

Quality Breast Cancer Care: Can we do better?

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SON Fall Update

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Do we need to improve
breast cancer care in BC?

How can we improve breast cancer care in BC?

- Review some of literature ‘guidelines’ and specialist recommendations

National Library of Medicine, Agency for Health Care Research and Quality Oct 2004 (for example)

- Discuss whether goal is important
- Discuss barriers
- Discuss requirements to achieve goal

Diagnostics

- If a palpable breast mass is detected at least one of the following procedures should be completed within 3 months:
FNA, Mammo, US, Bx or F/U visit
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Diagnostics

- Tissue diagnosis should be obtained at the initial specialty visit for a palpable breast mass
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Diagnostics

- If an FNA cannot rule out malignancy a tissue diagnosis should be obtained within 6 weeks
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Diagnostics

- Suspicious screening mammography should be evaluated within 3 weeks with further assessment
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Diagnostics

- Women with suspicious imaging requiring surgery for diagnosis should be operated on within 14 days of the surgical decision
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Diagnostics

- Core biopsy rather than surgical biopsy should be procedure of choice for initial breast cancer diagnosis
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- Urgent referrals with confirmed breast cancer should be seen within 5 working days
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- As appropriate, women with stage 1 or 2 breast cancer should be offered the choice of mastectomy or breast conservation
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- Therapeutic surgery should be available within 21 days of surgical consultation for breast cancer
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- Women have breast conserving surgery should not require more than 2 therapeutic operations
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- Women having breast conserving surgery, should have their biopsy cavities marked with clips to facilitate radiation planning
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- Operative reports should contain details of the margins (eg pectoralis fascia was taken, very thin anterior margin)
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- Women who are clinically node negative, should be offered sentinel node biopsy for axillary staging (unless contra-indicated)
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- All women with curable breast cancer should receive an opinion regarding adjuvant therapy
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

Management

- Early referral or discussion, especially for persons with LABC or with a definite indication for chemotherapy
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?

- Early referral for persons with medical issues and/or social issues that will impact their breast cancer care
 - Important?
 - Barriers?
 - Requirements to achieve?