

Virtual Breast Centers



The past

- Historically, the practice of many health professionals has been characterized by unidisciplinary thinking, and individualistic and sometimes competitive behaviours have emphasized the roles and boundaries of each discipline.



International MDM data

- ▣ A lack of a multidisciplinary approach to breast-cancer management adversely affects prognosis.
- ▣ Multidisciplinary units in metropolitan centers are justified by their logistic advantages, by the opportunity to establish high standards with consistent peer review and by the small, but demonstrable improvement in outcome.

Women treated with breast cancer feel that their care is coordinated and not fragmented.

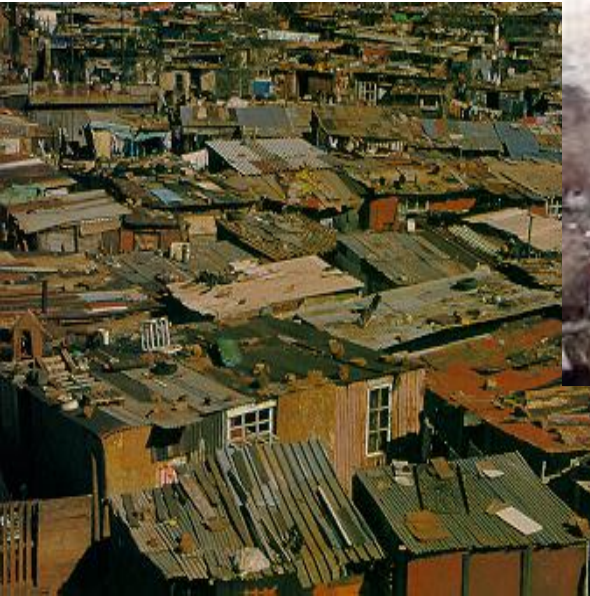


TEAMWORK

When the best and the brightest come together, the possibilities are endless.

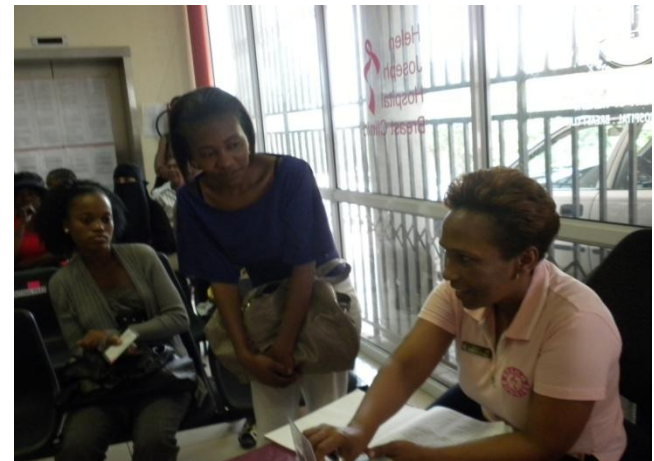
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What is your mission?



Breast Centres 'Without Walls'

- ▣ The many clinicians involved in breast care including medical, surgical, and radiation oncologists, maintain separate practices in different locations.
- ▣ Although women do not receive their care in a single location or facility, a nurse coordinator typically schedules the visits





Breast Care Centre of Excellence



You'll feel better with us

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Challenges to Providing Interdisciplinary Breast Care

- **Education**
- **Logistic Issues**

- The challenges posed by differences in knowledge levels among physicians and can also be managed with multidisciplinary conferences that encourage evidence-based discussion and debate
- Logistic issues around funding, access to care, quality of services, availability of services, different country and cultural guidelines represent a major stumbling block to facilitation of the process

Technical Challenges

- Distance
- Internet
- Service availability
- Education
- Availability of Equipment
- Speaking a universal language
- Electricity, water and basics

Technical Solutions



Distance



Solution is community access health care workers, and transport to regional centers

Per area, small clinics with basic needs, can assess and transfer to regional units

Regional units need to be and usually are in telephonic and internet access

Internet/Communication



Internet and telephonic communication



Service availability



Availability of Equipment



Education



Education



Universal Language



Basic resources



Medical Challenges

- Define screening
- Which guidelines do you accept
- Clinical guidelines whose is best
- Can we agree to disagree to a degree
- Do you accept lesser level of care

Relationship issues between colleagues

- ▣ Professional code of conduct.
- ▣ Shared team culture.
- ▣ Open communication.
- ▣ Mutual respect for all the practitioners.
- ▣ Equal value to be placed on their contribution to current team practices.



