LOW VALUE CARE
High Value Intervention
QCS

Dr Jeremy Long
Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service
Dr Guranjan Grewal
Audit of Staging for Early Breast Cancer

- Screen detected Breast cancer usually stage I OR II.
- TNM.
- International Guidelines do not recommend staging Bone Scan, CT or Ultrasound, CXR or tumour markers.
- Local practice – “Routine”, “protocol”, “risk mitigating”, “what has always been done”.
Audit of 100 patients presented at SCHHS Breast MDT

- Review of Guidelines.
- Literature around True & False positive results.
- Audit of local practice and its effect on:
  - Treatment decisions.
  - Additional investigations.
  - Costs.
# Staging Investigations by Surgical Stage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Stage I</th>
<th>Stage II</th>
<th>Stage III</th>
<th>Un-staged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CT Chest</td>
<td>41/49</td>
<td>34/38</td>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>0/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT Abdomen</td>
<td>42/49</td>
<td>36/38</td>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>0/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Scan</td>
<td>40/49</td>
<td>37/38</td>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>0/3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Abnormal Scans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Stage I</th>
<th>Stage II</th>
<th>Stage III</th>
<th>Un-staged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CT Chest</td>
<td>5/49</td>
<td>2/38</td>
<td>1/10</td>
<td>0/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT Abdomen</td>
<td>15/49</td>
<td>8/38</td>
<td>5/10</td>
<td>0/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Scan</td>
<td>1/49</td>
<td>2/38</td>
<td>2/10</td>
<td>0/3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Tests

• 5 +ve Bone Scans had CT scans – all –ve

• 8 +ve CT chests – 1PET (-ve), 7 –ve follow-up CT’s

• 28 +ve CT Abdomen – 10 liver U/S, Adrenal MRI, Colonoscopy, 4 Pelvic U/S, PET.
Results of Investigations

• No True Positives, ie. No Metastatic Disease

• 1 incidental Renal Cancer

• No change in treatment decisions in 99/100.
Costs

• CT Abdomen (Item# 56507) $480.05
• Bone Scan (Item# 55036) $479.80
• U/S (Item# 55036) $111.30
• PET $800.00

• For our 100 patients:
  – Baseline staging $83,546.10
  – Additional tests $9,924.20

• Other Costs!
Affecting Change

• Use of MDT forum
• Present
  – Guidelines
  – Audit
• Discuss and Reassure
• MDT group decision/accountability.
American Society of Clinical Oncology
Don’t perform PET, CT, and radionuclide bone scans in the staging of early breast cancer at low risk for metastasis.

American Society of Clinical Oncology
Don’t perform PET, CT, and radionuclide bone scans in the staging of early prostate cancer at low risk for metastasis.