Treatment of BREAST TUMORS

ROBERT S. POLLACK

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CONTENTS

Chapter			PAGE
1. Introduction	×	¥ ¥	11
2. Pathologic Classification of Breast Tumors		* *	12
3. Benign Tumors of the Breast			18
Chronic Cystic Mastitis			19
a refer to the second of the s			21
Medical Treatment of Chronic Cystic Mastitis			27
Chronic Cystic Mastitis and Cancer			30
Papillomas of the Duct			33
Surgical Technique of Resection of			
Papillomas of the Duct			35
Fibroadenomas	-		41
Cystosarcoma Phyllodes			42
Miscellaneous Tumors			46
Lipomas			46
Fat Necrosis			46
Accessory Mammary Tissue			46
* *			
4. Gynecomastia			47
Surgical Technique of Treating Gynecomastia		ş - ¥	48
5. Spontaneous Abscesses and Draining Sinuses			53
Surgical Technique of Treating Draining Sinuses		× ×	53
Surgical Technique of Treating Draining Smuses			00
6. Breast Cancer			58
Diagnosis			59
Operability			59
Lymphatic Drainage of the Breast			61
Choice of Operation			62
Surgical Techniques of Simple, Modified, and			-
Radical Mastectomy			65
Postoperative Care and Complications			78
2 stoperative oute and completations			
		(9)	

10 Contents

Chapter							PAGE
Postoperative X-ray Therapy	9			v		100	79
Adjunctive Procedures							80
Arm Lymphedema			•				81
Postoperative Pregnancy							82
The Opposite Breast	4	4	à	8	4	0.0	83
Treatment of Recurrences		Ÿ	y.	ž	-	*	84
Cancer of the Male Breast						181	85
7. Results of Surgery and Effect of Special Factors	on I	Resu	ılts			(10)	88
8. Extended Radical Mastectomy .					2	140	94
Surgical Technique							96
9. Radiotherapy of Breast Cancer Physical Considerations of Radiation Relevant				÷		:X:	102
to Breast Cancer Biological Considerations of Irradiation		٠			÷	T P	102
of Breast Cancer		3		¥	ě	×	103
The Regional Spread of Breast Cancer							106
Treatment of Breast Cancer with Irradiation					e		108
Palliation of Breast Cancer by Irradiation	-4			-		100	116
10. Treatment of Metastatic Breast Cancer by Oophorectomy, Hormones and Chemotherap	У .				E	N.	122
11 Advanslantamy and Matastatic Preset Conser							129
11. Adrenalectomy and Metastatic Breast Cancer Pre- and Postoperative Management							131
Surgical Technique of Adrenalectomy							132
12. Hypophysectomy and Metastatic Breast Cance Hormonal Management of the Patient Lindowsing Surgical Hypophysectomy						*1	139 140
Undergoing Surgical Hypophysectomy	30				×		140

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Pathologic Classification of Breast Tumors

Medical Treatment of Chronic Cystic Mastitis

Hypophysectomy

Trans-sphenoidal Hypophysectomy

Oral and Parenteral Hormones

Radiotherapy of Breast Cancer

Results of Surgery and Effect of Special Factors on Results

Extended Radical Mastectomy

PREFACE

It is hoped that this book will bring together many loose ends regarding the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer. For such a large topic brevity and conciseness, which have been major aims, were hard to maintain, yet have been accomplished. The practicing physician today is faced with a plethora of information regarding breast cancer. He may even feel that despite his most conscientious efforts his program of therapy lacks something, is old fashioned or unnecessary*.

The general nature of breast cancer itself tends to enhance this feeling. Certainly it is a disease which occupies a keystone position in the hormone dependent group of cancers. It also is responsive to irradiation therapy. Its method of operative treatment represents a major tenet of cancer surgery. In addition to all this, newer concepts of hormone physiology, radiation therapy and surgical techniques have added to the complexity of treatment.

