



Breast Cancer Treatment

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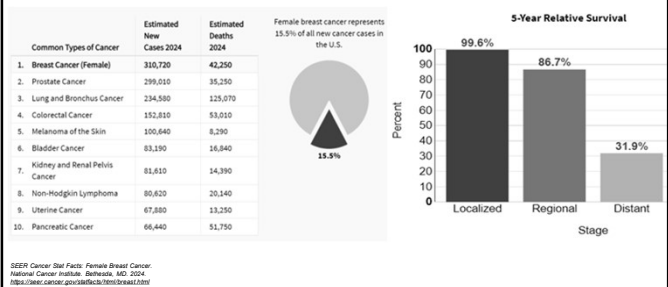
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Topics of Discussion

- ☐ Epidemiology & Risk Factors
- ☐ Screening
- ☐ Non-invasive Breast Cancer
- ☐ Invasive Breast Cancer
- ☐ Treatment
- ☐ Sequencing of Therapy
- ☐ Systemic therapies:
 - ☐ Chemotherapy
 - ☐ Endocrine therapy
 - ☐ Targeted therapy
 - ☐ Immunotherapy
- ☐ Conclusion

Epidemiology & Risk

Epidemiology



Treatment



Surgical therapies

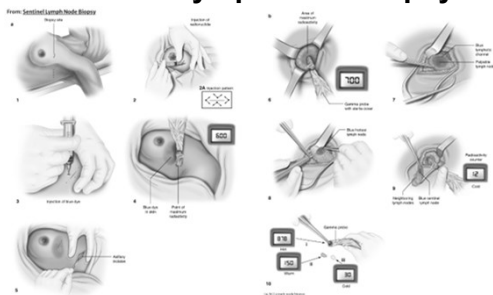
Removal of breast mass

- Partial mastectomy (aka "lumpectomy")
- Simple mastectomy
- ~~Radical mastectomy~~

Lymph node staging

- Sentinel lymph node biopsy
- Axillary lymph node dissection

Sentinel lymph node biopsy



Rosenberg R et al. Manual: Guidelines to Perform Common Operations in General Surgery Training. Springer Nature, 2020.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4939-9999-9_10
 10/10/2020

Surgical complications

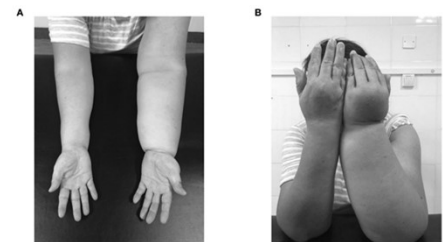


FIGURE 1
Left Upper Limb Lymphedema. (A: Palmar Side of Forearm, B: Dorsal Side of Forearm).

Sa 19 et al. Front Oncol, 2023.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fonc.2023.1128711>

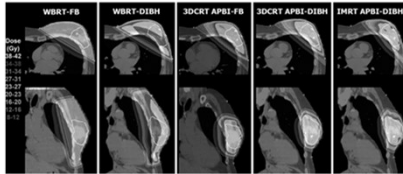
Radiation therapies

Radiation to breast

- Whole breast radiation therapy (WBRT)
- Accelerated partial breast irradiation (APBI)
- Chest wall radiation

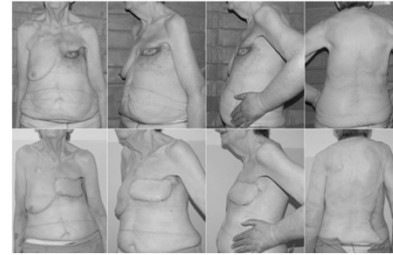
Radiation to lymph nodes

- Axillary nodes, intramammary nodes, supraclavicular nodes.
- Boost/No Boost



Moran J et al. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2009.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18540276/>

Radiation therapy complications



Vainmho A et al. *Ann Chir Plast Esthet*. 2018.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29402848/>

Reconstructive therapies

Breast reconstruction

- Tissue expanders
- Permanent implants
- Autologous fat grafts: DIEP, SIEA, TRAM,

Lymphedema prophylaxis

- Lymphovascular bypass (LVB)
- Axillary Reverse Mapping (ARM)
- Vascularized lymph node transfer (VLNT)

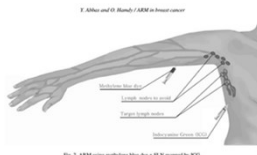
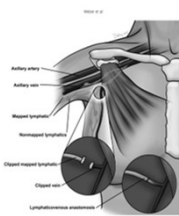


Fig. 2. ARM versus modified free flap + TRAM treated by RT.

