Mastectomy and Immediate Breast Reconstruction with Pre-Pectoral or Sub-Pectoral Implant: Assessing Clinical Practice, Post-Surgical Outcomes, Patient’s Satisfaction and Cost

Gilles Houvenaeghel¹, Monique Cohen², Laura Sabiani², Aurore Van Troy², Olivia Quilichini², Axelle Charavil², Max Buttarelli², Sandrine Rua², Agnès Tallet¹, Alexandre de Nonneville⁴, Marie Bannier²

Abstract

Immediate breast reconstruction (IBR) rates increase during last years and implant-based reconstruction was the most commonly performed procedure. We examined data collected over 25 months to assess complication rate, duration of surgery, patient’s satisfaction and cost, according to pre-pectoral or sub-pectoral implant-IBR.

All patients who received an implant-IBR, from January 2020 to January 2022, were included. Results were compared between pre-pectoral and sub-pectoral implant-IBR in univariate and multivariate analysis.

We performed 316 implant-IBR, 218 sub-pectoral and 98 (31%) pre-pectoral. Pre-pectoral implant-IBR was significantly associated with the year (2021: OR=12.08 and 2022: OR=76.6), the surgeons and type of mastectomy (SSM vs NSM: OR=0.377).

Complications and complications Grade 2-3 rates were 12.9% and 10.1% for sub-pectoral implant-IBR respectively, without significant difference with pre-pectoral implant-IBR: 17.3% and 13.2%. Complications Grade 2-3 were significantly associated with age <50-years (OR=2.27), ASA-2 status (OR=3.63) and cup-size >C (OR=3.08), without difference between pre and sub-pectoral implant-IBR. Durations of surgery were significantly associated with cup-size C and >C (OR=1.72 and 2.80), with sentinel lymph-node biopsy and axillary dissection (OR=3.66 and 9.59) and with sub-pectoral implant-IBR (OR=2.088). Median hospitalization stay was 1 day, without difference between pre and sub-pectoral implant-IBR. Cost of surgery was significantly associated with cup-size > C (OR=2.216) and pre-pectoral implant-IBR (OR=8.02). Bad-medium satisfaction and IBR-failure were significantly associated with local recurrence (OR=8.820), post-mastectomy radiotherapy (OR=1.904) and sub-pectoral implant-IBR (OR=2.098).

Conclusion: Complications were not different between pre and sub-pectoral implant-IBR. Pre-pectoral implant-IBR seems a reliable and faster technique with better patient satisfaction but with higher cost.

Keywords: Breast cancer; Clinical practice; reconstruction; pre-pectoral implant; post-surgical outcome

Abbreviations:
BC: breast cancer
IBR: immediate breast reconstruction

Affiliation:
¹Aix-Marseille University, CNRS (National Center of Scientific Research), INSERM (National Institute of Health and Medical Research), Paoli-Calmettes Institute, Department of Surgical Oncology, CRCM (Research Cancer Centre of Marseille), 13009 Marseille, France
²Paoli-Calmettes Institute, Department of Surgical Oncology, CRCM (Research Cancer Centre of Marseille), 13009 Marseille, France
³Paoli-Calmettes Institute, Department of Radiotherapy, CRCM (Research Cancer Centre of Marseille), 13009 Marseille, France
⁴Aix-Marseille University, CNRS (National Center of Scientific Research), INSERM (National Institute of Health and Medical Research), Paoli-Calmettes Institute, Department of Medical Oncology, CRCM (Research Cancer Centre of Marseille), 13009 Marseille, France

*Corresponding author:
Gilles Houvenaeghel, Aix-Marseille University, CNRS (National Center of Scientific Research), INSERM (National Institute of Health and Medical Research), Paoli-Calmettes Institute, Department of Surgical Oncology, CRCM (Research Cancer Centre of Marseille), 13009 Marseille, France

Citation: Gilles Houvenaeghel, Monique Cohen, Laura Sabiani, Aurore Van Troy, Olivia Quilichini, Axelle Charavil, Max Buttarelli, Sandrine Rua, Agnès Tallet, Alexandre de Nonneville, Marie Bannier. Mastectomy and Immediate Breast Reconstruction with Pre-Pectoral or Sub-Pectoral Implant: Assessing Clinical Practice, Post-Surgical Outcomes, Patient’s Satisfaction and Cost. Journal of Surgery and Research 5 (2022): 500-510.

Received: August 18, 2022
Accepted: August 25, 2022
Published: September 09, 2022
NSM: Nipple sparing mastectomy
SSM: Skin sparing mastectomy
BMI: Body mass index
ASA: American Society of Anesthesiologists
LPOS: Length of postoperative stay
OR: odds ratio
95% CI: 95% confidence interval
NAC: neoadjuvant chemotherapy
RTH: Radiotherapy
PMRT: Post mastectomy radiotherapy
N-RTH: Neo-adjuvant radiotherapy
SLNB: sentinel lymph node biopsy
ALND: axillary lymph node dissection

Introduction

Total mastectomies for breast cancer (BC) are still indicated for 12 to 30% of patients and up to 40% [1-5]. It was 12.2% in a large French cohort of invasive BC and mastectomy rate increased according to four successive periods from 6.1% to 23.2% [6]. For risk reducing mastectomy, unilateral or bilateral mastectomies are indicated for BRCA mutations and for patients without BRCA mutation with estimated-risk of BC up to 25%. Immediate breast reconstruction (IBR) rates increase during the last years [7] in order to improve quality of life [8] and implant-based reconstruction was the most commonly performed procedure [9-11]. In our center, among 2112 mastectomies performed between January 2016 and July 2020, IBR-rate was 40.5%: 35.4% (618/1748) for primary BC, 47.9% (105/219) for local recurrence and 91% (132/145) for prophylactic mastectomies. Several new procedures have been developed, as robotic procedures [12-15], pre-pectoral implant-IBR with or without synthetic or acellular dermal matrix [7,16-21]. However, it was reported that use of meshes significantly increases the cost of surgery [16]. Moreover, in recent year’s nipple sparing mastectomy (NSM) is more and more frequently performed for prophylactic mastectomies [17], for local recurrence [18] and for primary BC [19,20]. Generally, the NSM studies reported better aesthetic results than skin-sparing mastectomy (SSM) and better quality of life [22-24]. NSM with IBR is consider today as a valid procedure for prophylactic mastectomy [17,25-28] and an acceptable option for BC therapeutic mastectomy [29-31]. Complication rates varies between 5% and 61% in literature [32]. This wide difference in complications rates is explained by the difficulty of comparing the results of different studies due to the large disparities in IBR rates and techniques, the complications reported, the indications for mastectomies and the monitoring time. However, increased body mass index (BMI) and smoking were reported factors to increase the risk of complications as well as previous radiotherapy and operative time [21]. In this study, we report our experience at the Paoli Calmettes Institute, by analyzing the data collected over 25 months from January 2020 to January 2022 to assess clinical practice, complication rate, duration of surgery, patient’s satisfaction and cost, according to pre-pectoral or sub-pectoral implant-IBR.

