r^2 < 0.6$ ) were selected for Stage 2.

## Statistical Analysis

Analysis was limited to breast cancer cases with follow-up data available. Cox proportional hazards regression was used to evaluate associations between genetic variants and breast cancer outcomes using additive, dominant, and recessive models, with adjustment for age at diagnosis. Adjustment for study stage was included when appropriate using an indicator variable to adjust for unknown or unmeasured differences between the two study populations. Additional adjustment for disease stage and treatment (surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and tamoxifen) was also employed. Indicator variables were created for women with unknown information on these treatments. Sensitivity analyses were conducted by excluding either *in situ* breast cancer cases (N=192) or late stage (stages III and IV) breast cancer cases (N=698). Evaluation of the proportional hazards assumption was conducted using a test for interactions with survival times. Significance of statistical tests was based on two-tailed probability levels of 0.05; the Bonferroni correction was used to amend significance thresholds to address the issue of multiple comparisons. All analyses were performed using SAS 9.2 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC).

## Results

A total of 6,983 Chinese women with breast cancer were included in the current analysis (Table 1). Stage 1 included a total of 2,884 women that were genotyped by either of our Stage 1 platforms; Stage 2 included a total of 4,099 women that were genotyped by either of our Stage 2 platforms. Stage 1 women were slightly younger than Stage 2 (means of 51.8 and 53.7 years, respectively), and were followed longer (means of 5.7 and 4.0 years, respectively). For all women, treatments included surgery (99.5%), chemotherapy (91.3%), tamoxifen (56.1%), and radiotherapy (32.0%). Of tumors with data available, 64.6% were ER positive, 59.4% were PR positive, and 29.2% were HER2 positive.

As shown in Figure 1, a total of 506 SNPs in 22 genes related to angiogenesis and inflammation were genotyped, and 370 variants with MAF  $\geq$  5% were evaluated for associations with breast cancer outcomes. Nominally significant associations with either DFS and/or OS were found for 20 loci in 10 genes in Stage 1 analyses (Table 2). Stage 2 genotyping was successful for variants in 19 loci; no significant associations with breast cancer survival outcomes were found in Stage 2 analyses. Nine variants in seven genes (*CCL2* rs41416652, *COL18A1* rs8126650, *FLT1* rs3794396, rs9551471 and rs9319425, *MMP7* rs643281, *PTGIS* rs522962, *SERPINE1* rs2227672, and *THBS* rs2292305) had nominally significant associations with DFS and/or OS in analyses of the two stages combined. Bonferroni corrected *P* value thresholds for the total number of variants evaluated in the entire study, or just in Stage 2 are 0.00014 and 0.0026, respectively. The strongest association found was for rs8126650 and disease-free survival (*P*=0.008). Thus, no common genetic variants were significantly associated with breast cancer outcomes after considering the number of variants evaluated in this study.

These analyses included a small number of *in situ* breast cancer cases (N=192); when excluded from analyses, nominal significance was gained for two variants (rs3794396 and rs470215). Analyses after excluding late stage (III and IV) breast cancer cases were also conducted (N=698). Nominal significance was attenuated for six variants (rs41416652, rs3794396, rs9551471, rs9319425, rs522962, and rs2227672) and gained for two variants (rs470215 and rs643281) when late stage patients were excluded. One of these associations (*MMP7* rs643281 and disease-free survival) resulted in a *P* value of 0.0017; this surpassed our significance threshold for the number of variants evaluated in Stage 2, but not for the total number of variants evaluated in the entire study.

All regression models included adjustment for age at diagnosis, and study stage when appropriate; results were materially unaltered when additional adjustment for disease stage and treatment (surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and tamoxifen) were included. The proportional hazards assumption was evaluated for all genetic variants that were analyzed in Stage 2; all but one (*MMP7* rs643281) were found to be compatible with the proportional hazards assumption.

## Discussion

This large two-stage candidate pathway study comprehensively evaluated genetic variants in genes related to angiogenesis and inflammation pathways on breast cancer outcomes. Based on Stage 1 results, variants in 10 genes were selected for additional evaluation; however, no associations were replicated in Stage 2. In analyses of all women combined, nominally significant associations were found for nine genetic variants in seven genes; however, no associations retained statistical significance after considering the total number of variants evaluated.

