

Post mastectomy electron  
beam chest wall irradiation in  
women with breast cancer

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Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group Overview  
*Lancet, 2005, 366:2087*

23 500 women included in trials comparing radiotherapy vs none following surgery

Information sought for each individual patient

Regular 5-year update of outcome

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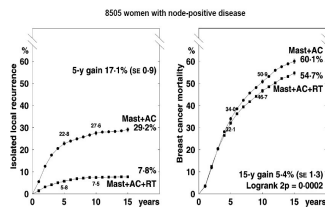
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EBCTCG. Post-mastectomy RT

Mastectomy + Axillary clearance

25 trials  
9933 women

The updated meta-analysis showed  
that post mastectomy radiotherapy  
regimens produced moderate but  
definite reductions not only in 15-  
year breast cancer mortality but also  
in 15-year overall mortality.



Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG): Effects of radiotherapy and of differences in the extent of surgery for early breast cancer on local recurrence and 15-year survival: an overview of the randomized trials. *Lancet* 2005; 366: 2087-2106




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## Background

It is shown that the electron-beam radiotherapy of the chest wall decreases the cardiac and lung toxicity and it delivers homogeneous irradiation to the chest wall.

It was also already shown that using this technique, the loco-regional control, disease free survival and overall survival rates were similar compared to standard photon beam irradiation.

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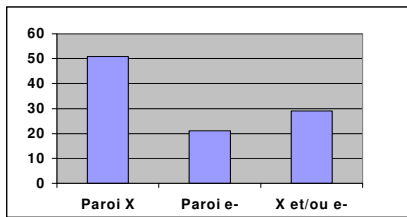
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## Irradiation of chest wall: current situation in France



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Fournier-Bidos N et al, SFRO 2007

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## Background

Electron-beam radiotherapy of the chest wall with or without lymph node irradiation has been used at the Institut Curie for twenty-five years.

### Postmastectomy electron-beam chest wall irradiation in women with breast cancer: early and late complications

Francis Compaon<sup>1</sup>, Amalia M. Kirou<sup>1</sup>, Stéphane Zorouidis<sup>1</sup>, Hassen Ali<sup>1</sup>, Nathalie Couratier<sup>1</sup>, Blandine Derrière<sup>1</sup>, George-Iatridis<sup>2</sup>, Marc Bellat<sup>1</sup>, George Kyriakos<sup>2</sup>, Demetrios Dimitrakis<sup>2</sup>, Alain Fourquet<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Institut Curie, Paris, France

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### Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to show the last improvements of our technique, it's use in difficult clinical cases and discuss the future directions.

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### Indications

**Lymph node positive tumors at initial presentation (for patients treated with neoadjuvant chemotherapy,**

**Tumors larger than 40 mm,**

**Clinically multiple tumors and**

**Vascular invasion in young patients**

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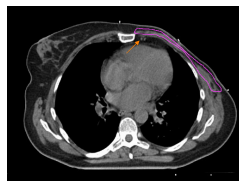
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### Treatment volumes and doses

The clinical target volume (CTV) of the chest wall included the breast bed and the mastectomy scar  
PTV = CTV with 1-2 cm margins.

IMC and supra clavicular areas are included in N+ cases or internal lesions.

The prescribed dose was is 50 Gy in 25 fractions to the chest wall and regional lymph nodes



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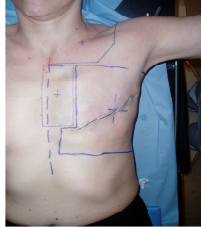
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**Treatment volumes and doses: « old » technique**

A mixed photon and electron beam in the IMC area was our technique of choice to avoid useless irradiation of the heart, with a ratio of about 20 Gy / 30 Gy between the photon dose and the electron dose.

The supra clavicular area was irradiated with photons.



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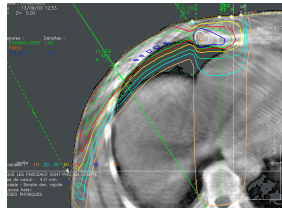
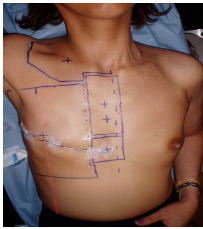
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**Treatment volumes and doses: « old » technique: technical problems**



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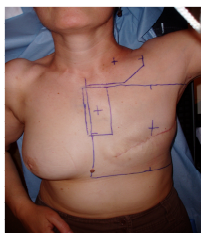
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**“New technique”, published in 2007, IJROBP**



•The chest wall and IMC volumes are now included into one unique field at a gantry angle of 20 to 30 degrees from the vertical.