Methods

All patients who received an implant-IBR, from January 2020 to January 2022, were included, regardless of the indication for mastectomy from institutional database (study: M-IBR-PPRP-IPC 2022-014). The main characteristics were collected prospectively: year of IBR, use of matrix, type of mastectomy (NSM, SSM, or standard) and indication, associated axillary procedure, neo-adjuvant chemotherapy, age, duration of surgery, mastectomy weight, implant size, history of radiotherapy, ASA status (American Society of Anesthesiologists), smoking status, BMI and surgeon. Analyses were realized on all mastectomies, including two mastectomies for patients with bilateral procedures. Duration of anesthesia for bilateral mastectomies were halved. These criteria were compared between the two pre-pectoral and sub-pectoral prosthesis groups in univariate analysis and logistic regression. The following were analyzed: factors associated with the indication of IBR type, complications appeared in 90 days following the operation and grade 2-3 complications (Clavien Dindo classification), duration of surgery, and type of incision. The operative time was recorded from skin incision to skin closure. The choice between the two techniques was made by the surgeon and the matrices used were resorbable synthetic mesh TIGR Matrix® (Novus Scientific, Upplandsväsby, Sweden). The length of postoperative stay (LPOS) was reported from the surgery day to the discharge day from hospital. A loco regional anesthesia with pectoral block was systematically perform. Costs of initial procedures were evaluated with costs addition of implant (400 Euros), number of hospitalization days (1495.69 Euros per day), duration of anesthesia (402.54 Euros per hour) and matrix TIGR (1390 Euros for 20x30 centimeters). Patient’s satisfaction were evaluated as bad, medium, good and very good for patients without re-operation with implant loss for complication.

Statistics

Quantitative criteria were analyze with median, mean, 95% CI. Comparisons were determined using the Chi-2 test for qualitative criteria and t-test for quantitative criteria. Factors significantly associated with criteria analyzed were determine by a binary logistic regression adjusted for all significant variables identified by the univariate analysis. An odds ratio (OR) with a 95% confidence interval (95% CI) was used as an effective measure. Statistical significance was assessed at p < 0.05. Analyses were perform with SPSS version 16.0 (SPSS Inc., Chicago, Illinois).
Results

Population

During the 25-month period, 316 implant-IBR, 218 IBR by sub-pectoral prosthesis and 98 (31%) IBR by pre-pectoral prosthesis (85 times associated with a matrix: 97.7%) were performed. Forty height bilateral mastectomies were performed in 24 patients: 17 for primary BC and 31 prophylactic (64.6%). During the same period, 904 mastectomies were performed, including 348 IBR (38.5%): 316 implant-IBR, 20 expander first IBR, 12 latissimus dorsi-flap IBR.

Pre or sub pectoral implant-IBR

Characteristics of patients according to pre or sub pectoral implant-IBR are reported in table 1. Bilateral mastectomy was performed in 48 patients: 29 in sub-pectoral group and 19 in pre-pectoral group. In univariate analysis, pre-pectoral implant IBR was significantly associated with years, NSM, axillary surgery type, neo-adjuvant chemotherapy, surgeon and age. There was no significant difference for mastectomy weight, histology, indication of mastectomy, breast size, smokers, ASA status, previous homo-lateral breast surgery, radiotherapy.

Pre or sub pectoral implant-IBR rates according to year of surgery and surgeons are reported in table 2. A great increase of pre-pectoral implant-IBR rate was observed for the four surgeons who realized pre-pectoral implant-IBR.

An IBR by pre-pectoral prosthesis was significantly associated with the year (2021: OR=12.08 and 2022: OR=76.6), the surgeons and the type of mastectomy (SSM vs NSM: OR=0.377) (Table 3).

Incisions used for NSM were localized in breast inferior fold in the majority of patients (91%: 61/67) (Table 4).

Complications

Complication rates and complications Grade 2-3 rates were 12.9% (28/217) and 10.1% (22/217) for sub-pectoral implant-IBR respectively, without significant difference with pre-pectoral implant-IBR: 17.3% (17/98) and 13.2% (13/98), respectively (Table 5).

Complication type according to pre or sub-pectoral implant-IBR are reported in table 6, there was no significant difference (p=0.301). Implanted loss rates were not significantly different: 6.40% and 9.20% for retro and pre-pectoral implant-IBR, respectively.

In multivariate analysis, complications were significantly associated with age <50 years (OR=2.0) and complications Grade 2-3 were significantly associated with age <50 years (OR=2.27) and ASA 2 status (OR=3.63) and breast cup-size >C (OR=3.08), without difference between pre and sub pectoral implant-IBR (Table 7).

Abbreviations: NSM, nipple sparing mastectomy; SSM, skin sparing mastectomy; ASA, American Society of Anesthesiologists; BMI, body mass index; RTH, radiotherapy.

Duration of surgery

Median duration of surgery was 90.5 minutes (mean 97.1, C195% 93.7-100.5), significantly higher for sub-pectoral implant-IBR in comparison with pre-pectoral implant-IBR: 100 minutes versus 80 minutes, p<0.0001. In multivariate analysis, medians duration of surgery higher than median value were significantly associated with breast cup size C and >C (OR=1.72 and 2.80, respectively), with sentinel lymph node biopsy and axillary lymph node dissection (OR=3.66 and 9.59, respectively), and with sub-pectoral implant-IBR (OR=2.088) in comparison with pre-pectoral implant-IBR (Table 8).

