

13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on

# Surgical Pathology & Practice

March 27-28, 2017 Madrid, Spain

## Modification of transverse skin incision: An idea to decrease seroma after mastectomy for breast cancer

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**Background:** Seroma after mastectomy represents annoying problem for the surgeon & the patient; it may delay adjuvant therapy, also is associated with prolonged recovery period and multiple physician visits; moreover it may lead to significant morbidity. Despite there are many methods for dealing with this seroma; it remains in question.

**Purposes:** The aim of this study was to assess the importance of making the lateral part of transverse skin incision for mastectomy; vertical along the anterior axillary fold; for decreasing post mastectomy seroma in cancer breast.

**Patients & Methods:** The study included 100 female patients; 11 (11%) < 40 years, 66 (66%) between 40-50 years and 23 (23%) above 50 years. All patients underwent clinical evaluation, laboratory assessment, U/S & soft tissue mammography examination and tissue biopsy. All patients undergoing modified radical mastectomy during which the cases were divided into two groups (Group A) with transverse skin incision crossing the anterior axillary fold & (Group B) with modification of transverse skin incision (making its lateral part; vertical along the anterior axillary fold).

**Results:** The outcome revealed decreased seroma formation in group B with transverse skin incision with vertical lateral part along the anterior axillary fold to a great extent (P value < 0.01).

**Conclusions:** Transverse skin incision with vertical lateral part along the anterior axillary fold combat seroma formation and so this modification; not only it decreases morbidity and recovery period but also; it allows early adjuvant therapy.

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