Surgery

Please Read Before Cutting Open Your Body!

Probably the most common reaction, after the initial fear and dread that comes with a cancer diagnosis, is that you want that tumor gone. Cut that sucker out; get it out of my body! Of course, the thought process behind that is very simple … once the tumor is cut out, it's gone and you don't have cancer anymore! Right? Wrong.

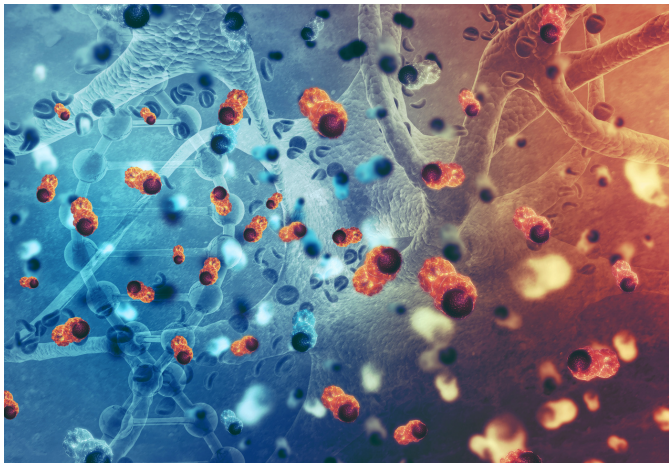
At best, removing the cancerous tumor may give you the upper hand, for a short while. Cancer had the upper hand for quite some time, happily growing in your body for years without even having the decency to let you know it was there. It was able to grow, unrestricted, and you never knew to do something about it. Unlike bacteria, cancer never gave you a heads up. Cancer didn't give you symptoms, so you never had the chance to make the necessary diet and lifestyle changes to heal it. It could have happened anywhere in our bodies. For us, it happened in our breasts.

Unfortunately, oncologists and surgeons do not approach cancer as the whole-body disease it is. Instead, cancer is approached by them as an isolated enemy, one to be attacked and disposed of. Doctors ignore the fact that cancer is a systemic disease. They often ignore the fact that cancer does not just come neatly packaged in a tumor. They usually ignore the fact that the tumor is just a symptom of a larger disease. We all have cancer cells circulating through our bodies. Removing a tumor from our breast does not remove cancer cells from our body.

Whether it be a lumpectomy with radiation or a mastectomy (usually done to avoid radiation), oncologists reassure their patients that their cancer will be gone. They even go so far as to justify the removal of sentinel lymph nodes as a way of making sure cancer has not spread. In most cases, this does not work. Why? Once again, because cancer is a whole-body disease. There are cancer cells circulating throughout your body on a regular basis. Any of them have the potential of evading our immune system and becoming a tumor. Removing a tumor from one part of a body will not stop another tumor from forming somewhere else. Heck, even women who have had mastectomies often have breast cancer show back up in the scar tissue of the non-existent breast! If they opt for implants, they can even get hit with a double whammy when they later discover that their implants have caused new cancers to grow as well. None of that even takes into account the emotional scars and the numerous side-effects, many of them permanent, including pain, numbness, swelling and a host of other issues.

Studies also show that any surgery, even lumpectomies, can accelerate cancer growth and contribute to metastasis. Think about it for a moment. What happens when you get a cut? Your body races growth hormones to the site of the injury. It also starts establishing a new blood supply to facilitate healing. In the case of an injury, that's exactly what we want it to do.

Now, imagine you have just had your doctor cut into your body to remove the tumor or your breast. Your body will do what it is supposed to. It will rush those super growth hormones to the site, it will start establishing new blood supplies, all with the intent of healing the harm which has been done by the surgery. But, at the same time, those very same reactions immediately start feeding the remaining



cancer cells in your body, providing them with the very blood supply and growth hormones they need in order to grow and metastasize.

"Here are some other factors to consider regarding surgery:

· Surgery, just like any other physical trauma, will induce immune suppression. It will also initiate an inflammatory response that could cause cancer cells to proliferate.

· Also as part of the trauma response, during surgery the body will secrete specific growth factors in an effort to quickly instigate healing. Unfortunately, this response can have the opposite effect when it comes to cancer since these same substances can also cause tumor cells to grow.

