



Tuesday, March 17, 2015

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“Study Examines Diagnostic Accuracy of Pathologists Interpreting Breast Biopsies”

**TEASE RUNS: 04 (doctor looking in microscope, slide in microscope)
Accuracy in interpreting breast biopsies...that’s next.**

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TRT: 1:51

EMBARGO: 11a.m. (ET) Tuesday, March 17, 2015

INTRO. Each year, more than one and a half million women in the United States undergo a breast biopsy. After a breast biopsy, a pathologist evaluates the tissue to provide a diagnosis for the patient and her doctor. The results can range from normal or benign cells, pre-cancerous cells to invasive cancer. A new study examined the accuracy of pathologists interpreting different breast biopsy specimens. Catherine Dolf has more in this week’s JAMA Report.

VIDEO	AUDIO
B-ROLL Abby sitting in waiting room reading, doctors in OR	ABBY HOWELL ALWAYS HAD NORMAL MAMMOGRAMS. TWO YEARS AGO SOMETHING CHANGED PROMPTING HER TO HAVE A BREAST BIOPSY.
SOT/FULL Abby Howell Super@:08 Runs:06	“I had atypical cells. It was really confusing to me. I couldn’t figure out what that meant.

B-ROLL Graphic	WHEN A WOMAN IS TOLD SHE HAS ATYPIA OR GIVEN ANOTHER DIAGNOSIS OF PRE-INVASIVE DISEASE KNOWN AS DUCTAL CARCINOMA IN SITU (SIGH-TWO), THESE ARE NOT THE SAME AS A CANCER DIAGNOSIS.
SOT/FULL Joann G. Elmore, M.D., M.P.H., - University of Washington Super@:21 Runs: 12 (Video covering 2 nd half of bite: Dr. Elmore and Abby walking down clinic hallway)	“I think it’s a challenging job that the doctors have to try and define what is atypical versus what’s normal and what’s pre-invasive. We’re having a hard time in these middle, borderline categories.”
B-ROLL Dr. Elmore sitting and talking with Abby in exam room, cu of Dr. Elmore doctor looking at slides in microscope, slide under microscope, box of test slides, cu of individual slide, cells on computer screen, doctor looking at microscope, cu of slide	DR. JOANN ELMORE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON IN SEATTLE AND CO-AUTHORS ENLISTED 115 VOLUNTEER PATHOLOGISTS AROUND THE COUNTRY. THE PATHOLOGISTS INTERPRETED A TOTAL OF 240 TEST SLIDES CONTAINING DIFFERENT SAMPLES OF BREAST TISSUE. THOSE RESULTS WERE THEN COMPARED TO A STANDARD DEVELOPED BY A GROUP OF VERY EXPERIENCED, EXPERT BREAST PATHOLOGISTS.
SOT/FULL Joann G. Elmore, M.D., M.P.H., - University of Washington Super@:52 Runs:09	“These doctors had almost complete agreement on cases of invasive breast cancer. They were not in as high of levels of agreement when there was atypia present or ductal carcinoma in situ.”
B-ROLL Graphic	FOR DUCTAL CARCINOMA IN SITU (SIGH-TWO) OR D-C-I-S, PATHOLOGISTS AGREED IN ABOUT FOUR OUT OF FIVE CASES. BUT WHEN INTERPRETING ATYPICAL CELLS OR ATYPIA, THEY ONLY AGREED ABOUT HALF OF THE TIME.
GXF FULL JAMA COVER	STUDY APPEARS IN JAMA, JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.
SOT/FULL Joann G. Elmore, M.D., M.P.H., - University of Washington Super@1:17 Runs:09 (Video covering middle of bite: women having MRI)	“Women with these diagnoses are then getting additional treatment, additional surveillance, being told that they are at very high and increased risk for subsequent breast cancer.”
B-ROLL	THE PATHOLOGISTS ALSO DISAGREED MORE

Women getting mammogram	FREQUENTLY WHEN INTERPRETING SAMPLES FROM WOMEN WITH DENSER BREAST TISSUE.
SOT/FULL Joann G. Elmore, M.D., M.P.H., - University of Washington Super@1:35 Runs:06 (Video covering 1 st half of the bite: doctor looking into microscope)	“Now we know which cases are the most challenging, now we can study how much improvement we can get by adding in second opinions.”
B-ROLL Abby walking outside	ABBY DID GET A SECOND OPINION. SHE AND HER DOCTOR OPTED TO MONITOR HER WITH REGULAR MAMMOGRAMS, WHICH CONTINUE TO BE NORMAL.
SOT/FULL Abby Howell Super@1:46 Runs:04	“For me, I felt like I knew enough that I was willing to take the risk of waiting.”
B-ROLL Abby on camera	CATHERINE DOLF, THE JAMA REPORT.

TAG: STUDY AUTHORS REPORT THAT PATHOLOGISTS ALSO DISAGREED MORE OFTEN IF THEY INTERPRETED FEWER CASES IN THEIR ACTUAL PRACTICES.

Please see the complete study for additional information, including other authors, author contributions and affiliations, financial disclosures, funding and support, etc.

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ADDITIONAL SOUNDBITES:

Joann G. Elmore, M.D., M.P.H., - University of Washington

QUOTE 1 Runs:08

“When women had dense tissue it was perhaps a little harder for the doctors to interpret and they were in less agreement.”

QUOTE 2: Runs:11

“When a woman is given a diagnosis of atypia or even DCIS, ductal carcinoma in situ, that this is not the same as a diagnosis of invasive cancer.”

