



Training Canadian Surgeons In Oncoplastic Breast Surgery: Where Do We Stand?

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Background:

Breast-conserving surgery with adjuvant radiation therapy is widely accepted as a universal standard of care for women with early-stage breast cancer. Oncoplastic breast-conserving surgery (OPS) techniques have emerged in recent years, facilitating the achievement of better cosmetic results while adhering to good oncological principles. Compared with the rest of the international community, Canada has been fairly slow in its clinical uptake of OPS. This commentary discusses how Canada can increase its capacity for OPS.

Methods:

Commentary

Results:

Improve level of awareness and training of Canadian surgeons in Oncoplastic surgery

Conclusions:

Historically, most surgeons felt that a postlumpectomy cosmetic defect or contour deformity was a small price to pay for curing breast cancer while avoiding a mastectomy. Today, with recent advances in modern breast cancer management, women can look forward to a long, healthy life after their breast cancer diagnosis. It is more important than ever to offer them a treatment option that preserves their quality of life and their sense of attractiveness and femininity. Oncoplastic surgery techniques allow the surgeon to not only completely excise the disease, but also maintain excellent cosmesis. Hopefully there will be a steady rise in general and breast surgeons embracing OPS as they see the benefits reaped by patients who rightly demand better from us.

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