Weber W et al. *Am Soc Clin Oncol Educ Book*. 2024.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38815195/>
 Abbas Y et al. *Breast Cancer*. 2022.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37154174/>



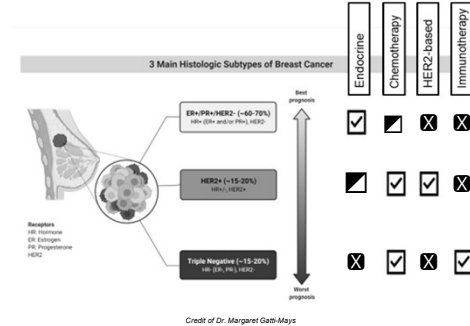
Complications of reconstructive surgery



Turner A et al. *Scand Plast Surg*. 2020. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33071879/>
 Singh M et al. *Plast Reconstr Surg Glob Open*. 2015.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26482204/>

Treatment sequencing

Receptor Subtypes Dictate Systemic Therapy Choices



Timing of systemic therapy

Neoadjuvant therapy:

- ❖ TNBC:
 - > ≥1cm (≥T1c)
 - > N+ (N1-3)
- ❖ HER2+BC:
 - > ≥2cm (T2-4)
 - > N+ (N1-3)
- ❖ HR+BC:
 - > Bulky nodes (N2-3)
 - > Bulky tumor (T4)



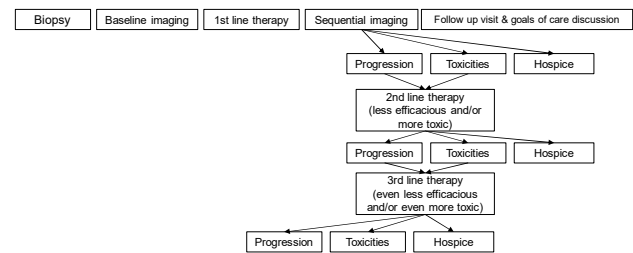
Adjuvant therapy:

- ❖ TNBC:
 - > <1cm (<T1c)
 - > N0
- ❖ HER2+BC:
 - > <2cm (T2-4)
 - > N0
- ❖ HR+BC:
 - > T1-3
 - > N0-1

HR+BC
TNBC
HER2+BC

Biopsy	+/- Chemo	Surgery	+/- Chemo	+/- Radiation	Endocrine therapy +/- targeted therapy
Biopsy	+/- Chemo +/- Immunotherapy	Surgery	+/- Chemo	+/- Radiation	+/- Targeted therapy
Biopsy	+/- Chemo +/- HER2 therapy	Surgery	+/- Chemo +/- HER2 therapy	+/- Radiation	+/- Endocrine therapy +/- targeted therapy

Metastatic breast cancer



Systemic therapies

Systemic therapies

- A. Chemotherapy
 - a. Doxorubicin, epirubicin, cyclophosphamide, carboplatin, docetaxel, paclitaxel, nab-paclitaxel, capecitabine, gemcitabine, vinorelbine, eribulin
- B. Endocrine therapy
 - a. Tamoxifen, anastrozole, letrozole, exemestane, fulvestrant, elacestrant
- C. Targeted therapy
 - a. Trastuzumab, pertuzumab, margetuximab, neratinib, lapatinib, tucatinib, abemaciclib, ribociclib, palbociclib, olaparib, talazoparib, alpelisib, capivasertib, everolimus
- D. Immunotherapy
 - a. Pembrolizumab
- E. Combination
 - a. Sacituzumab govitecan, trastuzumab deruxtecan, trastuzumab emtansine, datopotamab deruxtecan

Chemotherapies used for breast cancer

Anthracyclines: Doxorubicin, epirubicin

-Cardiotoxicity (CHF)