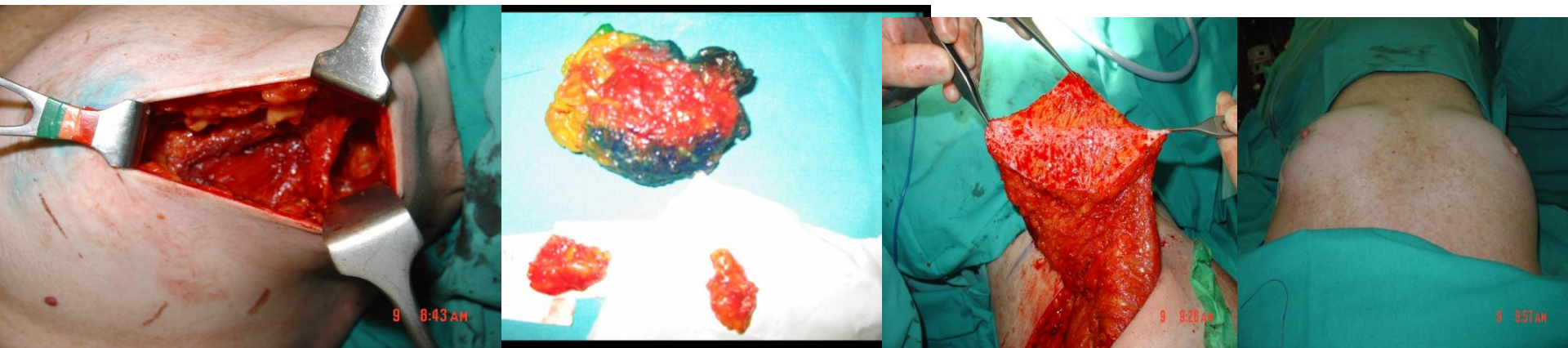
Radiology

- **Digital transfer of radiology data is possible.**
- **Ability to perform radiological needle biopsy**
- **Mobile units , distance and roads**



Pathology

- Pathological interpretation of specimens
- Transport of specimens
- Interpretation of pathology
- Level of pathology information



Can Surgeons play together

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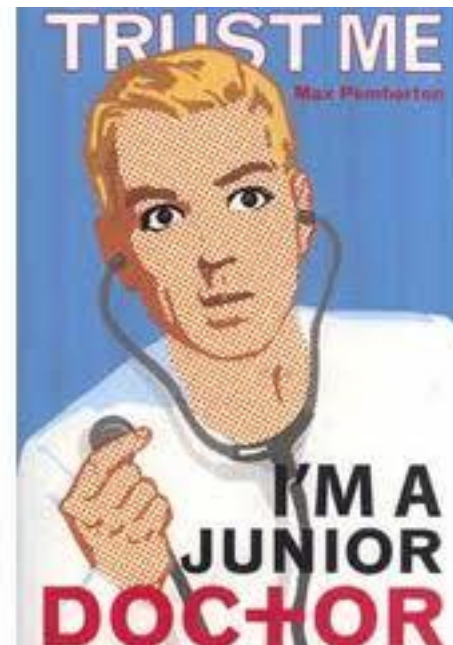
The sociable oncologist

- ▣ Drug availability
- ▣ Safety of unit
- ▣ Equipment availability
- ▣ Dealing with complications of treatment
- ▣ Patient follow-up and compliance