Length of postoperative stay (LPOS)

Median LPOS was 1 day (mean: 1.47, SE: 0.042, C195%: 1.39-1.55, range: 1-5), without significant difference between pre and sub pectoral implant-IBR (p=0.090, mean: 1.39 and 1.51 respectively). A significant difference was observed between implant size <= versus > 300gr (p=0.001): mean, 1.42 versus 1.97 days, respectively.

Adjuvant therapy

Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy (NAC) was delivered in 46 patients: for 23 patients among 136 patients with invasive BC (16.9%) in sub-pectoral implant-IBR group and for 23 patients among 71 patients with invasive BC (32.4%) in pre-pectoral implant-IBR group. Adjuvant chemotherapy was delivered in 59 patients among 150 patients with invasive BC without NAC (39.3%): for 39 patients among 112 patients with invasive BC without NAC (34.8%) in sub-pectoral implant-IBR group and for 20 patients among 48 patients with invasive BC without NAC (41.7%) in pre-pectoral implant-IBR group (Table 1). Post mastectomy radiotherapy (PMRT) was delivered in 61 patients among 194 patients with invasive BC without previous radiotherapy (31.4%): for 40 patients among 123 patients with invasive BC without previous radiotherapy (32.5%) in sub-pectoral implant-IBR group and for 21 patients among 71 patients with invasive BC without previous radiotherapy (29.6%) in pre-pectoral implant-IBR group.

Cost evaluation

Initial surgery cost: Median cost for all patients was 3981.8 Euros (mean 3949.1, C195% 3813-4085): 3174 (3668, 3514-3821) for sub-pectoral implant-IBR and 4228 (4575, 4341-4809) for pre-pectoral implant-IBR (p<0.0001) with a median difference of 1054 Euros between two groups. In multivariate analysis, cost of surgery higher than median value was significantly associated with breast cup-size > C (OR=2.216, C195% 1.04-4.71, p=0.039) and pre-pectoral implant-IBR (OR=8.02, C195 4.43-14.55, p=0.0001). Axillary surgery and breast cup-size C were non-significant.
### Table 1: Characteristics of patients according to pre or sub pectoral implant-IBR

|                        | Sub Pectoral | Pre Pectoral | Chi² |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|------|
|                        | Nb | %     | Nb | %  | p    |
| Mesh                   |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 218| 69    | 98 | 31  | <0.0001 |
| Yes                    | 2  | 2.3   | 85 | 97.7|      |
| Years                  |    |       |    |     |      |
| 2020                   | 109| 94    | 7  | 6   | <0.0001 |
| 2021                   | 103| 57.9  | 75 | 42.1|      |
| 2022                   | 6  | 27.3  | 16 | 72.7|      |
| Mastectomy type        |    |       |    |     |      |
| NSM                    | 79 | 54.1  | 67 | 45.9| <0.0001 |
| SSM                    | 137| 81.5  | 31 | 18.5|      |
| Standard               | 2  | 100   | 0  | 0   |      |
| Axillary surgery       |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 83 | 61.5  | 52 | 38.5| 0.022 |
| SLNB                   | 116| 76.3  | 36 | 23.7|      |
| ALND                   | 18 | 64.3  | 10 | 35.7|      |
| NAC                    |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 194| 72.1  | 75 | 27.9| 0.005 |
| Yes                    | 23 | 50    | 23 | 50  |      |
| Adjuvant               |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 73 | 72.3  | 28 | 27.7| 0.4  |
| Yes                    | 39 | 66.1  | 20 | 33.9|      |
| Chemotherapy*          |    |       |    |     |      |
| Yes                    | 39 | 66.1  | 20 | 33.9| <0.0001 |
| Surges                 |    |       |    |     |      |
| 1                      | 18 | 32.1  | 38 | 67.9|      |
| 2                      | 32 | 100   | 0  | 0   |      |
| 3                      | 50 | 75.8  | 16 | 24.2|      |
| 4                      | 18 | 100   | 0  | 0   |      |
| 5                      | 44 | 52.4  | 40 | 47.6|      |
| 6                      | 20 | 83.3  | 4  | 16.7|      |
| 7                      | 29 | 100   | 0  | 0   |      |
| 8                      | 7  | 100   | 0  | 0   |      |
| Histology              |    |       |    |     |      |
| DCIS                   | 49 | 77.8  | 14 | 22.2| 0.196 |
| NST                    | 111| 67.3  | 54 | 32.7|      |
| Lobular                | 25 | 61    | 16 | 39  |      |
| Others                 | 0  | 0     | 1  | 100 |      |
| Beginin                | 32 | 71.1  | 13 | 28.9|      |
| Indication             |    |       |    |     |      |
| Primary                | 166| 69.7  | 72 | 30.3| 0.62 |
| Recurrence             | 19 | 61.3  | 12 | 38.7|      |
| Prophylactic           | 33 | 70.2  | 14 | 29.8|      |
| Cup-size               |    |       |    |     |      |
| A-B                    | 115| 68.5  | 53 | 31.5| 0.9  |
| C                      | 71 | 70.3  | 30 | 29.7|      |
| > C                    | 30 | 66.7  | 15 | 33.3|      |
| Radiotherapy           |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 162| 67.8  | 77 | 32.2| 0.098 |
| PMRT                   | 40 | 65.6  | 21 | 34.4|      |
| previous RTH           | 12 | 100   | 0  | 0   |      |
| NAC + N-RTH            | 1  | 100   | 0  | 0   |      |
| Previous homolateral   |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 137| 67.2  | 67 | 32.8| 0.368 |
| Yes                    | 80 | 72.1  | 31 | 27.9|      |
| Smoker                 |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 175| 68.4  | 81 | 31.6| 0.672 |
| Yes                    | 42 | 71.2  | 17 | 28.8|      |
| ASA-status             |    |       |    |     |      |
| 1                      | 102| 72.3  | 39 | 27.7| 0.39 |
| 2                      | 111| 65.7  | 58 | 34.3|      |
| 3                      | 4  | 80    | 1  | 20  |      |
| Bilateral              |    |       |    |     |      |
| No                     | 189| 70.5  | 79 | 29.5| 0.162 |
| Yes                    | 29 | 60.4  | 19 | 39.6|      |

