

The Accuracy of the Preoperative Axillary Ultrasound Examination in Predicting the Status of the Sentinel Lymph Node Involvement in Patients with Infiltrating Breast Carcinoma

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Abstract

Background: we aimed to determine the accuracy of preoperative axillary ultrasound (US) in predicting the presence of sentinel lymph node (SLN) metastasis in breast cancer patients.

Methods and Results: out of 54 cases, visible nodes on US were identified in 35 cases of which, 15 had metastasis. In 19 cases no axillary lymph nodes were visible on US. Of these, only 3 had metastasis. Moreover, our results demonstrated that neither the maximum diameter ($p=0.738$ Fisher exact test) nor the ratio between the longitudinal and transverse axes ($p=0.728$ Fisher exact test) can predict the positivity of the SLN.

Conclusion: US cannot predict the positivity of the SLN

Key words: sentinel lymph node, ultrasound examination, breast carcinoma