



Media Invitation

Webcast Press Briefing
Thursday, May 2
11:30 am – 12:30 pm EDT
(8:30 – 9:30 am Pacific)

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Breast Cancer 2019: Targeted Treatment and Refining Recovery to Optimize Outcomes

20th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Media web briefing on timely, new research presented at the meeting:

- **Reduced Opioid Prescription Program Supports Effective Post-Operative Pain Management**

Abstract: *Reducing Narcotic Prescriptions in Breast Surgery Patients: A Prospective Analysis*

America's opioid crisis is very much in the news. Over-prescription of narcotics for pain relief contributes to the problem for patients and also potentially introduces unused pills into the general population for abuse. Now, new research reveals that breast surgeon opioid prescribing patterns for post-operative pain management vary widely across a single institution. The study outlines a successful program to reduce and standardize medication. Authors note that breast cancer patients typically utilize significantly less opioid medication than prescribed. They believe that with physician awareness, education and guidelines, opioid prescribing patterns for the full spectrum of breast surgeries can be optimized to help prevent potential abuse without undertreating patients for pain.

- **High Tech Lymphedema Surveillance and Early Intervention Significantly Help Prevent Progression**

Abstract: *Interim Analysis Lymphedema "PREVENT" Trial*

A chronic, debilitating swelling of the arm, breast cancer-related lymphedema results from surgery involving the lymph nodes. It can lead to decreased arm range-of-motion and infection, significantly lowering quality-of-life. Lymphedema consistently ranks as the number one long-term fear among breast cancer survivors. Today, the condition generally is diagnosed by measuring arm circumference with a tape measure, often after it is too late to be reversed. Now preliminary results from a 1201-patient, randomized clinical trial show that bioimpedance spectroscopy (BIS) – which uses electrical current to measure intercellular fluid volume – identifies patients at risk for lymphedema at an earlier stage, when intervention may more effectively prevent progression. Patients referred for early intervention using BIS saw a 9.8% absolute and a 67% relative reduction in clinically diagnosed lymphedema compared to those assessed with a tape measure. Both at-risk groups were treated with similar at-home compression therapy for 28 days. The study also suggests that arm circumference measurement may have a higher false-positive rate compared to BIS.

- **Well-Selected Elevated Risk Nipple-Sparing Surgery Patients Experience No Increase in Surgical and Reconstruction Risks**

Abstract: *Outcomes of >1300 Nipple-Sparing Mastectomies with Immediate Reconstruction: The Impact of Expanding Indications on Complications*

With enhanced aesthetics and demonstrated safety, nipple-sparing mastectomy (NSM) procedures are growing in number and now include patients with more advanced cancers and risk factors such as obesity. A new study examines NSM patients' 30-day rates for complications such as surgical site infection, hematoma and unplanned reoperation as well as one-year reconstruction failure rates. The study, which involves data on 1307 breasts in 770 women from 2009 to 2017, found a significant trend toward decreased complications despite the broader contemporary patient pool. It also found that certain conditions considered risk factors were not in fact associated with post-operative problems or implant failure.

- **Surgery May be Unnecessary for Appropriately Selected HER2+ Patients in the Future**

Abstract: *Patient Selection for Non-Operative Management of HER2+ Invasive Breast Cancer after Neoadjuvant Systemic Therapy*

More than 56,000 cases of traditionally challenging and aggressively treated HER2+ breast cancers are diagnosed in the U.S. annually. A growing body of research suggests that certain of these cancers may be successfully treated without surgery when pathology reports show no evidence of residual disease following neoadjuvant systemic therapy (NST). NST is chemo, radiation or hormonal therapy delivered prior to a primary operative treatment. However, confirmation of NST response using traditional medical imaging is often inconclusive. Now, a new study identifies key tumor characteristics that suggest women with HER2+ disease will continue to require surgery for greater oncologic safety. Researchers found that hormone negative tumors, DCIS on initial biopsy and incomplete radiologic response are strongly associated with incomplete pathologic response, and operative treatment will offer these women a more effective route to a cure.

- **Same-Day Home Surgical Recovery Programs Benefit Recovery and Enhance Patient Experience, with No Increased Risks**

Abstract: *Implementation of Post-Mastectomy Home Recovery Program in a Large, Integrated Health Delivery System*

Abstract: *Same-Day Surgery for Mastectomy Patients in Alberta: A Perioperative Care Pathway and Quality Improvement Initiative*

Numerous studies have demonstrated the safety of same-day home recovery for well-selected mastectomy patients and highlighted benefits from lower risk of hospital acquired infections to increased patient satisfaction and cost savings. However, utilization remains low. A new study focuses on a post-surgical home care pilot project implemented at 16 centers at a large integrated health system. The program standardized procedures across facilities and surgeons and combined patient and provider education, clear routes of communication and best practice guidelines. The result was a significant rise in home recovery with no decrease in quality of care. In another study, a program implemented across 13 hospitals throughout a Canadian province created a similar standardized home recovery pathway, which also included nurse navigators, online patient resources and initial assessment of patient concerns in a non-emergency setting. This program also significantly boosted the home recovery rates with enhanced patient satisfaction.

Note: *While press are invited to attend the meeting onsite, the press briefing is a web-only event. Individual interviews with researchers can be arranged via telephone or onsite for attending press. See below for details.*

Breast Surgeons are Today's Multi-Disciplinary Breast Health Experts. As the medical professionals who are the focal point of most facets of a woman's breast care, breast surgeons are in the forefront of new developments in breast cancer prevention, risk-assessment, screening, diagnosis, and a wide range of surgical and non-surgical treatment options. Today, rapidly advancing research, techniques and technologies have resulted in great improvements in the early detection and treatment of breast cancer. Breast surgeons are on the front lines every day with these developments and the fight against one of the most common women's cancers.

WEBCAST PRESS BRIEFING REGISTRATION:

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You will automatically be emailed complete instructions on participation when you register. For questions, please contact Molly McDougall, HealthFlash Marketing, 203-431-4000, molly@healthflashmarketing.com.

SPECIAL MEDIA REQUESTS:

We will be pleased to arrange interviews with press briefing participants via phone or live for onsite press. We can also provide Society experts to provide information on a full range of topics relating to breast cancer and other breast diseases. Please contact HealthFlash to discuss your interests.

ONSITE MEETING ATTENDANCE:

All meeting proceedings are open to credentialed media

April 30 to May 5

Presentations, discussions, workshops throughout
Hilton Anatole

Dallas, TX

Click below for complete meeting information:

<https://www.breastsurgeons.org/meeting/2019/welcome>

Click below for general session information:

https://www.breastsurgeons.org/meeting/2019/agenda/ASBrS_preliminary_program_2019.pdf

Please contact us in advance to arrange for onsite press credentials: Molly McDougall, HealthFlash Marketing, 203-431-4000, molly@healthflashmarketing.com.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF BREAST SURGEONS:

The American Society of Breast Surgeons is the leading medical society focusing exclusively on the surgical treatment of breast disease. It is committed to continually improving the practice of breast surgery by being an advocate for surgeons who seek excellence in the care of breast patients. This mission is accomplished by serving as a forum for the exchange of ideas and by promoting education, research, and the development of advanced surgical techniques.

The Society was founded in 1995 and now has more than 3100 members in the United States and in 35 countries throughout the world. The Society's Annual Meeting is the only medical meeting dedicated exclusively to the latest issues affecting surgeons who treat breast disease, from diagnosis and staging to treatment planning and ongoing management.