

e. Forwards Sequence and Reverse Sequence—The Puhalla Schema

The clinical trial of Puhalla et al. (58) contains two arms (Fig. 2.8). Subjects in the first arm received drugs in this order: D followed by AC.

In detail, subjects received docetaxel on the first day of each cycle, for four cycles, where each cycle was 14 days long. This was followed by doxorubicin (an anthracycline drug) plus cyclophosphamide, on the first day of each cycle, for four cycles. Each cycle was 2 weeks long.

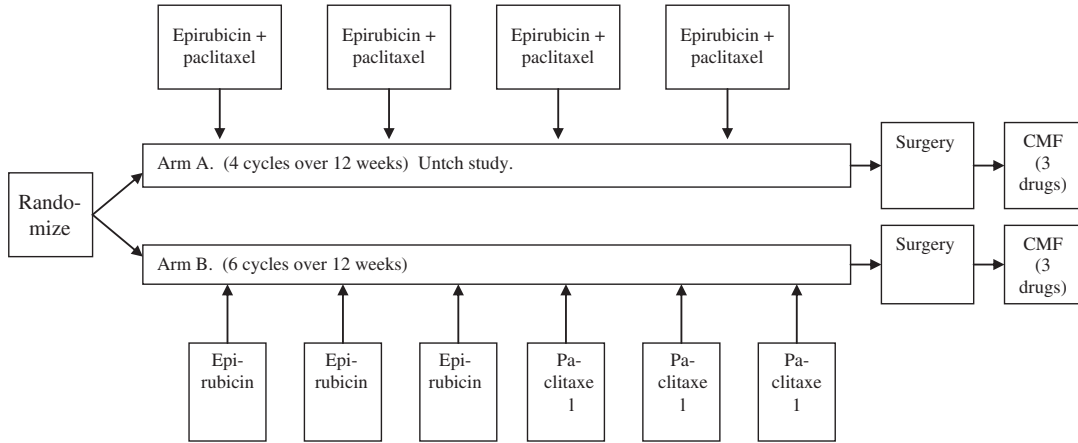


FIGURE 2.7 Schema showing two-arm study. Subjects in the first arm received chemotherapy before as well as after surgery. Subjects in the second arm also received chemotherapy prior to and after surgery. The neoadjuvant chemotherapy in arm A was concurrent, what that in arm B was sequential.

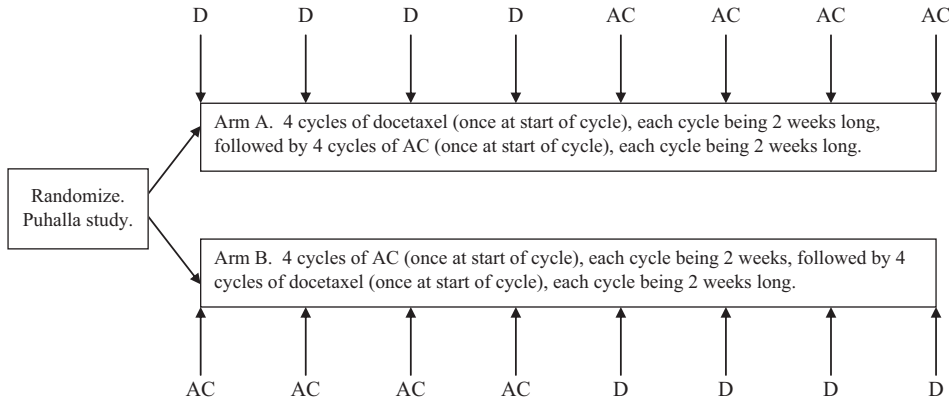


FIGURE 2.8 Schema showing a two-arm study. In this two-arm study drugs were administered in a “forward” sequence for arm A, and in a “reverse” sequence for arm B.

⁵⁸Puhalla S, Mrozek E, Young D, et al. Randomized phase II adjuvant trial of dose-dense docetaxel before or after doxorubicin plus cyclophosphamide in axillary node-positive breast cancer. *J. Clin. Oncol.* 2008;26:1691–7.