Taxanes: Docetaxel, paclitaxel, nab-paclitaxel

-Peripheral neuropathy

Platinum agents: Carboplatin, cisplatin

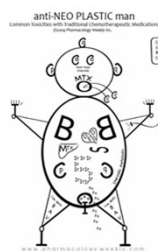
-Peripheral neuropathy, nephrotoxicity, ototoxicity

Antimetabolites: Capecitabine (prodrug), 5-fluorouracil (5-FU)

-Coronary vasospasms, hand-foot syndrome

Nitrogen mustards: Cyclophosphamide

-Hemorrhagic cystitis (rare with breast cancer dosing), cytotoxicity



Legend for anti-NEO PLASTIC man

Letter	Drug	Chemotherapy Class	Indication
A	Anthracyclines	Doxorubicin, Epirubicin	Breast Cancer
B	Breast Cancer	-	-
C	Cyclophosphamide	Nitrogen Mustard	Breast Cancer
D	Docetaxel	Taxane	Breast Cancer
E	Exemestane	Endocrine Therapy	Breast Cancer
F	Fluorouracil (5-FU)	Antimetabolite	Breast Cancer
G	Goserelin	GnRH Agonist	Endocrine Therapy
H	Herceptin (Trastuzumab)	Targeted Therapy	HER2+ Breast Cancer
I	Imatinib	Targeted Therapy	Imatinib-sensitive Cancers
J	Jardiance (Empagliflozin)	SGLT2 Inhibitor	Diabetes Mellitus
K	Kinase Inhibitors	Targeted Therapy	Various Cancers
L	Letrozole	Endocrine Therapy	Endocrine Therapy
M	Metformin	Antidiabetic	Diabetes Mellitus
N	Nab-paclitaxel	Taxane	Breast Cancer
O	Oestrone	Endocrine Therapy	Endocrine Therapy
P	Pembrolizumab	Immunotherapy	Immunotherapy
Q	Quercetin	Flavonoid	Various Cancers
R	Ribociclib	CDK4/6 Inhibitor	Endocrine Therapy
S	Sacituzumab govitecan	Antibody-Drug Conjugate	HER2+ Breast Cancer
T	Tamoxifen	Endocrine Therapy	Endocrine Therapy
U	Ureaplasma	Antibiotic	Ureaplasma Infection
V	Vinorelbine	Taxane	Breast Cancer
W	Wegovy (Liraglutide)	GLP-1 Agonist	Obesity
X	Xenical (Orlistat)	Lipase Inhibitor	Obesity
Y	Yervoy (Ipilimumab)	Immunotherapy	Immunotherapy
Z	Zoledronic acid	Biphosphonate	Osteoporosis

Endocrine therapies for breast cancer

Aromatase inhibitors: Anastrozole, letrozole, exemestane

-Osteoporosis/osteopenia, hyperlipidemia, CAD/CVA risk

SERMs: Tamoxifen

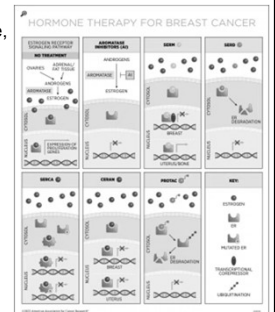
-DVT/VTE risk, uterine dysplasia/malignancy

SERDs: Elacestrant, fulvestrant

-Heightened menopause symptoms

GnRH agonists: goserelin, leuprolide

-Painful injection



Targeted therapies for breast cancer

Targeted alone

HER2: Trastuzumab, pertuzumab, margetuximab, lapatinib, neratinib, tucatinib

-Cardiotoxicity (CHF)

PI3K/PTEN/AKT/mTOR: Alpelisib, capivasertib, everolimus

-Hyperglycemia, rash, mouth sores, severe diarrhea

CDK4/6: abemaciclib, ribociclib, palbociclib

-Severe diarrhea, QTc prolongation

PARP: Olaparib, Talazoparib

-Secondary malignancy (leukemia)

Targeted treatment + chemotherapy payload

HER2: Trastuzumab deruxtecan, trastuzumab emtansine

-Cardiotoxicity (CHF), peripheral neuropathy, pneumonitis/interstitial lung disease (ILD)

