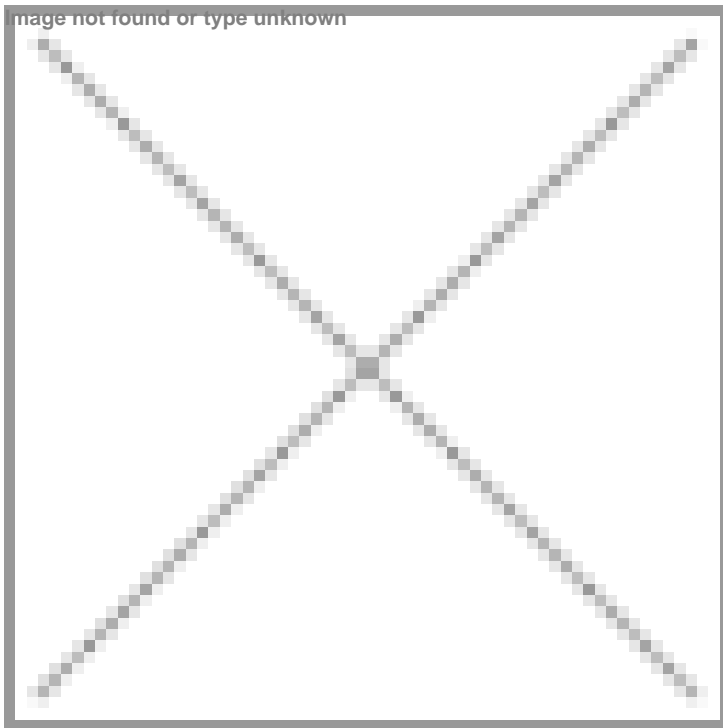


## Australia Advances Cancer Research with Kazia's ABC-Pax Trial for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

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**Kazia Therapeutics launches a pioneering clinical trial in Queensland, combining paxalisib with immunotherapy to target aggressive and treatment-resistant breast cancer, aiming to enhance survival and precision medicine insights.**



Kazia Therapeutics Limited, an oncology-focused drug development company, has announced the regulatory approval and launch of the **ABC-Pax** (Advanced Breast Cancer – Paxalisib) clinical trial. This **first-of-its-kind** study evaluates the combination of **paxalisib** and **immunotherapy** in patients with **triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC)**—one of the most aggressive and treatment-resistant forms of the disease.

ABC-Pax is a **multi-centre, open-label Phase 1b trial** that will assess the safety and efficacy of paxalisib in combination with **KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab)** or **LYNPARZA® (olaparib)**. The study, conducted at leading cancer centers in **Queensland, Australia**, aims to enroll **24 patients**, who will receive the combination therapy for up to **12 months**.

This trial builds on groundbreaking research led by **QIMR Berghofer** scientists, in collaboration with **Kazia Therapeutics**, demonstrating that paxalisib combined with immunotherapy triggers **epigenetic reprogramming** of dormant cancer cells. This mechanism enhances immune system recognition and tumor eradication, a strategy showcased in preclinical data presented at the **San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (December 12, 2024)**.

Dr. **John Friend**, CEO of **Kazia Therapeutics**, emphasized the study's potential impact:

*"The novel combination of paxalisib and immunotherapy represents a significant step forward in the treatment of aggressive breast cancers. We are excited to support this pioneering clinical study and advance therapeutic options for patients."*

Professor **Sudha Rao** of QIMR Berghofer highlighted the urgency of innovation in TNBC treatment:

*"There is currently no cure for triple-negative breast cancer, and patient survival remains distressingly low. This study seeks to extend survival and improve quality of life by targeting dormant cancer cells and reactivating the immune system."*

The **ABC-Pax trial** will also incorporate a **liquid biopsy digital pathology platform**, developed by Professor Rao's team, enabling real-time monitoring of cancer and immune cell behavior from blood samples—offering a **breakthrough in precision medicine**.

The trial is now open for enrollment at the **Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital**, with plans to expand to additional sites in Australia.