Prior studies on germline variants in angiogenesis or inflammation related genes and breast cancer survival are limited. In one small study, an *IL6* variant was associated with markers of poor prognosis and a *VEGFA* variant was associated with markers of favorable prognosis (4). Another small study reported an association between a *VEGFA* variant and reduced

disease-free survival (5). A mid-sized study found no association between a variant in *PTGS2* and breast cancer survival, but a significant association for an *IL10* variant (6). Another mid-size study found no association between variants in *MMP1*, *MMP2*, *MMP3*, *MMP9*, and *MMP13* and breast cancer survival (7), but a significant association between a *SERPINE1* (*PAI1*) variant and worse survival (8). One larger study found no association between variants in the *KDR* and *POSTN* genes and breast cancer prognosis (9). Notably, a very large two-stage study failed to show replicated associations with breast cancer survival for the majority of nine variants previously reported to be associated with breast cancer survival, including variants in the *SERPINE1*, *TGFBI*, and *VEGFA* genes (15). Thus, without replication, it is likely that many of the previously reported associations with breast cancer survival may actually be false positive findings.

In addition to a two-stage study design, strengths of this study include a large sample size, genetically homogenous population (Han Chinese), and prospective investigation of disease outcomes. A limitation of this investigation is that variants in only 22 genes were evaluated; other genes related to angiogenesis and inflammation were not included in this study. However, inclusion of more genes or variants would also increase the significance threshold to account for multiple comparisons. Without consideration for adapting the significance threshold, this study, despite being very large, was somewhat underpowered to detect small effect sizes due to the low number of deaths that occurred (N=808). Given our total sample size, this study had greater than 80% power to detect an HRs of 1.20, 1.18, and 1.16 for variants with MAFs of 0.20, 0.25, and 0.30, respectively. Another limitation of this study is that only Chinese women were included; results may not be generalizable to other ethnic groups or populations.

In conclusion, this study is the first and largest two-stage candidate pathway study to examine associations between genetic variants in genes related to angiogenesis and inflammation in relation to breast cancer survival. Results indicate that common genetic variants within 22 angiogenesis and inflammation related genes (*CCL2*, *CCL5*, *CCR2*, *COL18A1*, *FGFR4*, *FLT1*, *HIF1A*, *HPGD*, *IL1B*, *IL6*, *KDR*, *MMP1*, *MMP3*, *MMP7*, *MMP9*, *PLAU*, *PTGES*, *PTGIS*, *PTGS2*, *SERPINE1*, *THBS1*, and *VEGFA*) are unlikely to play a major role in breast cancer survival among Chinese women.

