Advanced breast biopsy instrumentation (ABBI) system for non-palpable breast lesions

Medical Services Advisory Committee

Record Status
This is a bibliographic record of a published health technology assessment from a member of INAHTA. No evaluation of the quality of this assessment has been made for the HTA database.

Citation
Medical Services Advisory Committee. Advanced breast biopsy instrumentation (ABBI) system for non-palpable breast lesions. Canberra: Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) 2001: 54

Authors' objectives
This report aims to assess the effectiveness of advanced breast biopsy instrumentation (ABBI) for diagnostic biopsy of detected lesions of the breast.

Authors' conclusions
MSAC recommended that, on the strength of evidence pertaining to ABBI, public funding should be supported for the diagnostic use of this procedure, as long as fees are such that health system costs do not exceed those of comparators. There is insufficient evidence for the use of ABBI in a therapeutic role for breast cancer.

The use of the ABBI equipment is to be limited to surgeons and radiologists with sufficient training and expertise in the procedure, in order to reproduce in Australian practice the results reported in the literature.

A costing study should be carried out to assist in the setting of the appropriate Medicare rebate.

Project page URL

INAHTA brief and checklist

Indexing Status
Subject indexing assigned by CRD

MeSH
Biopsy /instrumentation; Breast Diseases /surgery; Breast Neoplasms /diagnosis

Language Published
English

Country of organisation
Australia

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AccessionNumber
32002000068