Prone breast radiotherapy in a patient with early stage breast cancer and a large pendulous breast

Annamaria Ferrari¹, Giovanni Ivaldi¹, Maria Cristina Leonardi¹, Elena Rondi², and Roberto Orecchia^{1,3}

¹Radiation Oncology Department, and ²Medical Physics Department, European Institute of Oncology, Milan; ³University of Milan, Milan, Italy

ABSTRACT

In women with large and pendulous breasts postoperative radiotherapy in the supine position could represent a technical challenge because of the resulting dose inhomogeneity and the large amount of lung and heart receiving a high percentage of the prescribed dose. Breast-conserving surgery is therefore relatively contraindicated in these patients. Alternative positions for radiation therapy treatment have been proposed, and prone breast irradiation in particular has been recognized as a useful alternative to conventional treatment in the supine position. We report the case of a large-breasted patient treated in prone position in our radiation therapy division.

Key words: breast cancer, large breast, radiotherapy, prone position.

Correspondence to: Annamaria Ferrari, European Institute of Oncology, Via Ripamonti 435, 20141 Milan, Italy. Tel +39-02-57489790; fax +39-94379227; e-mail annamaria.ferrari@ieo.it

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