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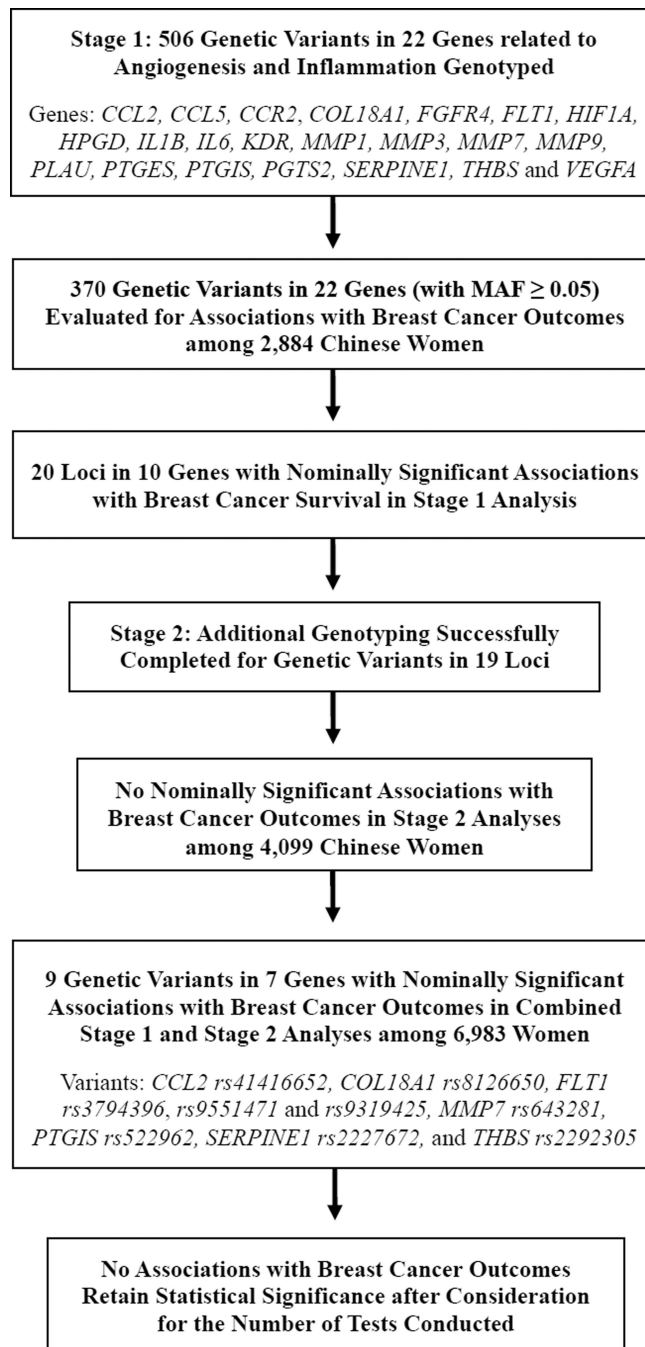
## Abbreviations

<b><i>CCL2</i></b>	chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 2
<b><i>CCL5</i></b>	chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 5
<b><i>CCR2</i></b>	chemokine (C-C motif) receptor 2
<b><i>COL18A1</i></b>	collagen, type XVIII, alpha 1
<b>DFS</b>	disease-free survival
<b>DNA</b>	deoxyribonucleic acid
<b>ER</b>	estrogen receptor
<b><i>FGFR4</i></b>	fibroblast growth factor receptor 4
<b><i>FLT1</i></b>	fms-related tyrosine kinase 1
<b>HER2</b>	human epidermal growth factor receptor 2
<b><i>HIF1A</i></b>	hypoxia inducible factor 1, alpha subunit
<b><i>HPGD</i></b>	hydroxyprostaglandin dehydrogenase
<b><i>IL1B</i></b>	interleukin 1, beta
<b><i>IL6</i></b>	interleukin 6
<b><i>IL10</i></b>	interleukin 10
<b>kb</b>	kilobase
<b><i>KDR</i></b>	kinase insert domain receptor
<b>MAF</b>	minor allele frequency
<b><i>MMP1</i></b>	matrix metalloproteinase 1
<b><i>MMP2</i></b>	matrix metalloproteinase 2
<b><i>MMP3</i></b>	matrix metalloproteinase 3
<b><i>MMP7</i></b>	matrix metalloproteinase 7
<b><i>MMP9</i></b>	matrix metalloproteinase 9
<b><i>MMP13</i></b>	matrix metalloproteinase 13
<b>OS</b>	overall survival
<b><i>PLAU</i></b>	plasminogen activator, urokinase
<b>POSTN</b>	periostin, osteoblast specific factor
<b>PR</b>	progesterone receptor
<b><i>PTGES</i></b>	prostaglandin E synthase
<b><i>PTGIS</i></b>	prostaglandin I2 synthase
<b><i>PTGS2</i></b>	prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2

<b>SBCS</b>	Shanghai Breast Cancer Study
<b>SBCSS</b>	Shanghai Breast Cancer Survival Study
<b>SERPINE1</b>	serpin peptidase inhibitor, clade E, member 1 (previously known as <i>PAII</i> )
<b>SWHS</b>	Shanghai Women's Health Study
<b>THBS1</b>	thrombospondin 1
<b>TGFBI</b>	transforming growth factor, beta 1
<b>VEGFA</b>	vascular endothelial growth factor A

