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“Reverse expansion”: A new technique of breast reconstruction with autologous tissue

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**“REVERSE EXPANSION”: A NEW TECHNIQUE OF BREAST RECONSTRUCTION WITH AUTOLOGOUS TISSUE****Fabiocchi L, MD<sup>1</sup>; Semprini G, MD<sup>1</sup>; Cattin F, MD<sup>1</sup>; Dellachiesa L, MD<sup>2</sup>, Fogacci T, MD<sup>1</sup>; Frisoni G, MD<sup>1</sup>; Samorani D, MD<sup>1</sup>**

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**Key Words:** Reverse expansion; breast cancer; mastectomy; lipofilling**Corresponding Author**

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[semprini-gloria@libero.it](mailto:semprini-gloria@libero.it)**ABSTRACT**

The treatment for breast cancer is sometimes long and requires a multidisciplinary approach. In 2010, in our centre we began to perform fat grafting for breast reconstruction using the so-called "reverse expansion" technique. This consists in the insertion of a skin expander during mastectomy, in its expansion and then in its gradual deflation in the surgical theatre during fat grafting. We have performed a complete breast reconstruction in 57 patients using reverse expansion. We have harvested fat in the fat excess areas using a normal liposuction cannula. In each patient, an average of 640 ccs of fat had been collected and then centrifuged in a 4000 rpm centrifuge for 3 minutes. The obtained adipocytes were then injected in the operated breast using a normal lipofilling cannula. We injected an average of 318.05 ccs of adipocytes for each patient each time. The average number of sessions per patient has been 3.6. Reverse expansion can be a safe and effective technique for breast reconstruction in all the breast cancer patients.

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