

Many Women With Locally Advanced Breast Cancer Do Not Receive RT After Mastectomy.

[Medscape](#) (2/18, Mulcahy) reports that research published online in the Journal of the American College of Surgeons suggests that approximately “one-third of patients with locally advanced breast cancers who underwent mastectomy did not receive the recommended radiation therapy (RT) after surgery.” Medscape points out that “RT is indicated for breast cancers that have spread to four or more axillary lymph nodes (N2/N3) to improve outcomes, according to guidelines from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).”

[HealthDay](#) (2/18, Preidt) reports that “factors such as race/ethnicity, income and education level, health insurance, where patients lived or where they were treated, or the presence of other health problems did not influence whether these patients received radiation therapy.” However, the study indicated that “women who had received chemotherapy had more than 5 times the odds of getting radiation treatment compared to those who had not.”