\*During the simulation, the radiation oncologist determines the clinical volume of the chest wall to be irradiated and also delineates the IMC target volume

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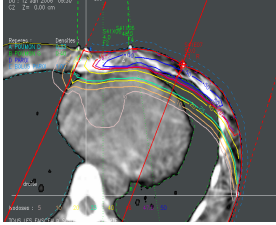
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## Dosimetry



\* The electrons energy is chosen so that the 47.5 Gy isodose is at the costal wall depth when a 5 mm bolus is in place

-To better spare the skin where the additional dose is delivered at the IMC, the boost field is delivered with photons (GMV).

-It is treated by fractions of 0.5 Gy (prescribed at Dmax), once or twice a week, depending on the complement dose to be delivered.

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Kirova et al, IJROBP, 2007



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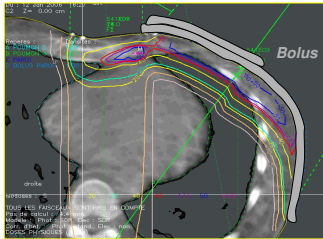
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## New technique, solutions in case of problems



-When the reference isodose (47.5 Gy) enters into the ipsilateral lung, a second layer of bolus of 0.5 cm is placed. The bolus is prepared by the dosimetrist.

-When two layers of bolus are needed to protect the lung, a beam's eye view showing the projection of the bolus layers limits helps for bolus confection.

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Kirova et al, IJROBP, 2007



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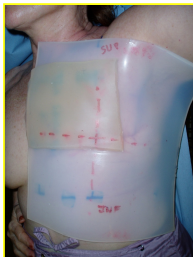
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The transversal and sagittal lasers positions are marked at the patient's skin and on each of the bolus layers to ensure a reproducible positioning at every fraction.

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Kirova et al, IJROBP, 2007



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If you need more information



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0958-8226/07/\$-see front matter

doi:10.1016/j.ijrobp.2007.05.007

**CLINICAL INVESTIGATION**

**Breast**

**POSTMASTECTOMY ELECTRON BEAM CHEST WALL IRRADIATION IN WOMEN WITH BREAST CANCER: A CLINICAL STEP TOWARD CONFORMAL ELECTRON THERAPY**

YOLIA M. KIROVA, M.D., FRANCIS CAMPANA, M.D., NATHALIE FOURNIER-BIDOZ, Ph.D., ANNE STILHART, RENE DENDALE, M.D., MARC A. BOLLET, M.D., AND ALAIN FOURQUET, M.D.

Department of Radiation Oncology, Institut Curie, Paris, France

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**Conclusions**

**This new technique is an improvement in the standard post mastectomy electron beam technique of chest wall irradiation.**

**It provides better target homogeneity and conformality compared with the "old" technique**

**...but there are still difficult cases...**

**some examples...**

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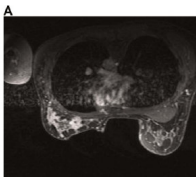
**Clinical case,**

**Caussa et al, 2009, Radiother Oncol**

Forty-three years old woman diagnosed with T3N1M0 left breast lesion has been seen in a multidisciplinary meeting at the Institut Curie. The biopsy showed invasive ductal carcinoma, Estrogen ER grade II, low mitotic activity, positive Oestrogen Receptor status (OR+), negative HER-2 status. The fine needle aspiration biopsy confirmed the axillary lymph node involvement. The initial magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showed a complete absence of the pectoralis major muscle and a less developed pectoralis minor

Poland syndrome, breast cancer: The importance of the radiotherapy technique after mastectomy

Initial MRI



CT scan in treatment position

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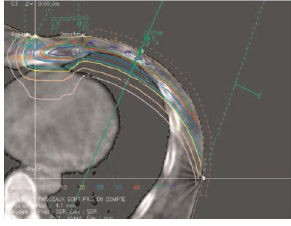
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**Clinical case, conclusions**  
*Causa et al, 2009, Radiother Oncol*

Poland syndrome, breast cancer: The importance of the radiotherapy technique after mastectomy


Electron-beam radiotherapy of the chest wall with lymph node irradiation using the presented technique seems well adapted and safe for this rare population of patients.

