

Users' perspective on Breast Cancer Conservative Treatment.cosmetic result (BCCT.core) software

André T. Magalhães, Hélder P. Oliveira, António José Moura, Jaime S. Cardoso, Maria João Cardoso

Trindade Hospital, Porto, Portugal
Breast Unit, Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal
Faculty of Medicine, Porto University, Portugal
Breast Center, Department of General Surgery, S. João Hospital, Porto, Portugal
INESC TEC and Faculty of Engineering, Porto University, Porto, Portugal

Aims: BCCT.core objectively evaluates aesthetic result after classic Breast Conserving Treatment (BCT) and the demand by international institutions for the software has been rising. The objective of this work was to know user's opinion about the software.

Methods: Questionnaires were sent to all institutions who signed a license agreement for BCCT.core download and use (63). Answers were obtained from 23. Evaluated parameters were: use in clinical practice and/or research; published papers or abstracts using the software; type of surgical techniques performed; user-friendliness. Free comments were also recorded.

Results: Twelve responders (52%) used BCCT.core only in research. Of those, 4(33%) considered it time-consuming and 7(58)% didn't have an adequate setting for practical use. Nine (39%) completed a written paper or abstract with the BCCT.core. Eight (35%) didn't use the software in classic BCT. Twenty one (92%) found it user-friendly. Most frequent additional comments were: inclusion of lateral views and 3D, identification of parameter(s) contributing to misclassification, prediction of surgical outcome, automation, upgrade to other techniques and disagreement subjective evaluation.

Conclusions: Although the majority of responders had found the BCCT.core user-friendly they didn't use it in clinical practice. In spite of the fact that the software is only validated to BCT it was used in other techniques with some success. Most of the commentaries have been already considered and will be, if possible, included in the updated version of the BCCT.core.