

Optimizing the axillary management in breast cancer

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Propositions accompanying the thesis

OPTIMIZING THE AXILLARY MANAGEMENT IN BREAST CANCER:

FROM IMAGING TO SURGERY

by SANAZ SAMIEI, April 8th 2021

1. Optimizing the breast MRI protocol by including a complete field of view of the axillary region can be recommended in clinical practice for the assessment of node-negative and node-positive breast cancer. (This thesis)
2. Dedicated axillary MRI-based radiomics with node-by-node matching for the prediction of axillary lymph node metastasis in breast cancer suggests that the quantitative analysis does not exceed the qualitative analysis by the radiologists. (This thesis)
3. Identifying pathologic complete response of the breast after neoadjuvant systemic therapy in selected clinically node-negative patients may guide the omission of axillary surgery. (This thesis)
4. Pathologic complete response of the axilla can help identify patients in the neoadjuvant setting who may benefit from de-escalation of treatment as well as those patients who may benefit from escalation of treatment. (This thesis)
5. Clinical decision-making regarding the need for postmastectomy radiation therapy and immediate breast reconstruction requires a multidisciplinary approach and careful patient counseling. (This thesis)
6. Less is often more in breast cancer. (Dr. Monica Morrow)
7. New drugs and therapies are becoming available that allow us to shrink breast tumors prior to surgery, but we need to better understand how patients and surgeons perceive risk of disease and how this may factor into the surgical decision-making process. (Dr. Mehra Golshan)
8. For some cancer patients, the COVID-19 pandemic delayed or interrupted treatment, and I believe that we will see the impact of this approach in the future. (Dr. Giuseppe Curigliano)
9. Negative results are just what I want. They're just as valuable to me as positive results. I can never find the thing that does the job best until I find the ones that don't. (Thomas Edison)
10. As you start to walk on the way, the way appears. (Rumi)