

**NORTH
YORK
GENERAL**

Dear Doctor,

We are completing a survey of general surgeons who are interested in learning oncoplastic techniques. As a participant in this workshop, your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Although many courses exist for practicing surgeons to learn new techniques, we do not have a good understanding of whether these courses lead to a change in practice. The goal of our survey study is to better understand the factors that influence adopting oncoplastic techniques into surgical practice.

We will be asking you to complete a survey prior to starting the workshop, at 6 months and 1 year from workshop completion.

Thank you in advance for your participation. We really appreciate it!

STUDY TITLE:

Integrating oncoplastic techniques into surgical practice: Effectors of practice change

STUDY INVESTIGATORS:

Dr. Fahima Osman, North York General Hospital
Dr. Vanessa Palter, St. Michael's Hospital
Dr. Jeannie Richardson, Trillium Health Partners

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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SPONSOR/SUPPLIER:

N/A

INTRODUCTION:

Oncoplastic surgery is a rapidly developing field of breast surgery that has been widely embraced many parts of the world. As such, we believe that there is a need to train

practicing Ontario general surgeons in breast oncoplastic surgery. We have developed a course to cover the theory and the techniques of level 1 and 2 oncoplastic approaches to breast conserving surgery.

Although many courses exist for practicing surgeons to learn new techniques, there is a lack of understanding of whether these courses impact a change in practice. In order to better understand factors that facilitate, or inhibit the adoption of oncoplastic techniques in course attendees' surgical practice, we are asking you as a course participant to complete a series of surveys. One survey will be given out prior to the course, another at the 6 month mark after course completion, and a final one a year after course completion.

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary and may be withdrawn at any time. Take the time you need to read over and fully understand this information prior to completing the survey. Feel free to discuss this information and participation in this study with anyone you wish or contact us for additional information.

PURPOSE:

Breast conserving therapy (BCT) has become a cornerstone in the management of breast cancer. This technique consists of lumpectomy followed by radiation therapy, and its safety and efficacy compared to mastectomy has been widely demonstrated.¹⁻⁵. While the primary goal of BCT is complete excision of the tumor with negative margins, an important secondary goal is appropriate breast cosmesis. Poor cosmesis has been described in up to 40% of BCT patients. This has been shown to significantly affect the patient's quality of life and psychosocial function⁶⁻⁹.

Oncoplastic breast surgery is the marriage of oncologic breast conservation with volume displacement or replacement techniques to improve cosmesis. The goals of oncoplastic surgery include the complete removal of the lesion with clear margins, good to excellent cosmesis, and performance of a single definitive operative procedure¹⁰. This approach has gained wide acceptance in Europe¹¹⁻¹³, but is less utilized in North America, despite studies that have demonstrated the oncologic safety of this technique¹⁴⁻¹⁶.

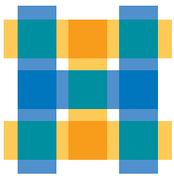
This study aims to identify factors that influence general surgeons taking breast oncoplastic surgery course into incorporating these techniques in their practice.

RESEARCH INTERVENTION

Participation in this study will involve completion of 3 surveys.

PARTICIPANT SELECTION

You have been invited to participate in this research because you are attending the Oncoplastic Partnership Workshop at the University of Toronto



PARTICIPATION

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may withdraw from this study at any time with no consequences.

RISKS

There are no known risks to participating in this study.

BENEFITS

Your involvement will help improve our understanding of how to teach practicing surgeons new surgical techniques.

ALTERNATIVES

You may choose not to participate in this study.

CONFIDENTIALITY

We will not be sharing information about you to anyone outside of the research team. While your name and practice address will remain confidential, and survey responses are de-identified, the information determined through the questionnaires is integral to the completion of our research and will be shared amongst the research team and included in our research project.

COSTS

There will be no cost to you to participate in this research study.

PARTICIPANT RIGHTS

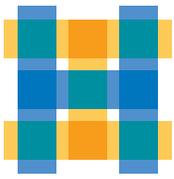
By completing this survey you do not give up any of your legal rights against the investigators, sponsor or involved institutions for compensation, nor does this form relieve the investigators, sponsor or involved institutions of their legal and professional responsibilities.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None to declare.

COMMERCIALIZATION

None.



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QUESTIONS ABOUT THE STUDY

Please contact: Vanessa Palter at paltervane@smh.ca if you have any questions regarding this study.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT YOUR COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF THE ENCLOSED SURVEY IS CONSIDERED IMPLIED CONSENT FOR THIS STUDY.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Fahima Osman, Dr. Vanessa Palter, and Dr. Jeannie Richardson