

routine mammography in symptomatic clinics for woman <50 yrs regardless of physical findings. Such a practice would also have a significant negative economic impact on existing limited resources. We therefore conclude that routine mammography in symptomatic women found to have normal breast examination is not justified.

135 POSTER Enhancing Mammography: Digital optical breast imaging for the early detection of breast cancer – The infra-red technology

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Introduction: More than two thirds of all breast biopsies performed in the Western World for the early detection of breast cancer, due to suspicious mammographic findings, turn out to be benign and therefore unnecessary, creating a stressful, discomforting, and painful procedure for the patients and increasing medical costs for the community. Mammography as gold standard for the early detection has a low specificity and is therefore limited in their ability to differentiate between malignant and benign lesions. In addition mammograms in dense breasts, are difficult to interpret. Recent developments in technology make it possible to identify vascular changes associated with malignant growth. The dynamic optical breast imaging device (DOBI) applies these new imaging and processing technologies non-invasively to differentiate between malignant and benign lesions by the detection of neo-angiogenesis.

Patients and Methods: Between April and November 2003 a prospective study to further investigate this new prototype device was performed at our institution. Aim of the study was to evaluate whether unnecessary biopsy could be prevented using this technology. 100 patients (aged 25 to 77) scheduled for open biopsies (palpable and non palpable lesions) were entered into the study. All patients were scanned with the DOBI device preoperatively and findings were compared with those of the definite histology report and previous imaging.

Results: Preliminary results of the calculated sensitivity, specificity, and the negative predictive value of DOBI are highly promising.

Discussion: The concept of this diagnostic tool is provide information to guide biopsy recommendations. The results of our study demonstrated the ability of this new technology to discriminate non-invasively between benign and malignant lesion which may lead to avoid unnecessary interventions. Further studies are needed to support these data.

136 POSTER Usefulness of multidetector-row computed tomography for the diagnosis of the intraductal extension of breast carcinoma

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Background: Intraductal extension of the lesion is one of the most important factor for the assessment of breast conserving surgery. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the clinical usefulness of multidetector-row CT (MD-CT) for the diagnosis of the intraductal extension of breast carcinoma.

Material and Methods: From 2002 to October 2003, consecutive 44 patients were enrolled in this study. We grouped the cases into three categories according to the degree of intraductal extension from the main tumor, diagnosed by MD-CT findings: intraductal component less than 10 mm, 10 mm to 20 mm, and more than 20 mm. To evaluate the accuracy for the detection of the lesion, the histological cross-sections were studied retrospectively, and we analyzed the relationship between the tumor size, histology, menopausal status of the patients and the degree of intraductal component.

Results: Forty-four breast lesions (100%) were detected by the MD-CT. About the degree of the intraductal component, significant correlation was found between the pathological finding and radiological categories. Especially, strong correlation was found at the pathological T2 tumor ($p < 0.01$) and postmenopausal women ($p < 0.01$).

Conclusions: Dynamic MD-CT finding of the breast carcinoma was found to be correlate to the histological degree of the intraductal extension of the lesion, and thought to be useful in the preoperative assessment of breast conserving surgery, especially for postmenopausal and T2 patients of breast carcinoma.

137 POSTER DCIS after 11G directional vacuum assisted biopsy: underestimation of invasive breast cancer

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Purpose: to determine if the accuracy of Mammotome[®] device in the diagnosis of DCIS is correlated with the diameter of the lesion and with the sampling rather than excision of the target.

Patients and methods: we retrospectively analysed 1819 US or stereotactic guided biopsies performed with 11 gauge Directional Vacuum Assisted Device (DVAD); in 287 cases of these the diagnosis was DCIS. All but 2 patients underwent surgical treatment. The rate of underestimation was correlated with the diameter of the lesions (≤ 10 mm, 11–20 mm, 21–30 mm and > 30 mm) and the entity of target removed (sampling or excision).

Results: Most of the lesions targeted were microcalcifications (95%). After surgery in 226 cases (79.3%) the diagnosis of DCIS was confirmed, while invasive cancer was found in 59 cases (20.7%). The underestimation rate was strictly related with the diameter of the lesion: 2.8%, 15.9%, 41.3%, 30.0% in ≤ 10 mm, 11–20 mm, 21–30 mm and > 30 mm respectively. When the lesion was excised we observed only 2.9% (2/70 cases) of invasive cancer compared to 26% of underestimation in the remaining cases, in which the lesion was incompletely removed during the diagnostic procedure.

Conclusions: When the lesion is up to 10 mm or completely excised, DCIS is likely to be confirmed after surgery. As a consequence the diameter of the target and the entity of removal have to be specified in the radiological report.

138 POSTER Extending quality assurance to all breast cancers

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The Association of Breast Surgery at BASO (ABS at BASO) works with the NHS Breast Screening Programme to carry out an annual audit of the treatment of screen detected breast cancers in the United Kingdom. This audit has contributed to improvements in clinical practice because it is accepted as accurate and relevant by the clinicians themselves, who personally sign off their own data. It is a vision shared by many within the NHS that the national screening audit and quality assurance processes be extended to breast cancers in patients of all ages, not only the approximately 20% which are screen detected.

Currently, ABS at BASO carry out a symptomatic audit, but this audit does not achieve complete case ascertainment of all symptomatic breast cancers. For example, in the West Midlands health region, only 6 of the 20 breast units supplied data to the symptomatic audit for the financial year 2001/02.

The charity Breakthrough Breast Cancer, has funded a research project which aims to produce high quality outcome data which clinicians can trust on the detection and management of all breast cancers. The project will enable surgeons to supplement the treatment data that they are able to collect locally with the data routinely collected by regional cancer registries.

The first stage of the project was to pilot the process by matching surgeons' data with data held at the West Midlands Cancer Intelligence Unit (WMCIU), the population based cancer registry for the West Midlands health region. A cohort of 3877 breast cancers was diagnosed in 2001/02 of which 787 (20%) were screen detected and 538 (14%) were submitted to the 2001/02 symptomatic audit. The remaining 2552 symptomatic cases were not submitted to audit. 98% of the 3877 cases in the cohort could be assigned to a unique treating clinician. This demonstrates that data already submitted to the cancer registry could be used by clinicians to supplement their own audit data.

139 POSTER Which is the real size? Radiological and histological size of tumours: a comparison in palpable and non-palpable breast lesions

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Background: Breast conserving surgical approach requires precise preoperative diagnosis concerning the number of foci and the extent of