TROP2: Sacituzumab deruxtecan

-Severe neutropenia, diarrhea

Immunotherapy for breast cancer

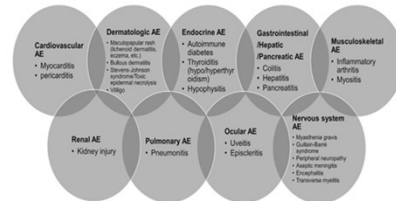
Immunotherapy

PD-1 inhibitor: Pembrolizumab,

-Adrenal insufficiency, hypo/hyper hypothyroidism, hypophysitis, type 1 diabetes, pneumonitis, myocarditis, transaminitis, colitis, rash

PD-L1 inhibitor: Atezolizumab (retracted)

-Similar findings



Diagrams from: Allergology International, 2021



Radiation Therapy for Breast Cancer

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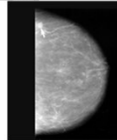
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Agenda

- Background
 - Clinical Presentation
 - Anatomy of the breast
 - Staging & Patterns of metastasis
- Treatment
 - Surgical Management
 - Systemic Therapy
 - Radiation Therapy

Clinical Presentation of BC

- **Most common presentation is abnormal screening mammogram**
- Some symptoms related to bca include:
 - Slightly tender breast mass
 - Skin changes on the breast
 - Nipple discharge
 - Change in the size or shape of the breast
- Uncommon to present with palpable lymphadenopathy or even distant metastases
- Metastatic disease: weight loss, fatigue, new focal pain (bone metastases)

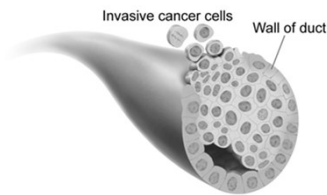


Breast Cancer Screening

- Clinical Breast Exam
- Mammography
- Ultrasound
- MRI (magnetic resonance imaging)
 - Young women (increased breast density)
 - BRCA1/2 carriers
 - Strong FH of bca

Invasive BC vs. DCIS

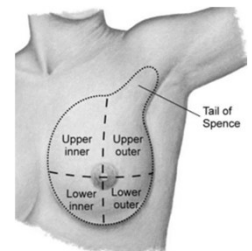
- **Ductal carcinoma *in situ*** is pre-invasive.
- Cancer cells located in the milk ducts that have not invaded the surrounding breast tissue
- Invasive breast cancer has broken out of the duct and invaded into breast tissue
- DCIS often detected on screening mammogram by calcifications (pts very rarely p/w breast mass)



National Cancer Institute

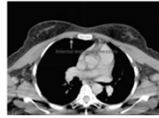
Breast Anatomy

- Breast lies on the anterior chest wall superficial to the pec major muscle
- Extends medially – laterally to mid axillary line, sup-inf from about 2nd rib to anterior 6th rib
- Upper outer quadrant extends into the low axilla and is referred to as the **axillary tail of Spence**
- There is more breast tissue in the UOQ and therefore, a greater percentage of breast cancers occurs in the UOQ



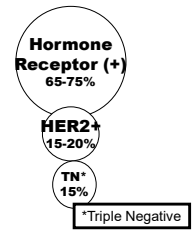
Breast Anatomy: Lymphatics

- About 20-30% of breast cancers have spread to lymph nodes at Dx
- Regardless tumor location in the breast, the axilla is the most common site of lymphatic involvement
- Other lymph node regions that drain the breast: Supraclavicular, axillary (Levels I-III), and internal mammary nodes just lateral to sternum



Not All Breast Cancer Is The Same

Both the **type** and **stage** of breast cancer influence what type of treatment a patient undergoes



BC Staging

- Utilizes TNM Categories
 - T: Tumor (1-4)
 - N: Lymph nodes (1-3)
 - M: Indicates metastatic disease (M0, M1)

5-year relative survival rates for breast cancer

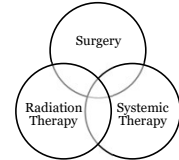
These numbers are based on women diagnosed with breast cancer between 2014 and 2020.

