

Professor Dr. med. Christoph Thomssen



Professor Dr. med. Christoph Thomssen was full Professor for Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Halle (Saale), Germany and Head of the Department of Gynaecology and the Breast Centre since 2003 and has retired 2022. He started his residency in Munich, Germany, and was appointed as Associate Professor for Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany, in 2001. In addition to his clinical work in gynaecological oncology, his research interests focus the treatment of early and metastatic breast cancer including the development of prognostic and predictive factors. He has participated in over 40 clinical trials.

Professor Thomssen is a member of a number of associations, including the American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO, until 2024), the German Cancer Society (DKG), and the EORTC Pathology and Biomarker Study Group. In addition, he is actively involved in the guideline development on national (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Gynäkologische Onkologie, AGO, until 2025) as well as international level (Advanced Breast Cancer Consensus - ABC Consensus Lisbon, until 2021). He has published more than 500 original papers and 40 book articles, and has given more than 500 lectures and oral presentations. He is co-editor of the peer-reviewed journal BREAST CARE.

Selected publications

1. **AGO Recommendations for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients with Early Breast Cancer: Update 2025.** Park-Simon TW, Müller V, Albert US, Banyas-Paluchowski M, Bartsch R, Bauerfeind I, Bjelic-Radicic V, Blohmer JU, Budach W, Dall P, Ditsch N, Fallenberg EM, Fasching PA, Fehm T, Friedrich M, Gerber B, Gluz O, Harbeck N, Hartkopf AD, Heil J, Hörner-Rieber J, Huober J, Kreipe HH, Krug D, Kühn T, Kümmel S, Loibl S, Lüftner D, Lux MP, Maass N, Mundhenke C, Reimer T, Reinisch M, Rhiem K, Rody A, Schmidt M, Schneeweiss A, Schütz F, Sinn HP, Solbach C, Solomayer EF, Stickeler E, Thomssen C, Untch M, Tina van Mackelenbergh M, Witzel I, Wöckel A, Wuerstein R, Janni W, Thill M. *Breast Care (Basel)*. 2025 Mar 8:1-19.
2. **Expert Discussion: ESMO 2024.** Thomssen C, Banyas-Paluchowski M, Bidard FC, Lin NU. *Breast Care (Basel)*. 2025 Mar 3;20(1):40-44.
3. **Prognostic and predictive impact of NOTCH1 in early breast cancer.** Engel J, Wieder V, Bauer M, Kaufhold S, Stückrath K, Wilke J, Hanf V, Uleer C, Lantzscht T, Peschel S, John J, Pöhler M, Weigert E, Bürrig KF, Buchmann J, Santos P, Kantelhardt EJ, Thomssen C, Vetter M. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2025 Jan;209(1):27-38.
4. **Prevalence of human papillomaviruses in self-collected samples among women attending antenatal care in Ethiopia: a cross-sectional study.** Runge I, Klein JMA, Pannen AK, Abera S, Wakuma T, Gebrehiwot Y, Unverzagt S, Wienke A, Thomssen C, Kaufmann AM, Jemal A, Abebe T, Holzinger D, Waterboer T, Höfler D, Addissie A, Kantelhardt EJ. *Ecancermedicalsecience*. 2024 Aug 14;18:1739.
5. **6th and 7th International consensus guidelines for the management of advanced breast cancer (ABC guidelines 6 and 7).** Cardoso F, Paluch-Shimon S, Schumacher-Wulf E, Matos L, Gelmon K, Aapro MS, Bajpai J, Barrios CH, Bergh J, Bergsten-Nordström E, Biganzoli L, Cardoso MJ, Carey LA, Chavez-MacGregor M, Chidebe R, Cortés J, Curigliano G, Dent RA, El Saghir NS, Eniu A, Fallowfield L, Francis PA, Franco Millan SX, Gilchrist J, Gligorov J, Gradishar WJ, Haidinger R, Harbeck N, Hu X, Kaur R, Kiely B, Kim SB, Koppikar S, Kuper-Hommel MJ, Lecouvet FE, Mason G, Mertz SA, Mueller V, Myerson C, Neciosup S, Offersen BV, Ohno S, Pagani O, Partridge AH, Penault-Llorca F, Prat A, Rugo HS, Senkus E, Sledge GW, Swain SM, Thomssen C, Vorobiof DA, Vuylsteke P, Wiseman T, Xu B, Costa A, Norton L, Winer EP. *Breast*. 2024 Aug;76:103756.
