

Ductoscopy Coupled to Duct Lavage and Duct Brushing in Pathologic Nipple Discharge: Our Experience

Stefanos Zervoudis^{1,2,3}, Georgios Iatrakis^{2,3}, Jean-Pierre Daures⁵, Anastasia Bothou^{3,4}, Vasilis Aranitis², Xaralambos Patralexis², Georgios Tsatsaris⁴, Iordanis Navrozoglou¹, Panagiotis Tsikouras⁴, Minas Paschopoulos¹

¹University of Ioannina, Greece

²Rea Hospital, Athens, Greece

³University of West Attica, Athens, Greece

⁴University of Alexandroupolis, Greece

⁵University of Montpellier-Nimes, France

Abstract

Purpose: to present our experience in the management of pathological nipple discharge using the procedure D.DL.DB: “ductoscopy” (D) coupled to “duct lavage” (DL) plus “duct brushing” (DB) for etiologic diagnosis. Also to compare the diagnosis obtained with D.DL.DB to the final histology.

Material and Method: Eighty-five patients with organic unilateral nipple discharge were enrolled in two Breast Units. 82 of 85 patients were investigated successfully with D.DL.DB. The final diagnosis was performed by surgical excision of the duct.

Results: The final histological results were: papilloma 46.3%, duct ectasia 36.5%, breast cancer 8.5%, precancer lesions 4.9%, and mixed benign lesions 3.8%. Pyramidectomy and radical ductectomy were performed in 76 and 6 cases respectively. In 80% of the cases, DLDB cytology results were identical to the final histology. (Kappa=0;69 CI=[0.56 -0.82]). The sensitivity of D.DL.DB versus pathology, for cancer or precancer lesions was 81.8% (CI=0.59 -1) and the specificity was 97.1% (CI=0.93 -1). Using Koch scale, the concordance between the two methods D.DL.DB and surgery was high and the

sensitivity was in the upper range regarding the literature (58% to 90 %).

Conclusion: Our experience confirms the high value of D.DL.DB in the management of organic nipple discharge.

Key words: breast ductoscopy, duct lavage, duct brushing, nipple discharge, microductectomy, pyramidectomy