It is the purpose of this book to broaden our knowledge of breast cancer first by presenting a brief classification of breast tumors, and then discussing the diagnosis, treatment and complications of both benign and malignant breast tumors in the light of histology and newer concepts of therapy. Special sections on radiotherapy, results of treatment, the extended radical mastectomy, and treatment by hormone alteration follow to complete the picture without omission of the main theme, to renew, yet reaffirm the practicing physician's basic knowledge and methods.

To my close friends and colleagues, who have added so much to this book by their collaboration, I offer my thanks. I wish also to express my gratitude to the members of the Tumor Boards of the Stanford University Hospital, San Francisco, California and of the Veterans' Administration Hospital and the U.S. Naval Hospital, Oakland, California, whose constant presentation of cases and discussions.

[°]Crile, G., Jr.: Cancer of the Breast: The Surgeon's Dilemma, Cleveland Clinic Quarterly, 23, 179, 1956.

8 Preface

sions added so much to my own knowledge and experience; and to Grant Levin, M.D., neurosurgeon, for his suggestions regarding the chapter on hypophysectomy.

Indeed, I would be greatly remiss if I were not to thank Miss Kay Hyde whose painstaking drawings have added inestimable value and interest to this book; my secretary, Mrs. Ernestine Stotler, for her cheerful labors in expertly typing and retyping the manuscript; and finally, the publishers, Lea & Febiger, for their help and cooperation.

ROBERT S. POLLACK, M.D.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONTENTS

Снартег							PAGE
1. Introduction			(v)	¥	,	¥	11
2. Pathologic Classification of Breast Tumors	e	ps:	14.5	*1			12
3. Benign Tumors of the Breast	è	No.			,		18
Chronic Cystic Mastitis							19
Surgical Technique of Excisional Biopsy .							21
Medical Treatment of Chronic Cystic Mastitis							27
Chronic Cystic Mastitis and Cancer						-	30
Papillomas of the Duct							33
Surgical Technique of Resection of							
Papillomas of the Duct							35
Fibroadenomas							41
Cystosarcoma Phyllodes			4		*		42
Miscellaneous Tumors							46
Lipomas			AL.				46
***						•	46
Accessory Mammary Tissue							46
recessory maintary rissue		141			*	•	10
4. Gynecomastia		w.					47
Surgical Technique of Treating Gynecomastia							48
5. Spontaneous Abscesses and Draining Sinuses				ik;	*	*	53
Surgical Technique of Treating Draining Sinuses	3			\mathbf{y}^{*}		ē	53
6. Breast Cancer		÷			×	*	58
Diagnosis		(m)		•	,	8	59
Operability		4.			*		59
Lymphatic Drainage of the Breast			¥	41	u.	£	61
Choice of Operation	si.	9	ž	ä	*	×	62
Surgical Techniques of Simple, Modified, and							-
Radical Mastectomy		-		*			65
Postoperative Care and Complications		4	*			×	78
					(9)	

10 Contents

Chapter							PAGE
Postoperative X-ray Therapy	Ŷ	į.	ž.	¥	E	30	79
Adjunctive Procedures							80
Arm Lymphedema			•				81
Postoperative Pregnancy							82
The Opposite Breast	è		à	×	4		83
Treatment of Recurrences							84
Cancer of the Male Breast	3					181	85
7. Results of Surgery and Effect of Special Factors of	n B	lest	ılts			000	88
8. Extended Radical Mastectomy .		į.			4	160	94
Surgical Technique							96
9. Radiotherapy of Breast Cancer Physical Considerations of Radiation Relevant						96	102
to Breast Cancer Biological Considerations of Irradiation	÷	÷			÷	TVI	102
of Breast Cancer				v			103
The Regional Spread of Breast Cancer							106
Treatment of Breast Cancer with Irradiation							108
Palliation of Breast Cancer by Irradiation							116
10. Treatment of Metastatic Breast Cancer by Oophorectomy, Hormones and Chemotherapy			_		E		122
11. Adrenalectomy and Metastatic Breast Cancer							129
							131
Pre- and Postoperative Management							132
12. Hypophysectomy and Metastatic Breast Cancer Hormonal Management of the Patient	35		•	.9		+1	139
Undergoing Surgical Hypophysectomy	9				~		140

