**Sentinel Node Biopsy** 

Is There Any Role for Axillary Dissection?

JCCNB – Nov 20, 2010 Tokyo, Japan

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## **SNB with Clinically Negative Nodes**

#### Invasive breast cancer

- Any situation requiring lymph node staging
- Primary (neoadjuvant chemotherapy)
- Local recurrence repeat SNB?
- Ductal carcinoma in situ
  - Mastectomy
  - Other indications?

## SNB Especially Important with Small Cancers

Tumors < 1 cm</p>

- 15% positive nodes by H&E
- Major impact on use of chemotherapy



## **NCCN Outcomes Data Base**

 Data on all cases treated at NCCN Centers

 12 Centers participating at time of last data base report – 2004 – 2008

 Assess treatment in concordance with NCCN Guidelines



# **Use of Axillary Surgery: NCCN**

![](_page_5_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Is Axillary Dissection Needed with Positive Sentinel Node?

![](_page_7_Figure_0.jpeg)

Omission of Axillary Dissection with Positive Sentinel Node - NCCN

 Clinical Stage I / II Cancer with Sentinel Node Positive on H&E

 Axillary Dissection omitted at NCCN Centers 2004 – 2008 among:

219 / 1594 (14%) of cases

# American Practice 1998 – 2004: Lymph Node Dissection with Positive Sentinel Node

![](_page_9_Figure_1.jpeg)

SEER Data
26,986
women

At 50 month
 f/u there is
 no difference
 in survival

Yi M et al. Ann Surg Onc 2010;17:S343

## What Are the Issues?

- Is additional information needed to plan therapy?
  - Chemotherapy
  - Radiation

 Does axillary dissection affect survival?

What is risk of axillary recurrence?
 Are there alternative treatments?

Does Information from Completing Dissection Affect Therapy Decisions? Systemic Therapy

 Decisions largely driven by characteristics of primary tumor and positive sentinel node;

 Number of positive nodes does not change NCCN Guideline systemic therapy recommendations

## **Radiation:**

 Radiation: Use of extended fields for radiation with multiple positive nodes

 Most who omit AND have less nodal disease and low chance of 4 or more positive nodes

 Nomograms to predict probability of additional nodes – validated

Werkoff G, et al. J Clin Oncol 2009;27(34):5707

# Probability of Additional Positive Nodes

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

Adapted from Kohrt HE et al BMC Cancer 2008;8:66

## NSABP B-04: Impact of Axillary Treatment

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

# NSABP B-04: Local / Regional Recurrence

#### Women with Clinically Negative Nodes

Radical mastectomy

50 -

![](_page_15_Figure_2.jpeg)

Percent Recurrence		
	Local	Regional
Total Mast	7%	6%
Radical Mast	5%	4%
Total Mast + Radiation	1%	4%

Fisher B et al. New Engl J Med 2002;347:1233

# Risk of Axillary Recurrence with Positive SNB; No Dissection Modern Systemic and Radiation

	Ν	Axillary Recurrence	Comments
Мауо	86	0	30 month f/u; 20% predicted (+) nonSLN
MD Anderson	196	0	29 month f/u; 80% ITC or N1mi
MSKCC	287	2%	27 month f/u; 9% predicted (+) non SLN
National Cancer Database	1,148	1.2%	5 yrs f/u; macroscopic metastases; national cancer registry – may miss some recurrences

# When in Doubt – Do a Clinical Trial!!

#### "OK, fine! We'll flip a coin for it!

Heads, we do it my way;

Tails, we try Larry's stupid procedure!"

![](_page_17_Picture_4.jpeg)

Sentinel Node Trials:			
<b>NSABP and ACOSOG</b>			
	Eligibility	Study Design	
ACOSOG Z-0010	Clinically negative nodes	No randomization; SNB only and observe; Bone barrow and SNB IHC	
NSABP B-32	Negative sentinel node biopsy	Randomized: SNB only vs. Axillary dissection	
ACOSOG Z-0011	Breast Conserving Surgery; Positive Sentinel Nodes	Randomized: SNB only vs. Axillary Dissection Breast tangent radiation only	

## ACOSOG Z-0010 Results

- 5,184 with clinically negative nodes
  - 1,239 positive (eligible for Z-0011)
- IHC analysis of nodes and bone marrow – blinded
  - 350 with positive nodes (10%)
  - 105 with positive bone marrow (3%)

	5 year Overall Survival		
	Positive	Negative	P-value
H&E Node Positive	92.8%	95.6%	0.0002
IHC Node Positive	95.1%	95.8%	0.53
<b>Bone Marrow Positive</b>	90.2%	95.1%	0.015
Cote R, et al. ASCO Proceedings 2010 Abstract # CRA504			

# ACOSOG Z-0011 Study Design Schema

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

# ACOSOG Z-0011: Type of Metastasis in Sentinel Node

Type of Node Metastasis	Axillary Dissection N=420	Sentinel Node Biopsy Alone N=436
Microscopic	37.5%	44.8%
Macroscopic	55.2%	62.5%
		P < 0.05

Giuliano AE et al. Annals of Surgery 2010;252;426

## ACOSOG Z-0011: Additional Nodal Metastases

Additional positive lymph nodes metastases in 106 (27.4%) of patients treated with ALND

21% with 4 or more positive nodes

Giuliano AE et al. Annals of Surgery 2010;252;426

# *Outcome: Median 6.3 Years Follow-up*

Outcome	Axillary Dissection (n=420)	Sentinel Node Biopsy Alone (n=436)
Local Recurrence	15 (3.6%)	8 (1.8%)
Regional Recurrence	2 (0.5%)	4 (0.9%)
Survival	91.9%	92.5%

Giuliano AE et al. Annals of Surgery 2010;252;426 Guiliano AE et a. ASCO Proceeding 2010 #CRA506

## ACOSOG Z-0011 Issues

 Study only accrued about 40% (891 / 1900) of planned target and is therefore potentially underpowered to detect differences

 The reports do not provide SIZE of lymph node metastases beyond "micro" and "macro"

 Extent of axillary radiation with tangents not reported

## **Application of Z-0011 Findings**

#### Consider in situation of cases eligible for Z-0011

- 1 or 2 positive sentinel nodes
- Breast conserving therapy
- Whole breast radiation
- Appropriate adjuvant therapy

# What Do I Do Based on ACOSOG Z-0011?

Omit AND with limited axillary disease

 Unlikely to have extensive node involvement

 Discuss with patient AFTER SNB

 In operating room:
 IF grossly positive / large node – DISSECTION
 IF soft, grossly negative – DEFER TO FINAL PATHOLOGY AND discuss with patient

### **Classification Tools for Early Stage Breast Cancer**

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### This changes everything! Prognosis Treatment Clinical Trials

All Breast Cancer

![](_page_28_Picture_2.jpeg)

Designation Contemport

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

Why Do We Even Do Axillary Surgery At All?

- Provides limited additional information to help patient
  - Therapy primarily based on characteristics of patient and tumor
- Causes substantial morbidity
- Equal alternatives to treat axilla
   Radiation
  - Systemic therapy + watchful waiting

# NCCN Breast Guideline 2035: Clinical Stage I/II Breast Cancer

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

# NCCN Breast Guideline 2035: Clinical Stage I/II Breast Cancer

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_0.jpeg)