*adjuvant chemotherapy for invasive breast cancer without neo-adjuvant chemotherapy

**Significant values:** in bold characters

**Abbreviations:** NSM, nipple sparing mastectomy; SSM, skin sparing mastectomy; SLNB, sentinel lymph node biopsy; ALND, axillary lymph node dissection; ASA, American Society of Anesthesiologists; BMI, body mass index; RTH, radiotherapy; BC, breast cancer; PMRT, post-mastectomy radiotherapy; NAC, neo-adjuvant chemotherapy; N-RTH, neo-adjuvant radiotherapy; DCIS, Ductal carcinoma in-situ; NST, Nonspecific tumor (ductal invasive)

**Citation:** Gilles Houvenaeghel, Monique Cohen, Laura Sabiani, Aurore Van Troy, Olivia Quilichini, Axelle Charavil, Max Buttarelli, Sandrine Rua, Agnès Tallet, Alexandre de Nonneville, Marie Bannier. Mastectomy and Immediate Breast Reconstruction with Pre-Pectoral or Sub-Pectoral Implant: Assessing Clinical Practice, Post-Surgical Outcomes, Patient’s Satisfaction and Cost. Journal of Surgery and Research 5 (2022): 500-510.
Table 2: Pre-pectoral implant-IBR according to surgeons and year of surgery.

| % Pre pectoral | Years | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|----------------|-------|------|------|------|
| Surgeon        |       | Nb   | %    | Nb   | %    | Nb   | %    |
| 1              | (1/14)| 7.1  | (33/38)| 86.8| (4/4) | 100  |
| 3              | (5/28)| 17.9 | (6/32)| 19.8| (5/7) | 71.4 |
| 5              | (1/22)| 4.5  | (34/57)| 59.6| (5/5) | 100  |
| 6              | (0/6) | 0    | (2/14)| 14.3| (2/4) | 50   |
| 2-4-7-8        | (0/47)| 0    | (0/37)| 0   | (0/1) | 0    |

Table 3: Pre-pectoral versus sub-pectoral implant-IBR- regression analysis.

| Regression indication Pre versus Sub pectoral | p     | Odd Ratio | CI 95.0% |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|
|                                              |       | Inferior  | Superior |
| Year                                         |       |           |          |
| 2020                                         | <0.0001| 1         |          |
| 2021                                         | <0.0001| 12.084    | 4.672    | 31.254 |
| 2022                                         | <0.0001| 76.641    | 15.021   | 391.04 |
| Surgeons                                     |       |           |          |
| 1                                            | <0.0001| 1         |          |
| 2                                            | 0.997 | 0         | 0        |
| 3                                            | <0.0001| 0.109     | 0.04     | 0.299 |
| 4                                            | 0.998 | 0         | 0        | 0     |
| 5                                            | 0.009 | 0.3       | 0.122    | 0.74  |
| 6                                            | <0.0001| 0.037     | 0.008    | 0.167 |
| 7                                            | 0.997 | 0         | 0        | 0     |
| 8                                            | 0.999 | 0         | 0        | 0     |
| Mastectomy type                              |       |           |          |
| NSM                                          | 0.019 | 1         |          |
| SSM                                          | 0.005 | 0.377     | 0.191    | 0.744 |
| Standard                                     | 0.999 | 0         | 0        | 0     |
| Age                                          | <50 vs >=50 | 0.584 | 0.82 | 0.402 | 1.669 |
| Implant size                                 | > vs <= 300 | 0.464 | 0.765 | 0.374 | 1.566 |

Abbreviations: NSM, nipple sparing mastectomy; SSM, skin sparing mastectomy.

Table 4: Incisions for NSM according to Pre or sub pectoral implant-IBR.

| NSM incisions | Sub-pectoral | Pre-pectoral | Chi² |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|------|
|               | Nb %         | Nb %         | p    |
| axillar       | 4 5%         | 4 6%         | <0.0001 |
| areolar       | 1 1.2%       | 0            | 0    |
| central       | 2 2.5%       | 0            | 0    |
| inversed T    | 3 3.8%       | 0            | 0    |
| areolar and radial | 19 23.8% | 0 | 0 |
| radial        | 6 7.5%       | 2 3%         | 3    |
| inferior fold | 45 56.2%     | 61 91%       | 0    |

Abbreviations: NSM, nipple sparing mastectomy.
### Table 5: Complications according to pre or sub-pectoral implant-IBR.

| Complication   | Sub-pectoral | Pre-pectoral | Chi² | p    |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|------|------|
|                | Nb  | %    | Nb  | %    |       |
| Complication   | No  | 189  | 70  | 81  | 30   | 0.301 |
|                | Yes | 28   | 62.2| 17  | 37.8 |       |
| Grade 2-3 Complication | No  | 195  | 69.6| 85  | 30.4 | 0.441 |
|                | Yes | 22   | 62.9| 13  | 37.1 |       |
| Implant loss   | No  | 14   | 6.4 | 9   | 9.2  | 0.382 |
|                | Yes | 17   | 56.7| 13  | 43.3 |       |

### Table 6: Complication type according to pre or sub-pectoral implant-IBR.

| Complication type | Sub-pectoral | Pre-pectoral | Total |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|
| cutaneous / NAC   | Nb  | %     | Nb  | %     |       |
|                   | 14  | 0.5   | 3   | 0.25  | 0.425 |
| hematoma          | Nb  | %     | Nb  | %     |       |
|                   | 8   | 0.286 | 7   | 0.583 | 0.375 |
| infection         | Nb  | %     | Nb  | %     |       |
|                   | 5   | 0.179 | 2   | 0.167 | 0.175 |
| others            | Nb  | %     | Nb  | %     |       |
|                   | 1   | 0.036 | 0   | 0.025 |       |

