Lynparza Slows Pancreatic Cancer

Lynparza maintenance therapy after chemotherapy nearly doubled progression-free survival.

September 16, 2019 By Liz Highleyman

The PARP inhibitor Lynparza (olaparib) delays the progression of metastatic pancreatic cancer in people with BRCA gene mutations, researchers reported at the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting.

In the Phase III POLO trial, participants who were randomly assigned to take Lynparza as maintenance therapy—intended to maintain stable disease after chemotherapy—went about twice as long as placebo recipients before they experienced disease progression.

After a year on treatment, 34% of Lynparza recipients had not yet experienced disease progression, compared with 15% of placebo recipients; after two years, the corresponding figures were 22% and 10%. Two people taking Lynparza had complete remission. It is too soon to compare survival rates.

“In a disease where almost nothing works, it is truly remarkable to finally have a drug that makes such a difference, even for a small subset of patients,” says lead researcher Hedy Kindler, MD, of the University of Chicago.

© 2026 Smart + Strong All Rights Reserved.
http://beta.docker.cancerhealth.com/article/lynparza-slows-pancreatic-cancer-1