· Cancer cells are sticky: their surface acts very much like Velcro, enabling them to adhere to each other as well as to blood vessel walls. An experiment that mimicked cancer surgery conditions found that the ability of cancer cells to stick to blood vessel walls increased by a whopping 250% during procedures.

· Surgery reduces production of Natural Killer cells and stunts their activity. NK cells' main job is to seek out invasive and harmful pathogens such as cancer cells and eat (i.e. destroy) them.

· A 2011 study published in the journal The Annals of Surgery found that surgery itself can cause the right environment for cancer to grow and spread, in part

"because of the shutdown of the immune system that occurs during surgery."
https://thetruthaboutcancer.com/breast-lumpectomy-biopsy/

There have even been studies, comparing the success rates of those who have had surgery to those who did not.

"Of the women who received the combined treatment and did not undergo surgery, 68 percent had no evidence of recurrent cancer after a median follow-up period of 51 months. The five-year survival rate for this group was 75 percent. These numbers were comparable to recurrence and survival rates reported in the literature for women treated surgically, and were no different from the rates for the 20 women who underwent either mastectomies or lumpectomies."
http://news.stanford.edu/news/2001/may2/breast_cancer.html
https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/01/29/well/live/after-mastectomies-an-unexpected-blow-numb-new-breasts.html?referer=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ourbodiesourselves.org%2F2017%2F02%2Fthe-unexpected-effects-of-breast-reconstruction%2F

Surgery, particularly when accompanied by the "required" antibiotics, has an adverse effect on our immune system. It severely weakens it, giving the remaining cancer cells a great opportunity to start their own colony. So, not only does surgery not remove cancer, it actually helps the remaining cancer cells grow.

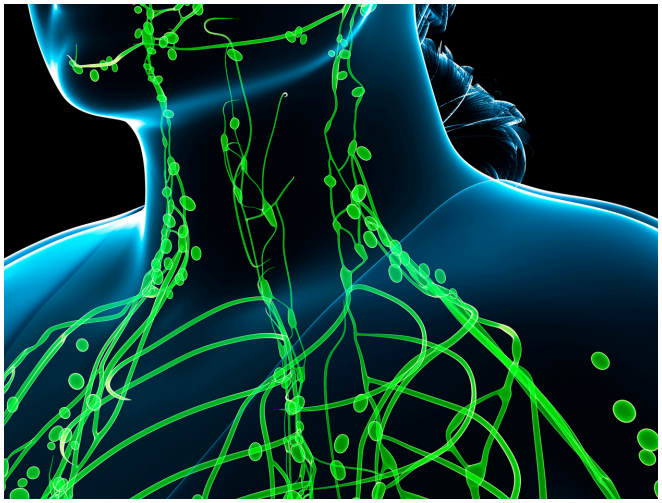
There is a recent study, however, which is trying to find a way to reduce the risks of recurrence from surgery. But even the researchers acknowledge: " After cancer surgery — particularly for breast cancer — many patients experience an early tumor recurrence. " "... the recurrence of cancer after surgery is not an uncommon occurrence. " " Some who have gone through surgery are at an increased risk of early recurrence, although the precise reasons why are currently unclear." " So far, it has been difficult for researchers and medical professionals to establish a clear causal relationship between cancer surgery and the triggering of these metastatic cells. Still, existing studies had noted that early relapses tend to peak at 12–18 months after surgery."

When studying this effect, " The researchers found that when the rodents underwent surgery, the cancer cells that had so far been kept in limbo by specialized immune cells known as T cells appeared to be "stimulated," so that more and larger secondary tumors would develop."
https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/321505.php

In another recent article, it is stated: " Breast cancer patients are more likely to experience a return and spread of their cancer within 18 months after a mastectomy or removal of the breast tumour along with healthy breast tissues. ... According to a new study from MIT and the Whitehead Institute, the process of healing of the surgical scar after surgery is the cause for spread of the cancer. " The article goes on to say "Normally the body's immune system prevents the spread of the cancer from the breast to other tissues in the body. When the healing from the scar is ongoing after a surgery, the immune system is too busy to stop the spread of the cancer cells to other parts of the body. This means that the cancer cells are transported to distant sites in the body and the cancer thus progresses. This study appeared in the latest issue of the journal Science Translational Medicine this Wednesday."
https://www.news-medical.net/news/20180412/Breast-cancers-more-likely-to-spread-after-surgery-finds-study.aspx

Of course, according to conventional doctors, no surgery is complete without also removing some of those pesky lymph nodes. Right? Wrong again. Our lymph nodes, including our sentinel lymph nodes (the ones doctors treat as being disposable), are a vital part of our immune system. (For more information on that, please read our document on Understanding Lymph Nodes.)