Legal Challenges

- Trust me,I am a doctor



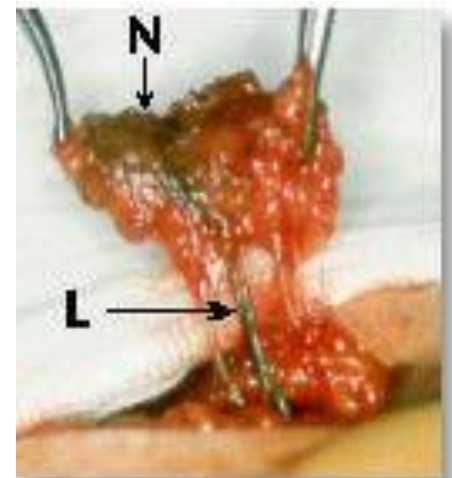
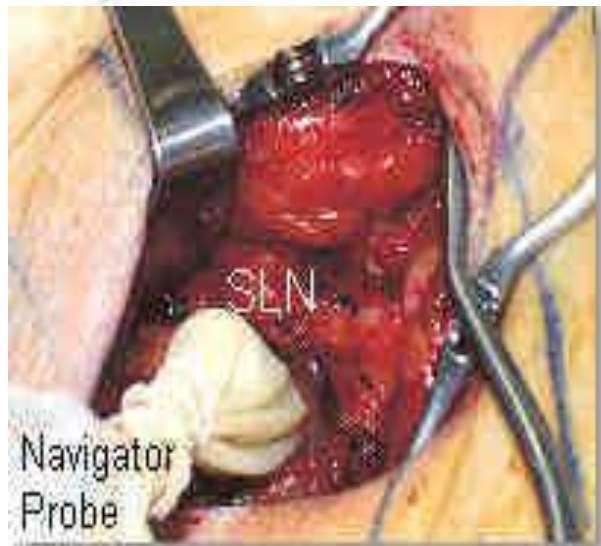
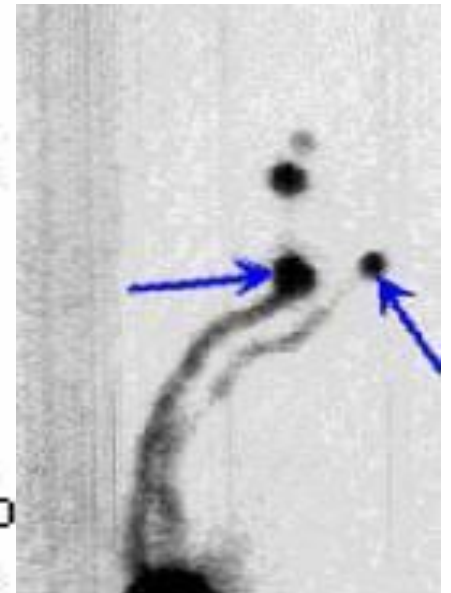
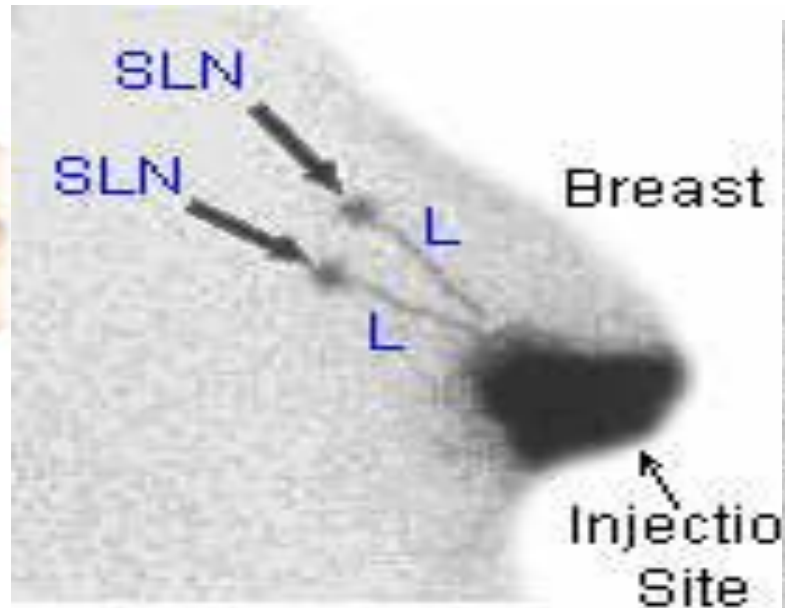
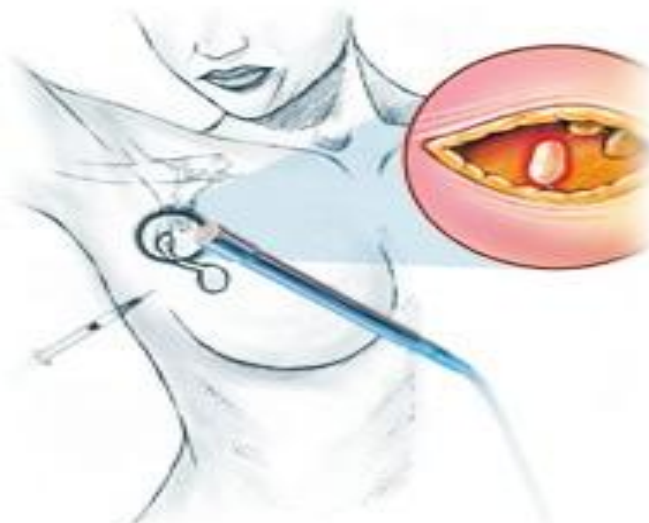
Legal Solutions



There is no problem that does not
have a solution



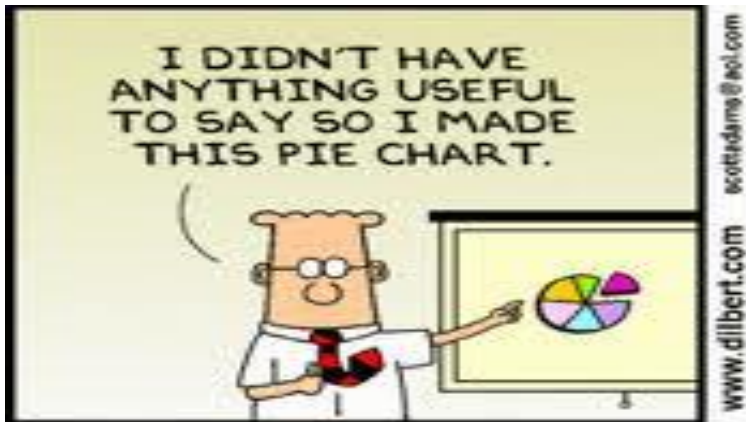
Minimal Surgery



Informing Patients



Communication



Patient Support staff and Onco-psychology

- ▣ Regular support (advice, counseling, psychological help) is given by Breast Care Nurses in some countries or by professionally trained persons with expertise in psychology.
- ▣ These persons must be members of the core team. They must be available to counsel and offer practical advice and emotional support to newly diagnosed patients at the time the diagnosis is given, to aid in explaining treatment plans.