6. **Impact of Electronic Patient-Reported Outcomes on Unplanned Consultations and Hospitalizations in Patients With Cancer Undergoing Systemic Therapy: Results of a Patient-Reported Outcome Study Compared With Matched Retrospective Data.** Trojan A, Kühne C, Kiessling M, Schumacher J, Dröse S, Singer C, Jackisch C, Thomssen C, Kullak-Ublick GA. *JMIR Form Res*. 2024 May 6;8:e55917.
7. **Adjuvant Docetaxel in Node-Negative Breast Cancer Patients: A Randomized Trial of AGO-Breast Study Group, German Breast Group, and EORTC-Pathobiology Group.** Thomssen C, Vetter M, Kantelhardt EJ, Meisner C, Schmidt M, Martin PM, Clatot F, Augustin D, Hanf V, Paepke D, Meinerz W, Hoffmann G, Wiest W, Sweep FCGJ, Schmitt M, Jänicke F, Loibl S, Minckwitz GV, Harbeck N; NNBC 3-Europe Study Group. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2023 Mar 3;15(5):1580.
8. **PIK3CA-mutations in breast cancer.** Reinhardt K, Stückrath K, Hartung C, Kaufhold S, Uleer C, Hanf V, Lantzscht T, Peschel S, John J, Pöhler M, Bauer M, Bürrig FK, Weigert E, Buchmann J, Kantelhardt EJ, Thomssen C, Vetter M. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2022 Dec;196(3):483-493.
9. **Prognostic Value of Tumour-Infiltrating Lymphocytes in an Unselected Cohort of Breast Cancer Patients.** Schüler K, Bethmann D, Kaufhold S, Hartung C, Stückrath K, Lantzscht T, Uleer C, Hanf V, Peschel S, John J, Pöhler M, Buchmann J, Bürrig KF, Weigert E, Thomssen C, Kantelhardt EJ, Vetter M. *Diagnostics (Basel)*. 2022 Oct 18;12(10):2527.
10. **Molecular Subtyping of Invasive Breast Cancer Using a PAM50-Based Multigene Expression Test-Comparison with Molecular-Like Subtyping by Tumor Grade/Immunohistochemistry and Influence on Oncologist's Decision on Systemic Therapy in a Real-World Setting.** Erber R, Angeloni M, Stöhr R, Lux MP, Ulbrich-Gebauer D, Pelz E, Bankfalvi A, Schmid KW, Walter RFH, Vetter M, Thomssen C, Mayr D, Klauschen F, Sinn P, Sotlar K, Stering K, Stenzinger A, Wunderle M, Fasching PA, Beckmann MW, Hoffmann O, Kimmig R, Harbeck N, Wuerstein R, Ferrazzi F, Hartmann A. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2022 Aug 5;23(15):8716.
11. **[Management of immune-related adverse events (irAEs) - what needs to be respected?].** Thomssen C. *Gynakologe*. 2022;55(5):344-350.
12. **Fifteen Years of Breast Care.** Thomssen C, Harbeck N, Gnant M. *Breast Care (Basel)*. 2021 Apr;16(2):97-98.
13. **Identifying High-Risk Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Patients by Molecular Subtyping.** Hartung C, Porsch M, Stückrath K, Kaufhold S, Staeger MS, Hanf V, Lantzscht T, Uleer C, Peschel S, John J, Pöhler M, Weigert E, Buchmann J, Bürrig KF, Schüler K, Bethmann D, Große I, Kantelhardt EJ, Thomssen C, Vetter M. *Breast Care* 2021;16:637-647.
14. **Breast Cancer Diagnostics, Therapy, and Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Population-Based Registry Study.** Joko-Fru WY, Griesel M, Mezger NCS, Hämmerl L, Seraphin TP, Feuchtner J, Wabinga H, N'da G, Mathewos A, Kamaté B, Nsonde Malanda J, Gnanon FHR, Chesumbai GC, Korir A, Lorenzoni C, Zietsman A, Borok MZ, Liu B, Thomssen C, McGale P, Jemal A, Parkin DM, Kantelhardt EJ. *J Natl Compr Canc Netw*. 2021 Dec 29:1-11.
