

# International Surgery and Ortho Conference

October 25-26, 2017 | Toronto, Canada

## Breast cancer in developing countries

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The fast pace of urbanization has affected patterns of many diseases. Breast cancer is among the diseases that gained momentum over recent years in developing countries and countries of limited resources. The increased disease burden and limited resources had raised concerns in provision of optimal care. Despite many sporadic and individual efforts, the limited early detection programs are unable to overcome the problem of delayed presentations with its incurring cost of advanced disease management. The scarcity of radiotherapy centers coupled by the unaffordable other treatment modalities further compounds the problem providing mastectomy as the only available option. Overcoming cultural and educational barriers remains the early steps of attempting to provide early detection strategies

in the developing world. While the survival is continually improved in the developed world due to the advances in management, developing countries is continuously striving for more access for advanced technology aiming to improve survival. Due to the increased disease burden, the parallel package of high quality primary care services, a functioning referral system and acquiring advanced technology may provide an immediate solution for this dilemma. Introduction of advances in treatment such as Intraoperative radiotherapy in the conventional operating room set up may further promote early detection strategies leading to more breast conserving surgery.

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