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**Figure 1.**  
Study Overview



**Table 1**

Clinical Characteristics of Study Population (N=6,983 Chinese Women)

Characteristic*	Stage 1**	Stage 2**
<b>Patients, N</b>	2,884	4,099
<b>Mean Follow-up Time, years</b>	5.7 (1.9)	4.0 (1.4)
<b>Age at Diagnosis, years</b>	51.8 (9.6)	53.7 (10.1)
<b>TNM Stage of Disease</b>		
0–I	869 (32.9)	1,425 (37.7)
II	1,477 (56.0)	1,948 (51.6)
III–IV	292 (11.1)	406 (10.7)
<b>Estrogen Receptor Status</b>		
Positive	1,570 (65.1)	2,527 (64.3)
Negative	842 (34.9)	1,406 (35.8)
<b>Progesterone Receptor Status</b>		
Positive	1,482 (61.6)	2,271 (58.0)
Negative	923 (38.4)	1,647 (42.0)
<b>Surgery</b>		
Yes	2,853 (99.4)	4,053 (99.5)
No	16 (0.6)	22 (0.5)
<b>Chemotherapy</b>		
Yes	2,646 (92.4)	3,687 (90.5)
No	218 (7.6)	388 (9.5)
<b>Radiotherapy</b>		
Yes	883 (32.5)	1,288 (31.6)
No	1,837 (67.5)	2,785 (68.4)
<b>Tamoxifen</b>		
Yes	1,432 (65.4)	1,932 (50.8)
No	758 (34.6)	1,870 (49.2)

\* Mean (standard error) or N (%) for each variable

\*\* Column percents may not sum to 100 due to rounding error

Table 2

Two Stage Candidate Pathway Analysis of Angiogenesis and Inflammation Variants and Breast Cancer Survival