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

Without resorting to published statistics it is apparent that tumors of the breast occur frequently enough to occupy a significant place in the practicing physician's daily work be he internist, surgeon or general practitioner. Adding to deep, psychological fears any breast lump will cause in the mind of the average woman, current lay educational trends create concern and anxiety. Because of this the patient rushes to her doctor, expecting not only reassurance, but also action on the part of her physician which will restore her to health. Unfortunately, the perplexities of breast tumors, and especially cancer, often preclude a wholly confident approach on the part of the physician. Yet there are procedures and methods which through years of experience have proved generally to be reliable, and are recommended as the measures to take.

No treatment can begin without a specific diagnosis and since a lump in the breast may be one of many types, the primary step is biopsy. Although statistically, the chances of such a lump, in the average middle-aged woman, being malignant are less than its being benign, histologic verification must be obtained. On the other hand, indiscriminate biopsy of every lump should be avoided. The art and science of physical diagnosis is still to be pursued.

Once diagnosis is established methodology becomes all important, as a successful outcome may very well depend on the techniques applied. Following the initial definitive surgery there will be other considerations, such as x-ray therapy, oophorectomy, pregnancy, and management of the opposite breast, all of which must then be weighed in the light of the circumstances and conditions at hand. In breast cancer there are many factors which influence the ultimate result. One, therefore, considers the patient as a whole in addition to the specific organ involved.

During the life cycle or natural history of a patient with breast cancer it may become apparent that despite initial therapy the patient is doomed and the result, from the standpoint of cure, a failure. Even then there are steps to take which will increase longevity in comfort and reduce pain and morbidity. This later stage of breast cancer may be called the "physiologically therapeutic," in contradistinction to the initial or early stage which is called the "anatomically therapeutic." Since the overall purpose of the practicing physician is to cure and alleviate, each of these stages is considered of equal importance.

Chapter 2

PATHOLOGIC CLASSIFICATION OF BREAST TUMORS

The following classification of tumors of the breast includes the great majority encountered in daily practice.

- I. Breast Tumors
 - A. Benign
 - 1. Encapsulated
 - a) Solid
 - 1) Fibroadenoma
 - 2) Periductal fibroma
 - b) Cystic (pseudo-encapsulated)
 - Simple cyst—single or multiple
 - Benign papillomatous cyst
 - 2. Non-encapsulated
 - a) Intraductal papilloma
 - b) Cystadenoma
 - c) Granular cell myoblastoma
 - B. Malignant
 - 1. Ductal origin
 - a) Malignant intraductal papillary carcinoma
 - b) Malignant intracystic papillary carcinoma
 - c) Carcinoma—ductal type including comedocarcinoma
 - 1) Malignant extension to nipple—Paget's disease

- 2. Glandular origin
 - a) Lobular carcinoma in situ
 - b) Carcinoma—scirrhous, papillary, medullary, colloid or mucoid
- 3. Mesenchymal tumors
 - a) Lobular carcinoma in situ
 - 1) Benign form
 - Malignant form—sarcoma or carcinoma
 - b) Lymphosarcoma
 - c) Sarcoma
- II. Hypertrophies and related conditions
 - A. Focal interstitial fibrosis
 - 1. With glandular hyperplasia
 - 2. With ductal ectasia (comedo-mastitis)
 - B. Focal glandular hyperplasia
 - C. Gynecomastia
- III. Inflammations
 - A. Acute
 - 1. Diffuse
 - 2. Focal
 - B. Chronic
 - C. Fat necrosis
- IV. Anomalies

(12)