**Abbreviations:** NAC, nipple areolar complex.

### Table 7: Complication all grades and complications grade 2-3, in multivariate analysis.

| Complications all Grades | p    | Odd Ratio | CI 95.0% |
|--------------------------|------|-----------|----------|
|                          | Inferior | Superior | Inferior | Superior |
| Mastectomy               | 0.104 |           |          | 1        |
| NSM                      | 0.078 | 0.526     | 0.258    | 1.073    |
| SSM                      | 0.321 | 5.155     | 0.202    | 131.72   |
| Standard                 | 0.06  | 2.002     | 0.972    | 4.122    |
| Age <50 vs >=50          | 0.19  | 1.614     | 0.789    | 3.302    |
| Implant size > vs <= 300 | 0.664 | 1.172     | 0.572    | 2.401    |
| Implant Pre vs Sub Pectoral | 0.415 | 1.419     | 0.612    | 3.288    |
| Smoker yes vs no         | 0.266 |           |          | 1        |
| ASA 1                    | 0.107 | 1.848     | 0.875    | 3.902    |
| 2                        | 0.547 | 2.041     | 0.2      | 20.785   |
| 3                        | 0.693 |           | 1        |          |
| BMI <=24.99              | 0.723 | 1.164     | 0.502    | 2.696    |
| 25-29.99                 | 0.405 | 2.167     | 0.35     | 13.403   |
| >=30                     | 0.045 |           |          |          |

| Complications Grade 2-3 | p    | Odd Ratio | CI 95.0% |
|--------------------------|------|-----------|----------|
|                          | Inferior | Superior | Inferior | Superior |
| Mastectomy               | 0.17  |           |          | 1        |
| NSM                      | 0.342 | 0.679     | 0.305    | 1.51     |
| SSM                      | 0.132 | 12.909    | 0.463    | 359.77   |
| Standard                 | 0.06  | 2.273     | 0.967    | 5.342    |
| Age <50 vs >=50          | 0.757 | 1.148     | 0.479    | 2.752    |
| Implant size <= vs > 300 | 0.032 |           |          | 1        |

Citation: Gilles Houvenaeghel, Monique Cohen, Laura Sabiani, Aurore Van Troy, Olivia Quilichini, Axelle Charavil, Max Buttarelli, Sandrine Rua, Agnès Tallet, Alexandre de Nonneville, Marie Bannier. Mastectomy and Immediate Breast Reconstruction with Pre-Pectoral or Sub-Pectoral Implant: Assessing Clinical Practice, Post-Surgical Outcomes, Patient’s Satisfaction and Cost. Journal of Surgery and Research 5 (2022): 500-510.
Citation: Gilles Houvenaeghel, Monique Cohen, Laura Sabiani, Aurore Van Troy, Olivia Quilichini, Axelle Charavil, Max Buttarelli, Sandrine Rua, Agnès Tallet, Alexandre de Nonneville, Marie Bannier. Mastectomy and Immediate Breast Reconstruction with Pre-Pectoral or Sub-Pectoral Implant: Assessing Clinical Practice, Post-Surgical Outcomes, Patient’s Satisfaction and Cost. Journal of Surgery and Research 5 (2022): 500-510.

Table 8: Medians duration of surgery higher than median value in multivariate analysis.

| Regression analysis | p   | Odd Ratio | CI 95.0% |
|---------------------|-----|-----------|----------|
|                     |     | Inferior  | Superior |
| Cup size            |     |           |          |
| A-B                 | 0.012 | 1.000     | 1.000    |
| C                   | 0.05 | 1.721     | 1.721    |
| > C                 | 0.007 | 2.799     | 2.799    |
| Axillary surgery    |     |           |          |
| No                  | <0.0001 | 1.000     | 1.000    |
| SLNB                | <0.0001 | 3.663     | 3.663    |
| ALND                | <0.0001 | 9.594     | 9.594    |
| Implant             |     |           |          |
| Sub vs Pre          | 0.007 | 2.088     | 2.088    |

Abbreviations: SLNB, sentinel lymph node biopsy; ALND, axillary lymph node biopsy

Table 9: Patient’s satisfaction according to characteristics of patients and surgery.

| Satisfaction | implant loss | bad | medium | good | very good | Chi² | Chi²* |
|--------------|--------------|-----|--------|------|-----------|------|-------|
|              | Nb | % | Nb | % | Nb | % | Nb | % | p | p |
| Implant-IBR Pre-pectoral | 9 | 9.2 | 8 | 3.1 | 13 | 13.3 | 49 | 50 | 0.076 | 0.035 |
| Sub-pectoral  | 15 | 6.9 | 3 | 3.7 | 59 | 27.1 | 99 | 45.4 | 37 | 17 |
| BMI < 25      | 17 | 6.9 | 8 | 3.3 | 63 | 25.6 | 114 | 46.3 | 44 | 17.9 |
| 25-29.9      | 5 | 7.9 | 3 | 4.8 | 9 | 14.3 | 29 | 46 | 17 | 27 |
| >= 30        | 2 | 28.6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 71.4 | 0 | 0 |
| ASA 1        | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3.5 | 30 | 21.3 | 72 | 51.1 | 30 | 21.3 |
| 2            | 20 | 11.8 | 6 | 3.5 | 39 | 22.9 | 74 | 43.5 | 31 | 18.2 |
| 3            | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 60 | 2 | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| Implant size <= 300 | 14 | 9.5 | 7 | 4.7 | 33 | 22.3 | 64 | 43.2 | 30 | 20.3 |
| > 300        | 16 | 11.6 | 2 | 1.4 | 31 | 22.5 | 63 | 45.7 | 26 | 18.8 |
| Cup-size A-B | 10 | 6 | 4 | 2.4 | 39 | 23.2 | 84 | 47.7 | 35 | 19.9 |
| B            | 14 | 9.5 | 7 | 4.7 | 33 | 22.3 | 64 | 43.2 | 30 | 20.3 |
| Age <= 40    | 2 | 2.7 | 2 | 2.7 | 18 | 24.3 | 32 | 43.2 | 20 | 27 |
| 41-50        | 3 | 3.2 | 3 | 3.2 | 19 | 20.2 | 48 | 51.1 | 21 | 22.3 |
| 51-74        | 18 | 13.2 | 6 | 4.4 | 32 | 23.5 | 60 | 44.1 | 20 | 14.7 |
| >= 75        | 1 | 8.3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 25 | 8 | 66.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Type mastectomy NSM | 14 | 9.5 | 5 | 3.4 | 31 | 21.1 | 63 | 42.9 | 34 | 23.1 |
| SSM         | 9 | 5.4 | 6 | 3.6 | 41 | 24.6 | 84 | 50.3 | 27 | 16.2 |
| Indication Primary BC | 14 | 5.9 | 8 | 3.4 | 55 | 23.2 | 113 | 47.7 | 47 | 19.8 |
| Prophylactic | 2 | 4.2 | 2 | 4.2 | 6 | 12.5 | 26 | 54.2 | 12 | 25 |
| Smoker No    | 18 | 17 | 9 | 3.5 | 58 | 22.5 | 130 | 50.4 | 43 | 16.7 |
| Yes          | 6 | 10.3 | 2 | 3.4 | 14 | 24.1 | 18 | 31 | 18 | 31 |