Gene, SNP, and Information	Genotyping Method**	Disease Free Survival (DFS)						Overall Survival (OS)					
		HR (95% CI)***			P values****			HR (95% CI)***			P values****		
		Cases / Events	Heterozygotes	Homozygotes	Allelic	Dominant	Recessive	Cases / Events	Heterozygotes	Homozygotes	Allelic	Dominant	Recessive
<b>CCL2 rs41416652 (T/C, 44.1)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	2,000 / 497	0.98 (0.80–1.20)	0.86 (0.66–1.11)	0.272	0.541	0.217	2,448 / 394	1.02 (0.82–1.27)	<b>0.71 (0.52–0.97)</b>	0.060	0.483	<b>0.012</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,292 / 225	0.91 (0.68–1.22)	0.78 (0.53–1.14)	0.202	0.324	0.260	1,324 / 197	1.08 (0.79–1.48)	0.98 (0.65–1.47)	0.989	0.748	0.718
Combined	NA	3,292 / 722	0.96 (0.82–1.13)	0.83 (0.67–1.03)	0.106	0.308	0.092	3,772 / 591	1.05 (0.87–1.25)	0.79 (0.62–1.01)	0.130	0.736	<b>0.022</b>
<b>COL18A1 rs6518240 (A/G, 8.7)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,999 / 496	0.99 (0.78–1.27)	1.82 (0.75–4.39)	0.667	0.858	0.183	2,448 / 393	1.04 (0.79–1.36)	<b>2.97 (1.32–6.66)</b>	0.225	0.464	<b>0.009</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,301 / 226	1.04 (0.74–1.47)	2.11 (0.52–8.47)	0.587	0.701	0.299	1,333 / 198	0.95 (0.65–1.39)	0.00 (no events)	0.606	0.707	0.969
Combined	NA	3,300 / 722	1.01 (0.83–1.24)	1.94 (0.92–4.09)	0.472	0.679	0.081	3,781 / 591	1.02 (0.82–1.27)	2.17 (0.97–4.85)	0.442	0.655	0.060
<b>COL18A1 rs8126650 (G/T, 26.0)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,895 / 453	0.84 (0.69–1.03)	<b>0.63 (0.41–0.97)</b>	<b>0.013</b>	<b>0.029</b>	0.072	2,326 / 364	0.80 (0.64–1.00)	<b>0.60 (0.37–0.99)</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>0.015</b>	0.091
Study Stage 2	Sequenom	2,152 / 265	0.86 (0.67–1.11)	0.90 (0.54–1.51)	0.319	0.251	0.868	2,344 / 207	0.85 (0.64–1.14)	1.19 (0.70–2.04)	0.779	0.448	0.376
Combined	NA	4,047 / 718	<b>0.85 (0.73–0.99)</b>	0.72 (0.52–1.00)	<b>0.009</b>	<b>0.013</b>	0.110	4,670 / 571	<b>0.81 (0.68–0.97)</b>	0.77 (0.54–1.11)	<b>0.015</b>	<b>0.011</b>	0.325
<b>FLT1 rs3794396 (G/C, 6.1)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,993 / 492	1.26 (0.97–1.63)	<b>3.58 (1.34–9.58)</b>	<b>0.016</b>	<b>0.038</b>	<b>0.013</b>	2,440 / 391	1.30 (0.98–1.73)	<b>4.04 (1.51–10.83)</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>0.028</b>	<b>0.007</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,292 / 225	1.02 (0.69–1.52)	0.86 (0.12–6.11)	0.961	0.931	0.874	1,324 / 197	1.00 (0.65–1.54)	0.00 (no events)	0.688	0.844	0.976
Combined	NA	3,285 / 717	1.19 (0.96–1.48)	2.22 (0.92–5.36)	<b>0.037</b>	0.062	0.083	3,764 / 588	1.21 (0.95–1.53)	2.03 (0.76–5.44)	0.052	0.076	0.172
<b>FLT1 rs7326277 (T/C, 31.3)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Targeted	733 / 282	1.12 (0.88–1.44)	0.69 (0.45–1.08)	0.429	0.883	0.057	821 / 223	1.12 (0.86–1.48)	<b>0.52 (0.30–0.90)</b>	0.166	0.834	<b>0.010</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,298 / 225	0.94 (0.71–1.25)	1.06 (0.69–1.64)	0.998	0.797	0.676	1,330 / 197	0.94 (0.70–1.27)	1.10 (0.70–1.74)	0.906	0.854	0.579
Combined	NA	2,031 / 507	1.03 (0.86–1.24)	0.85 (0.62–1.15)	0.537	0.937	0.230	2,151 / 420	1.04 (0.85–1.27)	0.77 (0.54–1.09)	0.351	0.805	0.108
<b>FLT1 rs9551471 (A/G, 20.9)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,991 / 497	0.86 (0.71–1.04)	0.69 (0.42–1.14)	<b>0.045</b>	0.065	0.204	2,440 / 394	1.00 (0.81–1.23)	0.92 (0.56–1.53)	0.829	0.902	0.752
Study Stage 2	Sequenom	3,355 / 472	0.86 (0.71–1.05)	0.87 (0.54–1.39)	0.152	0.126	0.695	3,448 / 383	0.95 (0.76–1.18)	1.02 (0.62–1.70)	0.758	0.669	0.871
Combined	NA	5,346 / 969	<b>0.86 (0.75–0.99)</b>	0.77 (0.55–1.09)	<b>0.016</b>	<b>0.019</b>	0.227	5,888 / 777	0.98 (0.84–1.14)	0.96 (0.67–1.37)	0.728	0.736	0.858
<b>FLT1 rs9319425 (T/C, 49.8)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Targeted	733 / 282	1.07 (0.81–1.41)	0.89 (0.64–1.24)	0.527	0.961	0.265	821 / 223	1.02 (0.75–1.38)	<b>0.66 (0.45–0.97)</b>	<b>0.047</b>	0.435	<b>0.012</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,304 / 226	1.07 (0.78–1.48)	1.04 (0.71–1.53)	0.834	0.695	0.953	1,336 / 198	1.06 (0.75–1.50)	1.01 (0.67–1.52)	0.951	0.789	0.861
Combined	NA	2,037 / 508	1.07 (0.86–1.31)	0.94 (0.73–1.21)	0.660	0.814	0.331	2,157 / 421	1.03 (0.82–1.29)	0.79 (0.60–1.05)	0.116	0.637	<b>0.035</b>
<b>FLT1 rs9513116 (G/A, 37.4)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Targeted	734 / 283	0.86 (0.67–1.11)	1.00 (0.71–1.43)	0.690	0.350	0.606	821 / 225	<b>0.72 (0.54–0.95)</b>	0.81 (0.54–1.21)	0.088	<b>0.025</b>	0.830

