

Local Regional Management Following Neoadjuvant Therapy: Minding the Knowledge Gap

Brief Synopsis:

Preoperative systemic therapy is often administered to breast cancer patients; those with triple-negative or HER2-positive disease receive neoadjuvant chemotherapy, while there is increased interest in using neoadjuvant endocrine therapy for patients with hormone receptor positive disease. The response to preoperative treatment informs prognosis and can provide guidance for the use of additional systemic therapy. In addition, administering chemotherapy before surgery often results in tumor shrinkage facilitating increased rates of breast conservation, and decreases the extent of axillary surgery required. In this lecture, we will discuss the available data guiding local regional management after neoadjuvant therapy as well as identify areas in which data is limited and thoughtful multi-disciplinary discussions should guide optimal management.