**But also for all patients with thin chest wall**



Dosimetry

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**Immediate breast reconstruction when postmastectomy radiotherapy is indicated should be done with caution**




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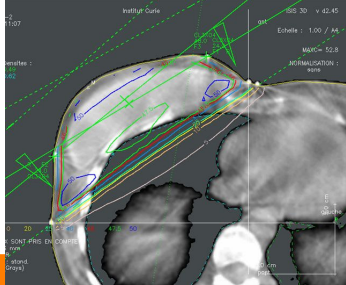
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**The impact of immediate breast reconstruction on the technical delivery of post mastectomy RT: the problem for the radiation oncologist?**




**\*Chest wall coverage: heterogeneity**

**\*Treatment of ipsilateral internal mammary chain (IMC): hot and cold spots**

**\*Minimization of lung and avoidance of heart: difficult**

**Timing of RT: the delay of starting RT may reduce the probability of local control and decrease the survival**




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**Capsular contracture following IBR with implant and RT**

	IBR No.	IBR + RT No.	RT Protocol	CC %		Re-operation %	Med. F/U (mths)
				no RT	with RT		
Marseilles 2003,2010	69	47	50Gy/25f	0	17	11	25
New York 2004, 2010	143	68	50Gy/25f	40	68	1.2	34
Stockholm 2006	107	24	46Gy/23	15	42	15	60
London 2006	136	44	50Gy/25f	14	39	9	48
Bristol 2008	53	18	50gy/25f	11	39	22.2	33
Cambridge 2009	120	42	40Gy/15f	0	19	19.5	50




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**Postmastectomy irradiation with immediate breast reconstruction is often a technical problem**

- Chest wall coverage and heterogeneities
- Combination with regional nodes irradiation
- Lung and heart avoidance
- Delay in initiation of radiotherapy




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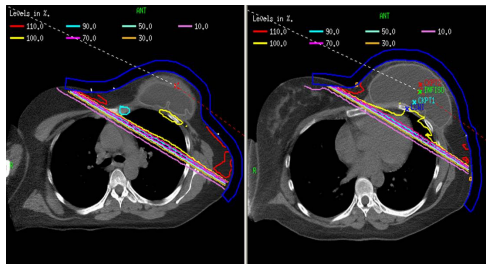
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**Post-Mastectomy IMRT and breast reconstruction**  
Koutcher L et al. ASTRO 2007




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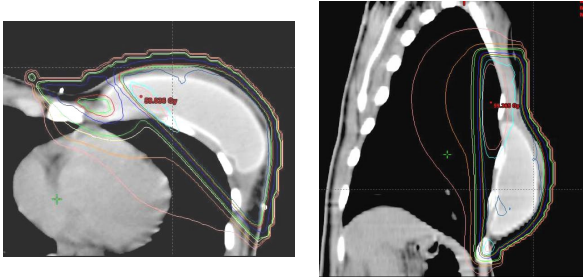
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Dosimetry of chest wall and IMN irradiations



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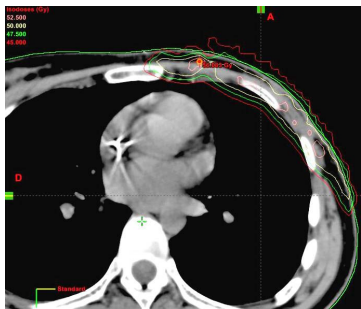
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Chest wall and IMN irradiation without IBR



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Radiotherapy after mastectomy and implant breast reconstruction

ARTICLE IN PRESS

Medical Dosimetry xx (2012) xxx



Medical Dosimetry

Journal homepage: [www.meddos.org](http://www.meddos.org)



Implant breast reconstruction followed by radiotherapy: Can helical tomotherapy become a standard irradiation treatment?

Carole Massabeau, M.D., Nathalie Fournier-Bidoz, Ph.D., Georges Wakil, M.D., Pablo Castro Pena, M.D., Romain Viard, Ph.D., Sofia Zefkili, Ph.D., Fabien Reyat, M.D., François Campana, M.D., Alain Fourquet, M.D., and Youlia M. Kirova, M.D.

Department of Radiation Oncology, Institut Curie, Paris, France

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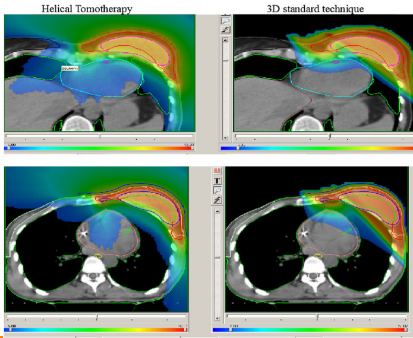
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**Clinical case**

42 yrs old lady with pT1m  
pN2a M0 IDC grade III after  
mastectomy and immediate  
breast reconstruction.

Treatment: chemotherapy,  
followed by chest wall, IMN  
and supra and infra  
clavicular RT

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