Gene, SNP, and Information	Genotyping Method	Disease Free Survival (DFS)						Overall Survival (OS)					
		Cases / Events	HR (95% CI)			Dominant	Recessive	Cases / Events	HR (95% CI)			Dominant	Recessive
			Heterozygotes	Homozygotes	Allelic				Heterozygotes	Homozygotes	Allelic		
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,280 / 222	0.91 (0.68-1.21)	1.10 (0.75-1.63)	0.875	0.722	0.415	1,313 / 193	1.01 (0.74-1.37)	1.15 (0.75-1.75)	0.604	0.798	0.506
Combined	NA	2,014 / 505	0.89 (0.74-1.08)	1.07 (0.82-1.38)	0.956	0.424	0.309	2,134 / 418	0.85 (0.69-1.04)	0.96 (0.72-1.29)	0.456	0.177	0.717
<b>MMPL rs1939008 (A/G, 43.3)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,992 / 493	0.94 (0.77-1.15)	1.20 (0.94-1.52)	0.230	0.895	<b>0.045</b>	2,436 / 392	1.02 (0.81-1.28)	1.16 (0.88-1.53)	0.324	0.591	0.257
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,300 / 226	1.10 (0.83-1.47)	0.77 (0.51-1.16)	0.369	0.949	0.092	1,332 / 198	1.06 (0.77-1.44)	0.77 (0.50-1.19)	0.349	0.858	0.142
Combined	NA	3,292 / 719	0.99 (0.84-1.17)	1.05 (0.86-1.30)	0.678	0.932	0.521	3,768 / 590	1.03 (0.85-1.23)	1.02 (0.81-1.29)	0.843	0.782	0.978
<b>MMPL rs470215 (A/G, 8.1)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,996 / 497	1.17 (0.93-1.49)	<b>2.14 (1.01-4.52)</b>	<b>0.046</b>	0.093	0.053	2,442 / 394	1.14 (0.88-1.49)	1.94 (0.80-4.69)	0.142	0.215	0.154
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,291 / 225	1.17 (0.83-1.65)	0.57 (0.08-4.10)	0.556	0.439	0.562	1,323 / 197	1.18 (0.82-1.70)	0.68 (0.10-4.89)	0.512	0.424	0.683
Combined	NA	3,287 / 722	1.16 (0.96-1.42)	1.55 (0.77-3.11)	0.062	0.084	0.245	3,765 / 591	1.15 (0.93-1.43)	1.43 (0.64-3.20)	0.137	0.161	0.413
<b>MMPL rs11568818 (T/C, 8.9)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Targeted	739 / 284	1.02 (0.75-1.40)	<b>4.31 (1.37-13.55)</b>	0.437	0.666	<b>0.013</b>	827 / 225	1.04 (0.73-1.47)	<b>6.04 (1.92-19.05)</b>	0.320	0.567	<b>0.002</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,289 / 223	0.96 (0.67-1.39)	0.60 (0.08-4.28)	0.699	0.768	0.614	1,321 / 195	0.91 (0.61-1.36)	0.75 (0.11-5.39)	0.590	0.607	0.791
Combined	NA	2,028 / 507	0.99 (0.78-1.26)	1.69 (0.63-4.52)	0.774	0.915	0.298	2,148 / 420	0.97 (0.75-1.27)	2.25 (0.84-6.04)	0.744	0.960	0.106
<b>MMPL rs643281 (G/A, 9.9)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	2,002 / 496	1.09 (0.87-1.37)	<b>2.35 (1.17-4.74)</b>	0.109	0.240	<b>0.019</b>	2,450 / 394	1.08 (0.84-1.38)	1.97 (0.88-4.42)	0.249	0.392	0.107
