

Dear Colleagues and AXSANA supporters,

The success story of the AXSANA study continues! Following Prof. Banys-Paluchowski's highly regarded presentation of data comparing the detectability of axillary target lymph nodes depending on the marker used at ASCO 2025 (manuscript accepted for publication at Journal of Clinical Oncology on October 3, 2025), Prof. Kühn will present the analysis of one of the study's primary endpoints, namely 3-year axillary recurrence-free survival, at SABCS 2025. This would not have been possible without the dedicated work of everyone involved in the AXSANA study. We would therefore like to express our sincere thanks to all members of the AXSANA family. We look forward to continuing our successful collaboration.

In the name of the International Steering Committee and the Organizing Committee,

Prof. T. Kühn Prof. M. Banys-Paluchowski Prof. J. de Boniface Prof. O.D. Gentilini Prof. E. Stickeler

Prof. G. Karadeniz Çakmak Prof. N. Ditsch PD S. Hartmann

Important:

Please perform and document follow-up for all ycN0 patients 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 years after the surgery as specified in the study protocol.

Scientific Activities

Data Completing Campaign

Upcoming:



Dear Thorsten Kühn,

Congratulations! Your abstract has been accepted as an **Oral Presentation** at the **2025 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium®**, December 9-12, 2025, at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas.

Presentation Information

- **Abstract Number:** 1933
- **Presentation Number:** GS2-01
- **Presentation Title:** More versus less invasive axillary surgical staging procedures in breast cancer patients converting from a clinically node-positive to a clinically node-negative stage through neoadjuvant chemotherapy - primary endpoint analysis of the international prospective multicenter AXSANA/EUBREAST 3(R) study
- **Presentation Date/Time:** Thursday, December 11, 2025, 9:00 AM - 9:15 AM

Session Information

- **Session Title:** General Session 2
- **Session Date/Time:** Thursday, December 11, 2025, 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- **Location:** Hall 1

Latest full-text publications:

- Lost axillary markers after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in breast cancer patients - data from the prospective international AXSANA (EUBREAST 3) cohort study (NCT04373655). Eur J Surg Oncol 2025 Sep;51(9):110253. doi: 10.1016/j.ejso.2025.110253
- Diagnostic performance of axillary ultrasound after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in initially node-positive breast cancer patients - Results from the prospective AXSANA registry trial. Eur J Cancer 2025 Aug 26;226:115607. doi: 10.1016/j.ejca.2025.115607
- Axillary dissection for low-volume nodal involvement after neoadjuvant therapy in breast cancer: multicentre AXSANA cohort study. Br J Surg 2025 Sep 2;112(9):znaf180. doi: 10.1093/bjs/znaf180

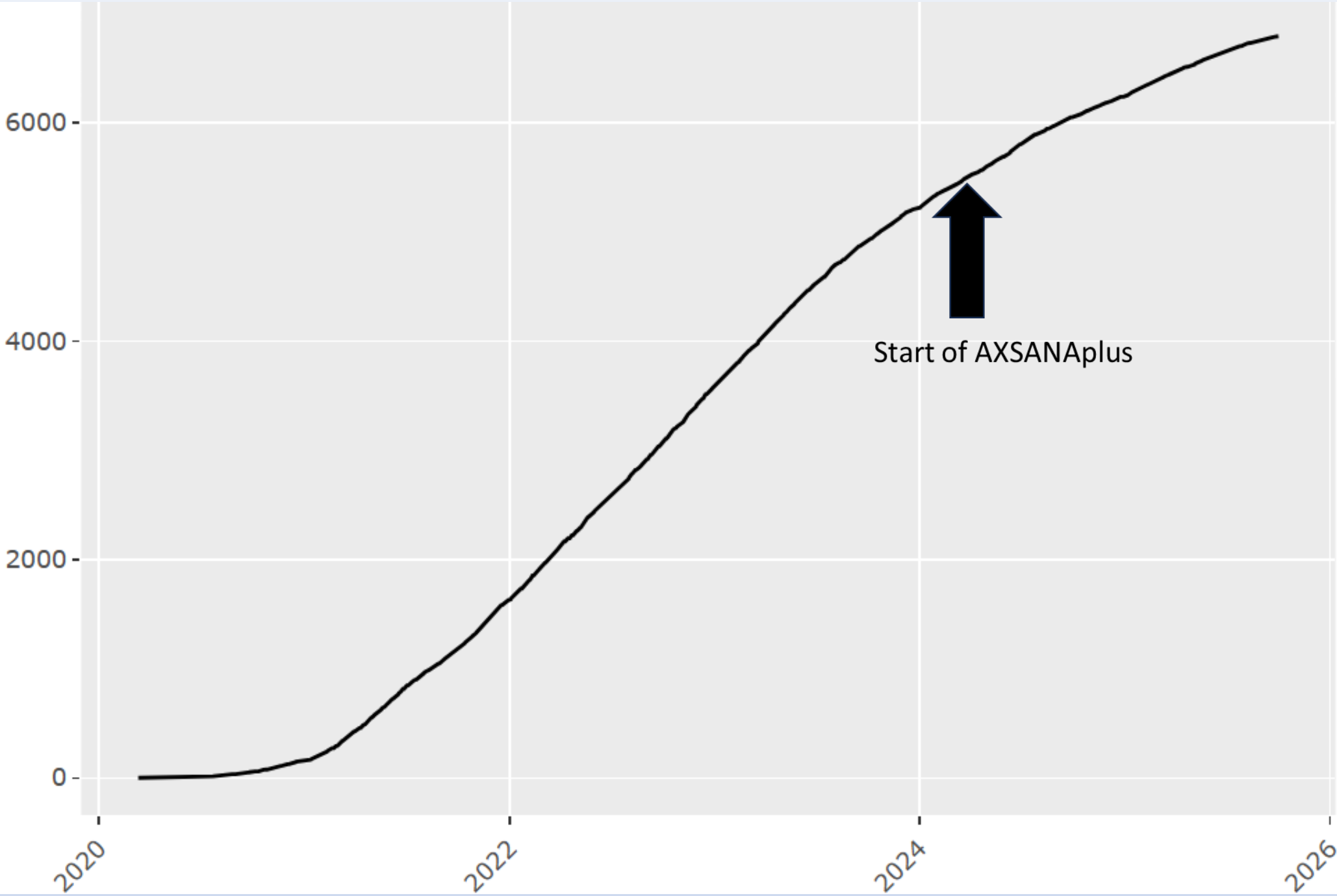
- We have completed our third data completing campaign.
- As of September 6, 2025, we had 4,613 complete data sets available for the evaluation of secondary study endpoints.
- The rate of missing follow-ups has decreased:

	September 2025	September 2024
year 1	11.8%	19.8%
year 2	21.1%	36.7%
year 3	31.1%	59.7%
year 4	53.5%	93.3%

- However, only data sets with fully completed documentation, **including follow-up**, can be used for the evaluation of the primary study objectives.
- Therefore, we will launch our fourth data completing campaign on October 1, 2025, and inform all study sites about documentation gaps in the coming months. Please complete these as soon as possible!
- In particular, we require follow-up data for years 1-5 after surgery from all ycN0 patients (CRF2) so that there are sufficient data sets available for the evaluation of all primary study objectives.

Recruitment

- By October 01, 2025, 6,790 patients had been enrolled in the study.
- Patients from 26 countries have been recruited.
- Since the continuation of AXSANA as an unlimited registry from February 1, 2024, 1,626 patients have been enrolled.



country	Head of National Steering Committee	No. of study sites	No. of enrolled patients
Albania	Prof. Helidon Nina	1	115
Austria	Univ.-Prof. Dr. Florentia Peintinger	7	81
Azerbaijan	Ass. Prof. Hagigat Valiyeva Qanimat	1	75
Belgium	Prof. Dr. Marian Vanhoeij	4	69
Bulgaria	Dr. Tsvetomir Ivanov	1	14
Czech Republic	Dr. Lukas Dostalek and Dr. Jan Žatecký	2	8
Finland	Dr. Laura Niinikoski	1	116
Germany	PD Dr. Steffi Hartmann	164	3826
Greece	Prof. Dr. Michalis Kontos	6	148
Hungary	Dr. Zoltan Matrai	1	2
India	Dr. Geeta Kadayaprath	2	83
Israel	Dr. Douglas Zippel	2	45
Italy	Prof. Oreste D. Gentilini	24	491
N.N.	N.N.	1	25
Norway	Dr. Ellen Schlichting	5	69
Peru	Dr. Lía Pamela Rebaza	1	114
Poland	Prof. Dr. Dawid Murawa	11	204
Portugal	Dr. David Pinto	11	123
Romania	Dr. Eduard-Alexandru Bonci	2	53
Slowenia	Dr. Andraž Perhavec	1	13
Spain	Prof. Isabel Rubio	9	188
Sweden	Prof. Jana de Boniface	7	258
Switzerland	Prof. Maria Luisa Gasparri	9	88
Thailand	Dr. Sarun Thongvitokomarn	1	25
Turkey	Prof. Dr. Guldeniz Karadeniz Cakmak	14	537
United Kingdom	Prof. Ashutosh Kothari and Dr. Elina Shaari	1	20

Quality of Life

Thanks to your important and dedicated work, we have just completed the first one-year evaluation of arm morbidity following ALND, TAD, or SLNB. The results will be presented soon.

To conduct further reliable evaluations of QoL and arm morbidity, you need to continue to collect follow-up questionnaires.

Please follow the instructions below:

- Patients recruited after March 30, 2025, do not have to complete any QoL questionnaires.
- Patients recruited before March 30, 2025, should still complete questionnaires at baseline (within 4 weeks before surgery) and complete follow-up questionnaires at 1, 3, and 5 years after surgery.
- Use electronic questionnaires whenever possible.
- Send a reminder if no response is received. To maintain a high response rate of over 80%, especially at longer follow-ups, participants may require additional reminders and motivation to continue completing the questionnaires.

Your efforts are enormously important and deeply appreciated. If you have any questions about the QoL questionnaires, please don’t hesitate to contact us: Matilda Appelgren (matilda.appelgren@ki.se) and Lea Stark (lea.stark@ki.se).

Upcoming Eubreast Webinar

20 November 2025 18:00-19:00 CEST

“De-Escalate Or Not To De-Escalate In High Nodal Burden (cN2-cN3) Converting To ycN0 After Primary Systemic Treatment”

Further information:

<https://www.eubreast.org/eubreast-21-r-eubreast-educational-program-2025/>

Register here:



IMPRESSUM

EUBREAST Study Group
International Steering and Organizing Committee:
Prof. T. Kühn (Chair)
Prof. M. Banys-Paluchowski
Prof. E. Stickeler
Prof. J. de Boniface
Prof. O. Gentilini
Prof. G. Karadeniz Çakmak
Prof. N. Ditsch
PD S. Hartmann

Study coordination:
Ms. Katharina Jursik, Ms. Jessica Wagner, and Dr. M. Mangold
axsana@eubreast.com
In case of questions do not hesitate to contact your National Steering Committee!