SEER Stage	5-year Relative Survival Rate
Localized*	>99%
Regional	87%
Distant	32%
All SEER stages combined	91%

BC TREATMENT

Treatment: Multi-modality

- Very few patients receive just one type of treatment, regardless of their stage at diagnosis
- The conventional paradigm has been surgery → +/- chemo → radiation
- Some patients get up-front systemic therapy followed by surgery and then radiation



SURGICAL MANAGEMENT

Surgical Management of BC

- Breast conservation
 - Lumpectomy, "Partial mastectomy"
 - +/- sentinel lymph nodes
- Mastectomy
 - Modified Radical Mastectomy
 - Total Mastectomy w/ sentinel lymph nodes
- In general, the move has been toward less invasive surgical management
 - Attempts to increase rates of breast conservation
 - Less complete axillary dissections and removal instead of only sentinel nodes (unless full axillary dissection is indicated)

Lumpectomy

Removes primary tumor with negative margins and preserve natural breast cosmesis

May not be feasible with larger tumors, or patient may prefer breast removal



SYSTEMIC MANAGEMENT

Systemic Therapies for BC

- Endocrine Therapy/Anti-Hormone Therapy for ER+ disease
- Chemotherapy for all subtypes
- Biologic targeted therapy for HER2+
- Immunotherapy – TNBC, metastatic BC

RADIATION THERAPY

CT Simulator & TrueBeam Linear Accelerator



CT Simulator



Linear Accelerator

Indications for Radiotherapy for BC

- Ductal Carcinoma in Situ (DCIS)
 - Radiation therapy often indicated in post-lumpectomy setting
- Early-stage (Stage I/II) Invasive Breast Cancer
 - Radiation therapy indicated in post-lumpectomy setting
- Locally advanced (Stage III)
 - Indicated in post-lumpectomy setting (breast + regional nodes)
 - Indicated in many (most) instances post-mastectomy
- Inflammatory Breast Cancer
 - Radiation therapy **always** indicated after mastectomy
- Metastatic Disease
 - Radiation therapy reserved for palliation of symptoms
 - SBRT for select pts with oligometastatic disease

Radiation Following Lumpectomy

- Maintain intact, sensate breast
- Reduce risk of recurrence
 - DCIS: prevent first invasive bca
- Preserve cosmetic outcome
- Avoid mastectomy +/- reconstruction
- Lumpectomy and Radiotherapy (BCT) provide survival and control rates equivalent to Mastectomy

Locally Advanced Bca & Radiotherapy

- Improves overall survival following lumpectomy and mastectomy
- Prevents distant metastases
- Optimizes breast cancer-specific/overall survival

BCT vs. Mastectomy

Trial	Yrs F/U	% Overall Survival		
		BCT	Mastectomy	P
Milam I	20	58	59	NS
Gustave Roussy	15	73	65	NS
NSABP B-06	20	46	47	NS
NCI	10	77	75	NS
EORTC 1081	15	65.8	66.1	NS
DBCG-82 Tm	6	79	82	NS

Breast Conservation Therapy is at least equivalent to mastectomy

Goals & New Areas

- Our goal in RO is to limit the dose of radiation to normal structures ("organs at risk") while treating the breast +/- lymphatics with effective, potentially curable dose
- Use shorter courses of radiation when possible
 - Accelerated partial and whole breast regimens: 5 treatments, delivered every other day
- We use several techniques to help us do that
 - Prone positioning
 - Deep Inspiratory Breath Hold (DIBH)
 - Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
 - Accelerated Partial Breast Radiotherapy (offered to women ≥ 40 years, low risk, early stage)
 - Treats lumpectomy cavity + margin

Prone breast treatment

- Position lets gravity work with us, allowing breast to hang below & pull away from chest wall
- Linac is then brought to sides & pt's breast treated from side/underneath
- Significantly reduces the dose of radiation to the lung
- Very often significantly reduces the dose to heart in left-side bca pts



De-escalation

- Better identify women in whom radiation can be safely omitted
 - Women who received Neoadjuvant Systemic therapy who clear disease in the lymph nodes (primarily Her-2+ and Triple negative breast cancers at this point)
 - Recently published data from RTOG 1304 clinical trial

Summary

- Radiation therapy is generally recommended in nearly all cases of breast conservation for DCIS and early-stage invasive disease
- Radiotherapy is recommended following mastectomy for most women with lymph-node positive disease.
 - Omission in select cases in which disease is cleared in the lymph nodes following neoadjuvant systemic therapy