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,300 / 226	1.33 (0.97-1.83)	0.92 (0.23-3.70)	0.132	0.092	0.840	1,332 / 198	1.09 (0.77-1.57)	1.11 (0.28-4.49)	0.616	0.610	0.900
Combined	NA	3,302 / 722	1.16 (0.97-1.40)	1.74 (0.93-3.25)	<b>0.032</b>	0.057	0.101	3,782 / 592	1.08 (0.88-1.32)	1.56 (0.78-3.15)	0.260	0.360	0.223
<b>PTGES rs10448290 (C/T, 20.7)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,958 / 487	0.93 (0.77-1.13)	0.62 (0.37-1.02)	0.094	0.224	0.071	2,406 / 385	0.92 (0.74-1.14)	<b>0.51 (0.27-0.97)</b>	0.065	0.183	<b>0.047</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,299 / 225	0.99 (0.75-1.31)	0.81 (0.38-1.73)	0.704	0.819	0.589	1,331 / 197	1.14 (0.85-1.53)	0.96 (0.45-2.05)	0.557	0.434	0.813
Combined	NA	3,257 / 712	0.95 (0.81-1.11)	0.67 (0.44-1.01)	0.099	0.239	0.066	3,737 / 582	0.99 (0.83-1.17)	0.63 (0.39-1.03)	0.215	0.492	0.066
<b>PTGIS rs522962 (T/C, 27.4)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,903 / 455	<b>0.81 (0.67-0.99)</b>	0.81 (0.56-1.18)	<b>0.042</b>	<b>0.027</b>	0.520	2,335 / 365	0.83 (0.67-1.04)	0.87 (0.57-1.32)	0.146	0.096	0.760
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,298 / 225	0.82 (0.62-1.09)	1.15 (0.72-1.82)	0.683	0.305	0.339	1,330 / 197	0.95 (0.70-1.28)	1.32 (0.82-2.13)	0.557	0.950	0.204
Combined	NA	3,201 / 680	<b>0.82 (0.69-0.96)</b>	0.92 (0.69-1.24)	0.062	<b>0.018</b>	0.964	3,665 / 562	0.88 (0.74-1.05)	1.03 (0.75-1.41)	0.455	0.224	0.599
<b>SERPINE1 rs2227672 (G/T, 8.9)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Targeted	738 / 284	0.92 (0.67-1.25)	<b>3.27 (1.04-10.26)</b>	0.967	0.785	<b>0.040</b>	826 / 225	1.01 (0.72-1.42)	<b>4.75 (1.51-14.95)</b>	0.444	0.704	<b>0.008</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,304 / 226	1.20 (0.86-1.67)	0.66 (0.09-4.72)	0.417	0.336	0.656	1,336 / 198	1.24 (0.87-1.77)	1.47 (0.36-5.95)	0.200	0.210	0.625
Combined	NA	2,042 / 510	1.03 (0.82-1.29)	1.62 (0.61-4.35)	0.601	0.710	0.339	2,162 / 423	1.10 (0.86-1.40)	<b>2.53 (1.05-6.14)</b>	0.168	0.289	<b>0.043</b>
<b>THBS1 rs2292305 (A/G, 32.1)</b>													
Study Stage 1	Targeted	734 / 281	0.95 (0.75-1.21)	<b>0.58 (0.35-0.95)</b>	0.071	0.284	<b>0.033</b>	821 / 223	0.93 (0.71-1.21)	<b>0.32 (0.16-0.67)</b>	<b>0.009</b>	0.130	<b>0.003</b>
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,297 / 224	0.97 (0.74-1.29)	0.97 (0.62-1.50)	0.838	0.834	0.917	1,328 / 197	0.99 (0.73-1.33)	1.05 (0.66-1.65)	0.917	0.998	0.820

