

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 101
(A-20)

Introduced by: Resident and Fellow Section

Subject: Implant-Associated Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma

Referred to: Reference Committee A

Whereas, In 2016, the World Health Organization provisionally classified breast implant-associated anaplastic large cell lymphoma (BIA-ALCL) as a T-cell lymphoma¹; and

Whereas, Policies concerning breast cancer treatment do not encompass BIA-ALCL given that this cancer is a lymphoma; and

Whereas, The 2019 National Comprehensive Cancer Care Network consensus guidelines state clearly that, "Essential to the treatment of BIA-ALCL is timely diagnosis and complete surgical excision."²; and

Whereas, Patients with BIA-ALCL suffer delays in care as they fight with their insurance companies to cover surgery to remove the cancer and their breast implants, as the insurance company may initially classify the surgery as cosmetic and not cover it;³ therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support appropriate coverage of cancer diagnosis, treating surgery and other systemic treatment options for implant-associated anaplastic large cell lymphoma. (New HOD Policy)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

Received: 02/21/20

References:

1. Steven H. Swerdlow, Elias Campo, Stefano A. Pileri, Nancy Lee Harris, Harald Stein, Reiner Siebert, Ranjana Advani, Michele Ghilmini, Gilles A. Salles, Andrew D. Zelenetz and Elaine S. Jaffe "The 2016 revision of the World Health Organization classification of lymphoid neoplasms, section on Mature T-cell lymphomas and NK - lymphomas." *Blood*. 2016, 127:2375-2390.
2. Mark W Clemens, MD, FACS, Eric D Jacobsen, MD, Steven M Horwitz, MD "2019 NCCN Consensus Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Breast Implant-Associated Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma (BIA-ALCL)." *Aesthetic Surgery Journal*. 2019, 39 (Supplement 1):S3-S13.
3. Denise Grady. A shocking diagnosis: breast implants 'gave me cancer.' *The New York Times*. 2017 May 14. Available at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/14/health/breast-implants-cancer.html>

RELEVANT AMA POLICY:

Breast Implants H-525.984

Our AMA: (1) supports that women be fully informed about the risks and benefits associated with breast implants and that once fully informed the patient should have the right to choose; and (2) based on current scientific knowledge, supports the continued practice of breast augmentation or reconstruction with implants when indicated.

Citation: CSA Rep. M, I-91 Modified: Sunset Report, I-01 Reaffirmed: Res. 727, I-02 Modified: CSAPH Rep. 1, A-12