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Doses during lymphoscintigraphy in gynecological cancer - Sentinel lymph node localization procedure

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Lymphoscintigraphy is a method of imaging the lymphatic pathways and the lymph nodes using radiopharmaceuticals (Albumin Colloid-Tc99m) that are absorbed and transported in the lymphatic system. This method is widely used in the localization of sentinel lymph node in various diseases; mainly breast cancer but also plays an important role in gynecological cancers. Lymphoscintigraphy is also a part of a multidisciplinary procedure of the localization and examination of the sentinel lymph node that involve multiple professionals including nuclear medicine staff, nurses, surgeons, operating room staff and the pathologists.

Aim of this study was to compare the doses between NMT, Surgeons and other doctors included in lymphoscintigraphy in gynecological cancer. The highest exposure is noted in the nuclear medicine technologist preparing the radiopharmaceuticals and the nuclear medicine specialist/nurse/surgeon injecting the tracer. Radiation exposure to the surgeon in the operating room, other operating room personnel and pathologists is much smaller and with the exception of a 'one-day-procedure' this method can be safely used without special restrictions.

Biography

Patrycja Mantaj has graduated from the University Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan in 2006 with Master of Medical Physics. In 2010, she earned IOR certificate. Since 2006 she works as Radiation Protection Officer in Greater Poland Cancer Centre.

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