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No pec touch: A pre-shaped ADM for subcutaneous one-step breast reconstruction

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Introduction: Implant-based breast reconstruction is becoming increasingly popular because of the widespread adoption of Acellular Dermal Matrix (ADM), which allows good aesthetic results with fewer operations. A preliminary study was carried out from November 2012 to January 2014, in order to verify the effectiveness of the new immediate muscle-sparing breast reconstruction technique. The patented Braxon, ADM enables subcutaneous positioning of the implant without detaching the pectoralis major muscle. Between April 2014 and April 2015 another European multicenter study was performed to confirm the preliminary outcomes. We report the results of the two experiences, from November 2012 to date.

Material & Methods: The muscle-sparing surgical technique involves the use of a pre-shaped porcine ADM which totally wraps the breast implant. The device is positioned in a subcutaneous plane, without detaching the pectoral major muscle. This procedure decreases post-operative complications and better outcomes.

Results: The preliminary study was carried out on 19 patients (25 implants). Encouraging results were obtained by improving the characteristics of ADM and the surgical technique. The following European multicenter experience on 90 implants reported a reduction of early complications. Symmetrical and natural breasts with good shape and ptosis were observed. No cases of capsular contracture were detected in both studies.

Conclusions: After more than two years, the muscle-sparing breast reconstruction can be safely proposed as a new option for patients who fit the inclusion criteria. The use of an ADM for the complete coverage of the implant prevents from capsular contracture. Longer evaluations and histological examinations are planned.

Biography

G Berna graduated from the University of Padua, Faculty of Medicine in 1989. He continued his preparation as a Plastic Surgeon obtaining the degree in 1994. Since 1993, he has been working at the Regional Hospital of Treviso. In 2006, he became the Director of the Plastic Surgery Unit. He is an active Member of the Sicpre (Italian Society of Plastic Surgeons) and International Member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. His expertise includes breast reconstruction and aesthetic surgery, and post trauma reconstructions.

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