15. **Phase II study of metronomic treatment with daily oral vinorelbine as first-line chemotherapy in patients with advanced/metastatic HR+/HER2- breast cancer resistant to endocrine therapy: VinoMetro-AGO-B-046.** Krajnc S, Decker T, Schollenberger L, Rosé C, Ruckes C, Fehm T, Thomssen C, Harbeck N, Schmidt M. *J Cancer Res Clin Oncol*. 2021 Nov;147(11):3391-3400.
16. **Adherence to Newly Implemented Tamoxifen Therapy for Breast Cancer Patients in Rural Western Ethiopia.** Reibold CF, Tariku W, Eber-Schulz P, Getachew S, Addissie A, Unverzagt S, Wienke A, Hauptmann S, Wickenhauser C, Vetter M, Jemal A, Thomssen C, Kantelhardt EJ. *Breast Care (Basel)*. 2021 Oct;16(5):484-490.

17. **AGO Recommendations for the Surgical Therapy of the Axilla After Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy: 2021 Update.** Friedrich M, Kühn T, Janni W, Müller V, Banys-Pachulowski M, Kolberg-Liedtke C, Jackisch C, Krug D, Albert US, Bauerfeind I, Blohmer J, Budach W, Dall P, Fallenberg EM, Fasching PA, Fehm T, Gerber B, Gluz O, Hanf V, Harbeck N, Heil J, Huober J, Kreipe HH, Kümmel S, Loibl S, Lüftner D, Lux MP, Maass N, Möbus V, Mundhenke C, Nitz U, Park-Simon TW, Reimer T, Rhiem K, Rody A, Schmidt M, Schneeweiss A, Schütz F, Sinn HP, Solbach C, Solomayer EF, Stickeler E, Thomssen C, Untch M, Witzel I, Wöckel A, Thill M, Ditsch N. *Geburtshilfe Frauenheilkd.* 2021 Oct;81(10):1112-1120.
18. **Postmastectomy radiotherapy for all node positive patients: The case against.** Dixon JM, Kunkler IH, Russell N, Thomssen C. *Eur J Surg Oncol.* 2021 Oct;47(10):2515-2520.
19. **Effect of Celecoxib vs Placebo as Adjuvant Therapy on Disease-Free Survival Among Patients With Breast Cancer: The REACT Randomized Clinical Trial.** Coombes RC, Tovey H, Kilburn L, Mansi J, Palmieri C, Bartlett J, Hicks J, Makris A, Evans A, Loibl S, Denkert C, Murray E, Grieve R, Coleman R, Borley A, Schmidt M, Rautenberg B, Kunze CA, Rhein U, Mehta K, Mousa K, Dibble T, Lu XL, von Minckwitz G, Bliss JM; Randomized European Celecoxib Trial (REACT) Trial Management Group and Investigators. *JAMA Oncol.* 2021 Sep 1;7(9):1291-1301.
20. **The Effect of Collaborative Reviews of Electronic Patient-Reported Outcomes on the Congruence of Patient- and Clinician-Reported Toxicity in Cancer Patients Receiving Systemic Therapy: Prospective, Multicenter, Observational Clinical Trial.** Trojan A, Leuthold N, Thomssen C, Rody A, Winder T, Jakob A, Egger C, Held U, Jackisch C. *J Med Internet Res.* 2021 Aug 5;23(8):e29271.
21. **Treatment of Patients with Early Breast Cancer: Evidence, Controversies, Consensus: German Expert Opinions on the 17th International St. Gallen Consensus Conference.** Untch M, Fasching PA, Brucker SY, Budach W, Denkert C, Haidinger R, Huober J, Jackisch C, Janni W, Kolberg-Liedtke C, Krug D, Kühn T, Loibl S, Lüftner D, Müller V, Schneeweiss A, Thill M, Harbeck N, Thomssen C. *Geburtshilfe Frauenheilkd.* 2021 Jun;81(6):637-653.
22. **Cervical Cancer in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Multinational Population-Based Cohort Study of Care and Guideline Adherence.** Griesel M, Seraphin TP, Mezger NCS, Hämmerl L, Feuchtnner J, Joko-Fru WY, Sengayi-Muchengeti M, Liu B, Vuma S, Korir A, Chesumbai GC, Namboozee S, Lorenzoni CF, Akele-Akpo MT, Ayemou A, Traoré CB, Wondemagegnehu T, Wienke A, Thomssen C, Parkin DM, Jemal A, Kantelhardt EJ. *Oncologist.* 2021 May;26(5):e807-e816.