Abbreviations: NSM, nipple sparing mastectomy; SSM, skin sparing mastectomy; ASA, American Society of Anesthesiologists; BMI, body mass index; RTH, radiotherapy.
Satisfaction

Patient’s satisfaction, evaluated before re-operation for lipofilling or change of breast implant, is reported in table 9. When satisfaction results were classified in two categories, good and very good versus bad, medium and failure, several significant factors were observed: pre-pectoral versus sub-pectoral implant-IBR (p=0.035), indication of mastectomy for local recurrence (p<0.0001) and radiotherapy (p=0.020). In binary logistic regression, bad, medium and IBR-failure were significantly associated with mastectomy for local recurrence (OR=8.820, CI95% 2.63-29.56, p<0.0001) and radiotherapy (OR=1.904, CI95% 1.03-3.52, p=0.040) and sub-pectoral implant-IBR (OR=2.098, CI95% 1.18-3.74, p=0.012).

Discussion

We report in this retrospective monocentric study an important number of patients with implant-IBR, during a recent and short period, with a high rate of IBR. Pre-pectoral implant-IBR were performed significantly more frequently for NSM. In multivariate analysis, complications Grade 2-3 were significantly associated with age <50 years, ASA 2 status and breast cup-size >C, without difference between pre and sub pectoral implant-IBR. Shorter duration of surgery was reported for pre-pectoral implant-IBR. A high rate of IBR reflects a relatively poor selection of patients for whom reconstruction is proposed. Conversely, a low rate of IBR is most likely related to a large selection of patients in whom an IBR is proposed. This can induce evaluation biases, particularly on complications rate, the patients most at risk having been excluded. In our practice, an IBR has been very widely proposed by excluding patients at very high risk of complications, indications for mastectomy, and monitoring time. Complication rates with pre-pectoral versus sub-pectoral implant-IBR were similar in meta-analysis reported by Li et al [38] and in meta-analysis reported by Chatterjee et al [39], but with lower odds of infection for pre-pectoral implant-IBR, and with higher rate of smokers, PMRT and diabetes in sub-pectoral procedures. Minor complications occurred more often for sub-pectoral procedures in Wow et al [36] study (10.6% versus 8.16%, respectively) as we report (18.4% versus 45.9%). It is difficult to compared absolute complications rates between studies, due to a large disparity of IBR types, reported complications, indications for mastectomies, and monitoring time.

Complication rates with pre-pectoral versus sub-pectoral implant-IBR were similar in meta-analysis reported by Li et al [38] and in meta-analysis reported by Chatterjee et al [39], but with lower odds of infection for pre-pectoral implant-IBR, and with higher rate of smokers, PMRT and diabetes in sub-pectoral procedures. Minor complications occurred more often for sub-pectoral procedures in Wow et al [36] study (26.32% versus 5.77%). In contrast, we don’t report difference (2.76% versus 4.08%) like Momeni et al [36] study (26.32% versus 5.77%). In China, IBR rate was 9.6% (1,554/16,187) in year 2018, with implant or expander in 76.6% of these IBR [11]. However, the average rate of reconstruction in the United States in 2010 was 45%, surging to 54% in 2015 [35]. In the UK multicenter prospective cohort study [21], 2108 patients had 2655 mastectomies with implant-IBR in 81 units during 28 months: 11 patients’ per-year per unit in comparison with 152 implant-IBR patient’s per-year in this study. Moreover, Wow et al. [36] recently reported 232 implant-IBR with definitive implant or expander in two centers during 31 months (45 patients per-year per-center) including 123 risk-reducing mastectomy (53.0%) and a low rate of implant-IBR for BC (109 patients: 47%). In our study 85.8% of implant-IBR was performed for BC. IBR and NSM is possible for patients with ipsilateral local recurrence after initial conservative surgery with radiotherapy for BC in selective cases as we reported [18]. Pre-pectoral implant-IBR significantly increase according to years of treatment (6.0% to 72.7%) similarly to results reported by King et al. [37] (0% to 92.4%). Implant-IBR rate and type of mastectomy: pre-pectoral implant-IBR was performed less frequently for NSM than NSM, in Wow et al., study [36] (10.6% versus 81.6%, respectively) as we report (18.4% versus 45.9%). It is difficult to compared absolute complications rates between studies, due to a large disparity of IBR types, reported complications, indications for mastectomies, and monitoring time.

