

Sydney Cancer Centre Annual Report 2004 – 2005

Sydney Breast Cancer Institute

2004 -2005 Highlights

- Associate Professor Hugh Carmalt was appointed Head of Breast Surgery in October 2004.
- Breast services at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital were consolidated in early 2005 with the relocation of the Institute offices to Level 4 Gloucester House, in the same area as the breast-screening program.
- The Institute has initiated a Clinical Fellowship Program in Surgical Oncology (Breast). Dr Naresh Soni was our inaugural Clinical Fellow.
- Through funding provided by the Sydney Breast Cancer Foundation and the pharmaceutical industry the Institute established the Translational Research Fellowship. Dr Niamh Murphy is the inaugural recipient of this fellowship.
- The Institute received funding from the Hall Trust to undertake research in conjunction with Dr Sharon Kilbreath from the School of Physiotherapy, University of Sydney. The research study examines exercise for women with lymphoedema.
- Through the Medical Oncology Department, the Institute has been entering patients into three international adjuvant trials after their initial surgical management. These are: the SOFT trial, the AZURE trial and the IBCSG 27 trial.
- The Institute also has three international trials pending Ethics approval. These are: the IBIS II Prevention Trial, the IBIS II DCIS trial and the IBCSG 23-01 sentinel node trial. The Institute has been accepted to be a centre for the IBIS II (Prevention) Bone Sub-protocol study.
- The appointment of a second Breast Care Nurse, Kate Orme, to focus on the coordination of care for patients undergoing chemotherapy.
- The Breast Services Area Clinical meetings are now held bi-monthly at RPA.
- Professor West had a six-month sabbatical leave as locum surgeon to Breast Check Ireland and the National Screening Program based at the Mater Hospital in Dublin. This gave him an opportunity to observe the

latest developments in contemporary breast cancer detection and management.

- The continued support provided by the Sydney Breast Cancer Foundation (SBCF) has allowed the Institute to purchase new diagnostic equipment, provide funding for the research projects undertaken by the Institute and provide ongoing funding for two vital staff positions within the unit, the breast care nurse and the data manager.

Research Projects

- The following research projects were accepted as poster presentations at the Leura V International Breast Cancer Conference in 2004:

E. Choy; A. Chiu; P. Butow; J. Young; A. Spillane. A pilot study evaluating the impact of involving breast cancer patients in the multidisciplinary discussion of their disease and treatment plan.

N. Soni; E. Choy; M. Janik; A. Spillane. Sentinel node biopsy alone in early breast cancer.

N. Soni; A. Spillane. Breast Cancer Nomogram: Retrospective application in breast cancer patients with a positive sentinel node biopsy.

J. Hong; E. Choy; N. Soni; H. Carmalt; D. Gillett; A. Spillane. An investigation of the significance of extra-axillary site sentinel nodes.

- The following research projects were accepted as presentations at two Australasian conferences:

A. Sanki; A.J. Spillane. Diagnostic and treatment challenges of inframammary breast carcinomas. (Free paper presentation - RACS ASC 2005)

J. Streit; C. Kennedy; M. Janik; M. Joseph; G. Molland; D. Gillett; H. Carmalt; A. Spillane. Metaplastic cancer of the breast: A rare disease. A study of 11 cases. (Accepted poster presentation - ASBD September 2005)

- The following research projects were commenced in 2005:

N. Murphy; A. Hamilton; A. Spillane; P. McKenzie. Micro-array evaluation of normal breast tissue to identify genetic markers of risk for ER-positive breast cancer (in progress).

E. Choy; P. Butow; J. Young; A. Spillane. National survey for exploring attitudes towards breast cancer patient involvement in the multidisciplinary team meeting (in progress).

S. Kilbreath; K. Refshauge; A. Harmer; J. Beith; R. West. Exercise for women with lymphoedema (in progress).

List of publications

Kim J, Chung D, Spillane AJ. Combined Radioguided Occult Lesion and Sentinel Node Localisation for Breast Cancer. ANZ Journal of Surgery 2004;74:550-553.

Molland GJ, Donnellan M, Janu NC, Carmalt HL. Infiltrating lobular carcinoma – a comparison of diagnosis, management and outcome with infiltrating duct carcinoma. The Breast 2004; 13:389-396

Soni NK, Choy E, Spillane AJ. Experience of Sentinel Node Biopsy alone in Early Breast Cancer Without Further Axillary Dissection in Patients with Negative Sentinel Node. ANZ Journal of Surgery 2005;75:292-297

Nordman IC, Spillane AJ, Hamilton AL. The aromatase inhibitors in early breast cancer: who, when and why? Medical Journal of Australia 2005;183;1:24-28

Soni NK, Carmalt HL, Gillett DJ, Spillane AJ. Validation of the Breast Cancer Nomogram for Predicting Positive Non-sentinel Nodes after Positive Sentinel Node Biopsy. European Journal of Surgical Oncology. Accepted for publication 5/2005

Hong, J, Choy, E, Soni, N, Carmalt, H, Gillett, D, Spillane, A. Clinical Relevance of Extra-axillary Sentinel Node Biopsy in the Management of Early Breast Cancer European Journal of Surgical Oncology. Accepted for publication May 2005

Sanki A, Spillane AJ. Diagnostic and treatment challenges of inframammary breast carcinomas. ANZ Journal of Surgery. Submitted for publication May 2005