23. **Adjuvant Pertuzumab and Trastuzumab in Early HER2-Positive Breast Cancer in the APHINITY Trial: 6 Years' Follow-Up.** Piccart M, Procter M, Fumagalli D, de Azambuja E, Clark E, Ewer MS, Restuccia E, Jerusalem G, Dent S, Reaby L, Bonnefoi H, Krop I, Liu TW, Pieńkowski T, Toi M, Wilcken N, Andersson M, Im YH, Tseng LM, Lueck HJ, Colleoni M, Monturus E, Sicoe M, Guillaume S, Bines J, Gelber RD, Viale G, Thomssen C; APHINITY Steering Committee and Investigators. *J Clin Oncol.* 2021 May 1;39(13):1448-1457.
24. **St. Gallen/Vienna 2021: A Brief Summary of the Consensus Discussion on Customizing Therapies for Women with Early Breast Cancer.** Thomssen C, Balic M, Harbeck N, Gnant M. *Breast Care (Basel).* 2021 Apr;16(2):135-143.
25. **Therapy Algorithms for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients with Early and Advanced Breast Cancer.** Schneeweiss A, Bauerfeind I, Fehm T, Janni W, Thomssen C, Witzel I, Wöckel A, Müller V. *Breast Care (Basel).* 2020 Dec;15(6):608-618.
26. **Initial experience with CDK4/6 inhibitor-based therapies compared to antihormone monotherapies in routine clinical use in patients with hormone receptor positive, HER2 negative breast cancer - Data from the PRAEGNANT research network for the first 2 years of drug availability in Germany.** Schneeweiss A, Ettl J, Lüftner D, Beckmann MW, Belleville E, Fasching PA, Fehm TN, Geberth M, Häberle L, Hadji P, Hartkopf AD, Hielscher C, Huober J, Ruckhäberle E, Janni W, Kolberg HC, Kurbacher CM, Klein E, Lux MP, Müller V, Nabieva N, Overkamp F, Tesch H, Laakmann E, Taran FA, Seitz J, Thomssen C, Untch M, Wimberger P, Wuerstlein R, Volz B, Wallwiener D, Wallwiener M, Brucker SY. *Breast.* 2020 Dec;54:88-95.
27. **Breast cancer pathology services in sub-Saharan Africa: a survey within population-based cancer registries.** Ziegenhorn HV, Frie KG, Ekanem IO, Ebughe G, Kamate B, Traore C, Dzamalala C, Ogunbiyi O, Igbinoba F, Liu B, Bauer M, Thomssen C, Parkin DM, Wickenhauser C, Kantelhardt EJ. *BMC Health Serv Res.* 2020 Oct 2;20(1):912.
28. **Virtual Science in Senology: Let Us Not Throw out the Baby with the Bathwater.** Harbeck N, Thomssen C, Gnant M. *Breast Care (Basel).* 2020 Aug;15(4):323-324.
29. **Knowledge transfer as a tool towards improvement of cancer care in low- and middle-income countries. 6th European Roundtable Meeting (ERTM), June 14th, 2019, Berlin, Germany.** Ortmann O, Torode J, Schmiegel W, Thomssen C, Hakama M, Basu P, Ringborg U, Helbig U; participants of the ERTM. *J Cancer Res Clin Oncol.* 2020 Jul;146(7):1813-1818.
30. **International Consensus Conference for Advanced Breast Cancer, Lisbon 2019: ABC5 Consensus - Assessment by a German Group of Experts.** Thomssen C, Lüftner D, Untch M, Haidinger R, Würstlein R, Harbeck N, Augustin D, Briest S, Ettl J, Fasching PA, Förster F, Kurbacher CM, Lück HJ, Marschner N, Müller L, Müller V, Perlova-Griff L, Radke I, Ruckhäberle E, Scheffen I, Schumacher-Wulf E, Schwoerer M, Steinfeld-Birg D, Ziegler-Löhr K. *Breast Care (Basel).* 2020 Feb;15(1):82-95.