"The ad said you're looking for support staff.
Could you be more specific?"



Outreach Education

Outreach clinics for symptomatic referred women, screening assessment and follow-up, in the smaller hospitals in the neighbourhood



Standards of Care

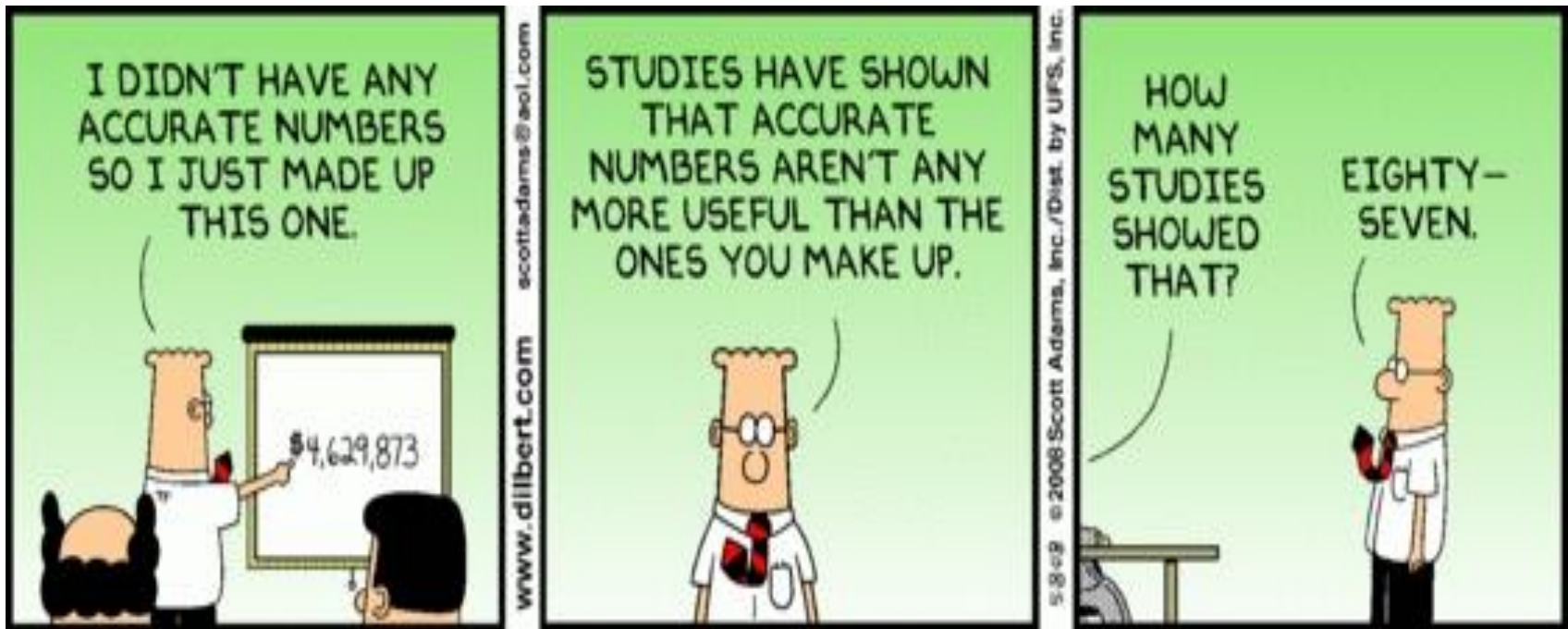
- **Unit protocols are dynamic**
- **Pre-anaesthetic clinics**
- **Assessment of complications around treatment**
- **Patient satisfaction**



Leaving no margin for error



A word of caution



Audit

A data manager must enter data on diagnosis, treatment, pathology and clinical outcomes.



The day Jack discovered that Uncle Sam was really his Big Brother.



Fig. 6: The Scrum

The scrum is a pushing contest between two teams of eight players. The ball is fed in from the side by the scrumhalf and the team that drives their opponent backwards and hooks the ball out past the last foot of their own scrum wins possession. A scrum down is used to restart play after certain infractions such as a “knock on” or a forward pass.

.... What are we waiting for..... Let's work together to ensure better patient care