" The conventional medical view is that lymph nodes contain cancer cells and therefore must be removed. At the same time, since cancer is a systemic disease, removing parts of the body doesn't provide a real solution. In other words, the swollen lymph nodes aren't the problem and neither is the tumor, which is often also surgically removed. The tumor and/or the swollen lymph nodes are a result of the problem." "Surgical removal of lymph nodes, as a way of reducing metastasis, may actually be causing more harm than good because of the potential lifelong complications of lymphedema." "A European study in 1981 evaluated 716 women with breast cancer and found no difference in survival when extra lymph nodes were removed. Yes, that's right, this study was done in 1981. And yet, how many times in recent years have you heard someone with cancer having surgery to have their lymph nodes removed?" https://thetruthaboutcancer.com/lymph-node-removal-necessary/



I found these statements from the same article very interesting. "After invasive treatments such as surgery and/or radiation, there is often damage, including pain, that lasts for the rest of an individual's life. A damaged lymphatic system means that a person is much more susceptible to illness and injury as the lymphatic system ordinarily helps the body to heal faster and better. Very few, if any, studies in any type of cancers have examined the long-time results of node removal/lymph system damage with these harms in mind. In a review published in May 2015, Cochrane researchers found that overall survival for participants with melanoma who underwent sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB) had no improvement in overall survival. However, recurrence of the melanoma at a distant site occurred more frequently in those participants in the SLNB group." Yes, having a sentinel lymph node biopsy actually increases your chances of metastasis. Another recent finding is that breast cancer tumors actually send out signals to our immune system which alerts our immune system to go on a "search and destroy" mission. The current theory is that, if you remove the tumor, the immune system then no longer receives these signals and so it lets down its guard. Once that happens, it presents the opportunity for metastasis. Here's a quick video by Chris Wark on this topic: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_nnx_cDrA3k&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3ObJi8iIg8m6-mViok1AtAh1Nut65s2eSaFzJDkfrDYjcIVuy92cf_fhw

Surgery as a "just in case" or a perceived "preventative measure" can possibly do more harm than good. Knowing that information, why would anyone take the risk of unnecessary surgery?

With that said, however, I do acknowledge that there are times when surgery might need to be considered. So, please, do not ever feel that you cannot have surgery if you truly I believe there is no

other option. For example, if a person needs an appendectomy, surgery is preferred to allowing the appendix to become so inflamed it ruptures. If a cancerous tumor is pressing on an organ and starting to interfere with its proper functioning, surgery is probably called for. Even in cases where a breast tumor is obviously not responding to your healing protocols and you honestly have applied all the possible natural healing protocols and yet the cancer is threatening to spread and/or cause harm to your body, it might be worthwhile to weigh the option of surgery. Each such case should be weighed on its own merits. As stated above, however, surgery will not get rid of the cancer; it may actually make the remaining cancerous cells more aggressive but, depending upon the severity of your own condition, the immediate benefits might outweigh the long-term risks. Should you find yourself in that position, please make sure you have done your research, that you know both the pros and cons of your decision and be prepared to buckle down on your protocols, even more, should you determine surgery is the only option for you. Since surgery is not without risks, and may actually make things worse, such a decision should not be taken lightly.

Bottom line … Please remember that our body is more than just a sum of parts. Those parts work together in an amazing complex system of checks and balances. Any one part that is removed can and does have an effect on the entire body. A breast is no more a disposable body part than a foot, an ear or your right cheek. Your breasts are part of your lymphatic system, which helps keep your immune system working properly. To heal cancer, we must strengthen our immune systems, not weaken them.