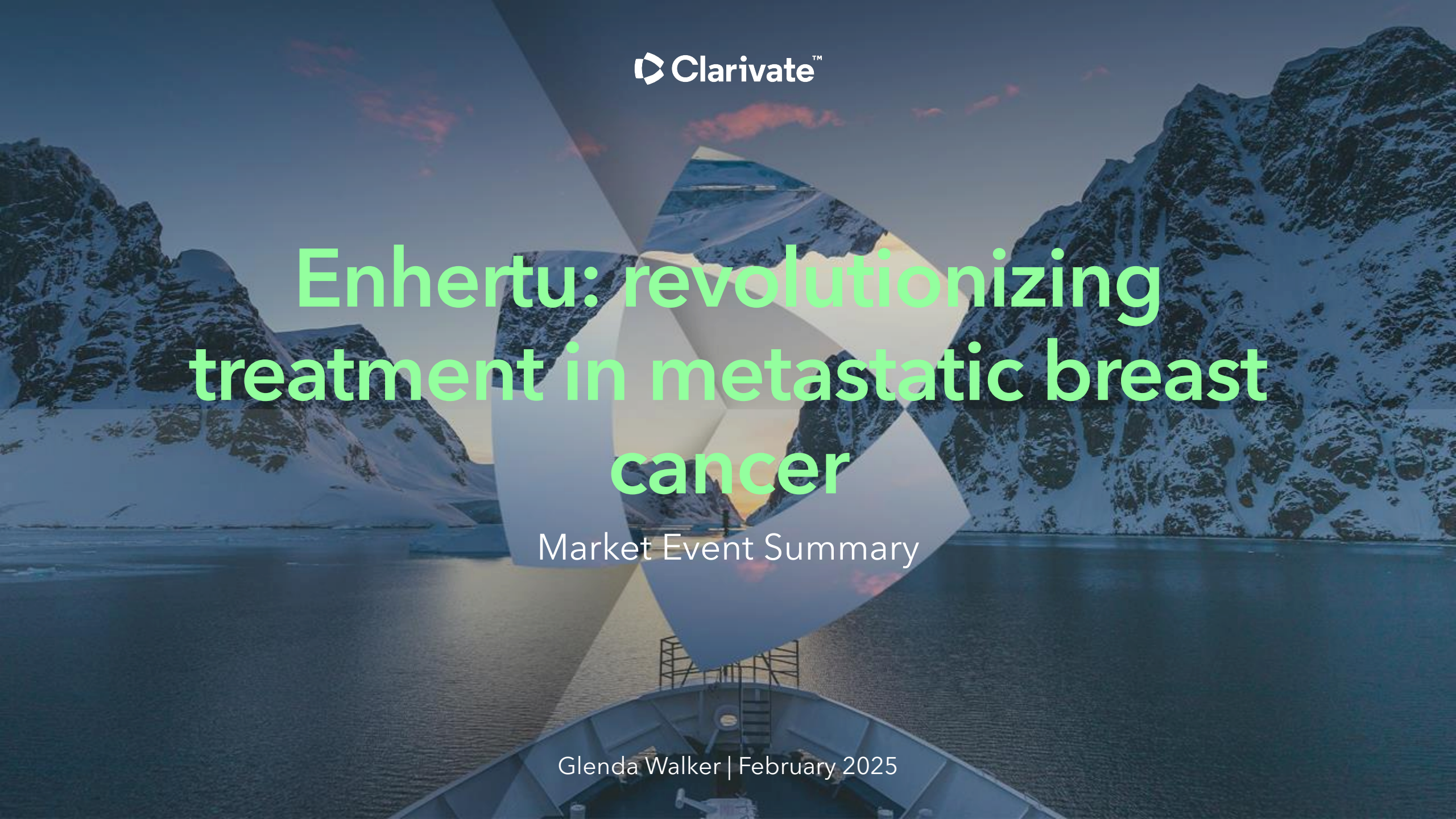

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Enhertu: revolutionizing treatment in metastatic breast cancer

Market Event Summary

Glenda Walker | February 2025

Enhertu offers a new option in HER2-low or HER2-ultra-low metastatic breast cancer after endocrine therapy

Background

- **HER2-low / HER2-ultra-low breast cancer** accounts for 45-55% of all breast cancer cases.
- **Before approval of Enhertu**, HR-positive / HER2-negative patients with low and ultra-low levels of HER2 who had progressed on endocrine therapies in the metastatic setting had limited targeted treatment options.
- **An unmet need** existed for the underserved population of HR-positive / HER2-negative endocrine-therapy-progressing patients with low or ultra-low levels of HER2.

Event

- **The Phase 3 DESTINY-Breast06 trial** assessed Enhertu versus chemotherapy in HR-positive / HER2-low or HER2-ultra-low patients who had disease progression on at least two prior lines of endocrine therapies and were chemotherapy-naive.
- **Enhertu showed a 36% lower risk of disease recurrence or death**. The median PFS was 13.2 months versus 8.1 months.
- **The FDA approval** of Enhertu in January 2025, based on DESTINY-Breast06, makes Enhertu the first HER2-targeted therapy approved specifically for this patient population.
- **Regulatory filings in Europe and Japan** are under review. Approvals in these regions are expected in 2025.

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Clarivate's takeaways

Expected positioning in breast cancer

We expect Enhertu to become the SOC ahead of chemotherapy in the up to 90% of HR-positive / HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer patients who express HER2 at low or ultra-low levels.

Commercial potential

With its use earlier in the treatment paradigm prior to chemotherapy in both HER2-low and HER2-ultra-low metastatic breast cancer, Enhertu will treat a large patient population and face no competing HER2-targeted agents. Its use in HER2-low and HER2-ultra-low disease in metastatic breast cancer settings will account for approximately 23% of its total breast cancer sales in 2033 across the major markets.

Success hinges on biomarker testing and interstitial lung disease management

Enhertu's market success for HER2-low and HER2-ultra-low breast cancer is contingent on the reliability of HER2 testing, which remains under scrutiny. Reliable testing will ensure that physicians can accurately identify and select the patients who are most likely to benefit from this innovative treatment. Moreover, the widespread adoption of Enhertu may be limited by safety concerns. The U.S. product label includes a black box warning for interstitial lung disease, a potentially fatal side effect, representing a significant risk.

About the author

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Dr. Walker has more than 12 years' experience in the pharmaceutical field. She has authored thought-leadership articles covering a broad range of pharmaceutical-industry-relevant topics and therapeutic areas, including the flagship Drugs to Watch article. She holds a Ph.D. in cell biology and genetics from the University of Manchester and was a Wellcome postdoctoral fellow at the University College London Institute of Healthy Ageing.

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Clarivate coverage of breast cancer

- Breast Cancer | Disease Landscape & Forecast | G7
- Breast Cancer | Current Treatment: Physician Insights | US, exploring the current prescribing trends among medical oncologists treating breast cancer
- Breast Cancer | Current Treatment: Treatment Sequencing | US, presenting surveyed medical oncologists' most frequent treatment sequences for breast cancer
- Metastatic HR-positive / HER2-negative Breast Cancer | Unmet Need

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