When satisfactions results were classified in two categories, good and very good satisfaction) versus (failure-bad-medium). Abbreviations: NSM, nipple sparing mastectomy; SSM, skin sparing mastectomy; ASA, American Society of Anesthesiologists; BMI, body mass index; RTH, radiotherapy; BC, breast cancer; PMRT, post-mastectomy radiotherapy; NAC, neo-adjuvant chemotherapy; N-RTH, neo-adjuvant radiotherapy.

| Radiotherapy | No | 15 | 6.2 | 8 | 3.3 | 50 | 20.7 | 119 | 49.2 | 50 | 20.7 | 0.372 | 0.02 |
|--------------|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|------|-----|------|----|------|--------|------|
| PMRT         |    | 7  | 11.5| 3  | 4.9 | 16  | 26.2 | 25  | 41   | 10 | 16.4 |
| previous RTH | 2  | 16.7| 0   | 0  | 6   | 50  | 3    | 25  | 1    | 8.3 |
| NAC + N-RTH  | 0  | 0  | 0   | 0  | 1   | 100 | 0    | 0   |      |    |
| Total        | 24 | 7.6| 11  | 3.5| 72  | 22.9| 147  | 46.7| 61   | 19.4|

*Chi^2 (good and very good satisfaction) versus (failure-bad-medium).*
et al [40] reported higher major complication rate for sub-pectoral procedure (22.5% versus 7.5%) without significant difference (p=0.060). Significant higher prosthetic failure rate was reported for sub-pectoral versus pre-pectoral in King et al study [37] (18.7% versus 7.9%), but without significant difference in Momeni et al study [40] (2.5 versus 12.5% for pre and sub-pectoral implant IBR respectively), in meta-analysis reported by Chatterjee [39] and meta-analysis reported by Li et al [38], and without difference in the present study. A significant shorter median hospitalization time for pre-pectoral implant-IBR was reported by Wow et al [36], with a median time of 4 days for all patients. With a shorter median LPOS of 1 day, we don’t observe difference between pre and sub-pectoral implant-IBR. Consequently, despite a shorter duration of anesthesia for pre-pectoral implant-IBR, we reported higher cost for pre-pectoral implant-IBR in comparison with sub-pectoral implant-IBR, as reported by Chopra et al [16]. Significant lower postoperative pain have been reported in pre-pectoral implant-IBR whereas others reported that the pain scores were not significantly different, without conclusion in Li et al meta-analysis [38]. Moreover, there was no significance difference of quality of life between the pre-pectoral and sub-pectoral groups in Li et al meta-analysis [38].

Several limitations of this study can be underlined: 1) retrospective design, even if the data was collected prospectively, 2) mono-centric study, 3) cost evaluation of initial surgery without true medico-economic study, 4) patient’s satisfaction: patient satisfaction remains subjective but represents the predominant evaluation factor in relation to the opinion of doctors.

Conclusion

Complications Grade 2-3 were significantly associated with age <50 years, ASA 2 status and breast cup-size >C, without difference between pre and sub pectoral implant-IBR. Despite a shorter duration of surgery, higher cost was observed for pre-pectoral implant-IBR. More patients achieved bad or medium satisfaction for local recurrence, with PMRT and for sub-pectoral implant-IBR. Pre-pectoral implant-IBR seems to correspond to a reliable, faster technique with equivalent results in terms of complications and better patient satisfaction. To confirm these results, a multicenter study is ongoing.

Acknowledgments

None

Funding

None

Data availability statement

Not applicable.

Authors contribution

Conceptualization: GH, MC and MBa
Methodology: GH
Formal analysis: GH
Investigation: GH, MC and MBa
Resources: All authors contributed in patient’s inclusion in the study.
Data curation: GH, MC and MBa
Writing-original draft preparation: GH, MC and MBa
Writing-review and editing: GH, MC and MBa
Supervision: GH

All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Ethics approval and consent to participate

Not applicable.

Patient consent for publication

As this was a retrospective non-interventional study, no formal personal consent was required.

Competing interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

References

1. Krag DN, Anderson SJ, Julian TB, et al. Sentinel-lymph-node resection compared with conventional axillary-lymph-node dissection in clinically node-negative patients with breast cancer: overall survival findings from the NSABP B-32 randomised phase 3 trial. Lancet Oncol 11 (2010): 927-933.
2. Houvenaeghel G, Cohen M, Raro P, et al. Overview of the pathological results and treatment characteristics in the first 1000 patients randomized in the SERC trial: axillary dissection versus no axillary dissection in patients with involved sentinel node. BMC Cancer 18 (2018): 1153.
3. Matala CM, McIntosh SA, Purushotham AD. Immediate breast reconstruction after mastectomy for cancer. Br J Surg 87 (2000): 1455-1472.
4. Kummerow KL, Du L, Penson DF, et al. Nationwide trends in mastectomy for early-stage breast cancer. JAMA Surg 150 (2015): 9-16.
5. Tan MP, Silva E. Addressing the paradox of increasing mastectomy rates in an era of de-escalation of therapy: Communication strategies. Breast 38 (2018): 136-143.
6. Houvenaeghel G, Lambaudie E, Cohen M, et al.
Therapeutic escalation - De-escalation: Data from 15,508 early breast cancer treated with upfront surgery and sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB). Breast 34 (2017): 24-33.

7. Nègre G, Balcaen T, Dast S, et al. Breast reconstruction in France, observational study of 140,904 cases of mastectomy for breast cancer. Ann Chir Plast Esthet. fèvr 65 (2020): 36-43.

8. Dauplat J, Kwiatkowski F, Rouanet P, et al. Quality of life after mastectomy with or without immediate breast reconstruction. Br J Surg 104 (2017): 1197-206.

9. Jeevan R, Mennie JC, Mohanna PN, et al. National trends and regional variation in immediate breast reconstruction rates. Br J Surg 103 (2016): 1147-1156.

10. Mylvaganam S, Conroy E, Williamson PR, et al. Variation in the provision and practice of implant-based breast reconstruction in the UK: results from the iBRA national practice questionnaire. Breast 35 (2017): 182-190.

11. Feng Xu, Chuqi Lei, Heng Cao, et al. Chinese Society of Breast Surgery, Multi-center investigation of breast reconstruction after mastectomy from Chinese Society of Breast Surgery: A survey based on 31 tertiary hospitals (CSBrS-004), Chinese Journal of Cancer Research 33 (2021): 51-64.

12. Lai HW, Toesca A, Sarfati B, et al. Consensus Statement on Robotic Mastectomy- Expert Panel From International Endoscopic and Robotic Breast Surgery Symposium (IERBS) 2019: Annals of Surgery 11 (2020): 10231.

