

July - Dec 74

C-13 (73): (SGO-517) "Bone Scanning as a Screening Test in Breast Cancer", Principal Investigator - Charles F. Shield, III, Capt, USAF, MC.

TECHNICAL APPROACH: Two groups of patients are to be studied:
1) those referred for radiotherapy after mastectomy at other hospitals, and 2) those with suspicious lesions defined prior to their surgical procedures. Routine head to pelvis skeletal survey with technetium polyphosphate or diphosphate will be performed. These studies are intended to define by skeletal survey and biopsy of suspicious sites, when available, the efficacy of scanning and the accuracy of scanning where possible.

PROGRESS: Progress is judged to be satisfactory. 23 patients presently are under followup in this study. Bone scanning has become more wide spread and the incidence of false positive results has apparently increased; this may be a limiting factor in the final utility of this procedure. Used in concert with normal radiographic techniques and magnification procedures it is thought that bone scanning may improve patient selection for radical breast surgical procedures. Numbers of patients enrolled in this study are still small and a minimum followup time of 60 months will restrict the opportunity for early conclusions.

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