Gene, SNP, and Information	Genotyping Method**	Disease Free Survival (DFS)						Overall Survival (OS)								
		HR (95% CI)***			P values****			HR (95% CI)***			P values****					
		Cases / Events	Heterozygotes	Allelic	Dominant	Recessive	Cases / Events	Heterozygotes	Allelic	Dominant	Recessive	Cases / Events	Heterozygotes	Allelic	Dominant	Recessive
Combined	NA	2,031 / 505	0.97 (0.81-1.16)	0.75 (0.54-1.05)	0.159	0.397	0.096	2,149 / 420	0.96 (0.79-1.17)	<b>0.66 (0.45-0.96)</b>	0.075	0.292	<b>0.034</b>			
<b>VEGFA rs3024994 (C/T, 5.4)</b>																
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	1,994 / 496	<b>1.31 (1.02-1.69)</b>	0.67 (0.09-4.76)	0.066	<b>0.046</b>	0.665	2,443 / 393	1.14 (0.84-1.54)	0.79 (0.11-5.60)	0.493	0.446	0.799			
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,300 / 225	1.00 (0.65-1.56)	0.00 (no events)	0.822	0.920	0.973	1,331 / 198	0.81 (0.49-1.35)	0.00 (no events)	0.338	0.375	0.976			
Combined	NA	3,294 / 721	1.23 (0.98-1.53)	0.49 (0.07-3.48)	0.138	0.094	0.460	3,774 / 591	1.04 (0.80-1.35)	0.59 (0.08-4.21)	0.901	0.824	0.597			
<b>VEGFA rs3025035 (C/T, 14.6)</b>																
Study Stage 1	Targeted	728 / 278	1.17 (0.90-1.53)	1.12 (0.53-2.39)	0.263	0.227	0.855	816 / 219	<b>1.36 (1.02-1.81)</b>	1.64 (0.81-3.35)	<b>0.019</b>	<b>0.023</b>	0.258			
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,305 / 225	0.78(0.56-1.07)	1.34 (0.60-3.04)	0.358	0.199	0.391	1,337 / 197	0.81 (0.58-1.14)	0.95 (0.35-2.58)	0.302	0.249	0.997			
Combined	NA	2,033 / 503	0.98 (0.80-1.20)	1.19 (0.68-2.07)	0.877	0.973	0.525	2,153 / 416	1.07 (0.86-1.34)	1.29 (0.72-2.30)	0.336	0.412	0.423			
<b>VEGFA rs6905288 (A/G, 26.7)</b>																
Study Stage 1	Affy 6.0	2,000 / 497	0.95 (0.79-1.14)	0.74 (0.50-1.10)	0.183	0.348	0.158	2,449 / 394	0.92 (0.75-1.13)	<b>0.57 (0.35-0.94)</b>	<b>0.048</b>	0.168	<b>0.034</b>			
Study Stage 2	iSelect	1,300 / 226	0.89 (0.67-1.18)	1.24 (0.80-1.94)	0.842	0.692	0.232	1,332 / 198	0.93 (0.69-1.25)	1.25 (0.78-2.02)	0.705	0.915	0.276			
Combined	NA	3,300 / 723	0.93 (0.80-1.09)	0.92 (0.68-1.23)	0.344	0.328	0.682	3,781 / 592	0.92 (0.78-1.09)	0.81 (0.58-1.14)	0.163	0.222	0.304			

\* SNP information includes (Major / Minor allele, and minor allele frequency) as determined by all available genotyped breast cancer cases

\*\* Genotyping Methods: Stage 1 genotyping by Affymetrix Targeted genotyping among 1,062 cases from the SBCS (Targeted) or the Affymetrix Genome Wide Array 6.0 among 2,918 cases from the SBCS (Affy 6.0); Stage 2 genotyping by Illumina iSelect Beadchip among 1,613 cases from the SBCS and SBCSS (iSelect) or by a Sequenom iPLEX platform among 2,601 cases from the SBCSS and SWHS (Sequenom)

\*\*\* Hazard Ratios (HR) and 95% Confidence Intervals (CI) from Cox Proportional Hazards Regression, including adjustment for age at diagnosis, and study stage when appropriate; Major allele homozygotes are referent, estimates are for heterozygotes and minor allele homozygotes

\*\*\*\* P values from tests for allelic associations (trend), dominant associations, and recessive associations (bold values denote significance at 0.05)