13. Lai HW, Chen ST, Mok CW, et al. Robotic versus conventional nipple sparing mastectomy and immediate gel implant breast reconstruction in the management of breast cancer- A case control comparison study with analysis of clinical outcome, medical cost, and patient-reported cosmetic results. J Plast Reconstr Aesthet Surg 73 (2020): 1514-1525.

14. Houvenaeghel G, Barrou J, Jauffret C, et al. Robotic Versus Conventional Nipple-Sparing Mastectomy with Immediate Breast Reconstruction. Front Oncol 11 (2021): 637049.

15. Toesca A, Sangalli C, Maisonneuve P, et al. A Randomized Trial of Robotic Mastectomy versus Open Surgery in Women With Breast Cancer or BRCA Mutation. Ann Surg 9 (2021): 56-69.

16. Chopra S, Al-Ishaq Z, Vidya R. The journey of prepectoral breast reconstruction through time. World J. Plast. Surg 10 (2021): 3-13.

17. Houvenaeghel G, Cohen M, Dammacca MA, et al. Prophylactic nipple-sparing mastectomy with immediate breast reconstruction: results of a French prospective trial. Br J Surg 108 (2021): 296-301.

18. Simon P, Barrou J, Cohen M, et al. Types of Mastectomies and Immediate Reconstructions for Ipsilateral Breast Local Recurrences. Front Oncol 10 (2020): 567298.

19. Quilichini O, Barrou J, Bannier M, et al. Mastectomy with immediate breast reconstruction: Results of a mono-centric 4-years cohort. Ann Med Surg (Lond) 61 (2020): 172-179.

20. Wu ZY, Kim HJ, Lee JW, et al. Breast Cancer Recurrence in the Nipple-Areola Complex After Nipple-Sparing Mastectomy With Immediate Breast Reconstruction for Invasive Breast Cancer. JAMA Surg 154 (2019): 1030-1037.

21. Potter S, Conroy EJ, Cutress RI, et al. Breast Reconstruction Research Collaborative. Short-term safety outcomes of mastectomy and immediate implant-based breast reconstruction with and without mesh (iBRA): a multicentre, prospective cohort study. Lancet Oncol 20 (2019): 254-266.

22. Wei CH, Scott AM, Price AN, et al. Psychosocial and sexual well-being following nipple-sparing mastectomy and reconstruction. Breast J 22 (2016): 10-17.

23. Moyer HR, Ghazi B, Daniel JR, et al. Nipple-sparing mastectomy: technical aspects and aesthetic outcomes. Ann Plast Surg 68 (2012): 446-450.

24. rber B, Krause A, Dieterich M, et al. The oncological safety of skin sparing mastectomy with conservation of the nipple-areola complex and autologous reconstruction: an extended follow-up study. Ann Surg 249 (2009): 461-468.

25. Agha RA, Al Omran Y, Wellstead G, et al. Systematic review of therapeutic nipple-sparing versus skin-sparing mastectomy. BJIS Open 3 (2018): 135-145.

26. Weber WP, Haug M, Kurzeder C, et al. Oncoplastic Breast Consortium consensus conference on nipple sparing Mastectomy. Breast Cancer Res Treat 172 (2018): 523-537.

27. Manning AT, Wood C, Eaton A et al Nipple-sparing mastectomy in patients with BRCA1/2 mutations and variants of uncertain significance. Br J Surg 102 (2015): 1354-1359.

28. Jakub JW, Peled AW, Gray RJ et al. Oncologic safety of prophyllactic nipple-sparing mastectomy in a population with BRCA mutations: a multi-institutional study. JAMA Surg 153 (2018): 123-129.

29. Smith BL, Tang R, Rai U, et al. Oncologic safety of nipple-sparing mastectomy in women with breast cancer. J Am Coll Surg 225 (2017): 361-365.
30. Li M, Chen K, Liu F, et al. Nipple sparing mastectomy in breast cancer patients and long-term survival outcomes: an analysis of the SEER database. Plos One 12 (2017): e0183448.

31. Muller T, Baratte A, Bruant-Rodier C, et al. Oncological safety of nipple-sparing prophylactic mastectomy: a review of the literature on 3716 cases. Ann Chir Plast Esthet 63 (2018): e6-e13.

32. Wilkins EG, Hamill JB, Kim HM, et al. Complications in postmastectomy breast reconstruction: one-year outcomes of the Mastectomy Reconstruction Outcomes Consortium (MROC) study. Ann Surg 267 (2018): 164-170.

33. Houvenaeghel G, Barrou J, Sabiani L, et al. Surgical Oncologic Activity Before, During and after Pandemic COVID-19 Period in a French Cancer Center. Journal of Surgery and Research 3 (2020): 370-381.

34. Mokarram Dorri N, Cohen M, Knight S, et al. Comparison with 2019 of breast surgery activity and breast cancer prognostic factors in a French cancer center during the first 6 months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Journal of Surgery and Research 4 (2021): 278-287.

35. Panchal H, Matros E. Current trends in postmastectomy breast reconstruction. Plast Reconstr Surg 140 (2017): 7S-13S.

36. Wow T, Kolacinska-Wow A, Witchkowski M, et al. A Retrospective Study Assessing the Outcomes of Immediate Prepectoral and Subpectoral Implant and Mesh-Based Breast Reconstruction. Cancers 14 (2022): 3188.

37. King CA, Bartholomew AJ, Sosin M, et al. A critical appraisal of late complications of prepectoral versus subpectoral breast reconstruction following nipple-sparing mastectomy. Ann. Surg. Oncol 28 (2021): 9150-9158.

38. Li Y, Xu G, Yu N, et al. Prepectoral versus subpectoral implant-based breast reconstruction: A meta-analysis. Ann. Plast. Surg 85 (2020): 437-447.

39. Chatterjee A, Nahabedian MY, Gabriel A, et al. Assessing postsurgical outcomes with prepectoral breast reconstruction: A literature review and meta-analysis update. Plast. Reconstr. Surg. Glob. Open 9 (2021): e3825.

40. Momeni A, Remington AC, Wan DC, et al. A Matched-Pair Analysis of Prepectoral with Subpectoral Breast Reconstruction: Is There a Difference in Postoperative Complication Rate? Plast Reconstr Surg 144 (2019): 801-807.