BRACCO FELLOWSHIPS - EDUCATION IN RESEARCH

Project 16:

Retrospective assessment and imaging correlation between clip-marked axillary lymph node and sentinel lymph node positive biopsy after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in breast cancer

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebrón, Barcelona/SPAIN

RESEARCH GROUP AND ITS MISSION:
The research group "Minimally invasive image-guided interventions for percutaneous diagnosis and treatment of breast lesions” is a multidisciplinary team (breast radiologists, surgeons, pathologist and oncologists) dedicated to the study, implementation and development of percutaneous interventions, including image-guided tissue sampling, excision and thermal ablation for diagnosis and treatment of breast tumors. Its mission is to improve the treatment of patients offering less invasive, highly effective and safe alternatives to surgery.

OBJECTIVES:
• To acquire hands-on interventional skills on US-guided fine needle aspiration, core needle biopsy and breast/axillary marker placement regarding breast tumours and axillary lymph nodes
• To acquire knowledge regarding breast cancer and axillary imaging staging, in order to define indications and optimal localization of breast/axillary markers before neoadjuvant chemotherapy
• To understand imaging assessment and surgical treatment of the axilla in breast cancer patients after neoadjuvant treatment
• To get experience within a multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Unit with high volume of patients in neoadjuvant treatment
• To improve research knowledge and skills in order to produce a poster/peer-review paper
APPLICANT’S DUTIES:
  o To participate in planning and performing breast/axillary interventional procedures, in particular those in which a breast/axillary marker is placed
  o To collect data from a cohort of patients with initial positive clip-marked lymph node and positive sentinel lymph node biopsy after neoadjuvant treatment
  o To analyse data and to write a poster/paper considering clip-marked axillary lymph node and sentinel lymph node biopsy

APPLICANT’S BENEFITS:
  o Participation on scientific outcomes of the project i.e. presentations to congresses or publications of papers
  o Hands-on learning of breast interventions in particular diagnosis and treatment of axillary lymph nodes
  o Participation in a multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Unit with high volume of patients receiving neoadjuvant therapy

Project Leader: Ana Rodríguez / Juan Pablo Salazar
Members: Radiologists (Ana Rodríguez, Juan Pablo Salazar Neus Rus, Stefania Orlando, Joana Madureira, Marta Vera, Ignacio Miranda, Clara Tapias, Manuel Escobar), Surgeons (Martin Espinosa, Christian Siso, Javier de la Torre, Clara Morales, Joaquim Rivero), Pathologist (Vicente Peg)