

Reasonable alternative to invasive biopsy of palpable breast lesions with benign imaging features identified

November 20 2009

Short-term follow-up is a reasonable alternative to invasive biopsy of palpable (capable of being touched or felt) breast lesions with benign imaging features, particularly in younger women with probable fibroadenoma (non-cancerous tumors that often occur in women during their reproductive years), according to a study published in the December issue of the *American Journal of Roentgenology*.

The study, performed at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va., consisted of a group of 320 [women](#) with 375 palpable masses with benign features for which short-term follow-up was recommended. "We found that only one case of cancer was diagnosed for which short-term follow-up had been recommended," said Jennifer A. Harvey, M.D., lead author of the study.

"Our study of palpable breast lesions with benign features showed an acceptably low prevalence of [breast cancer](#) — so low that short-term follow-up is a reasonable alternative to biopsy," said Harvey.

"Application of the results of our study may reduce the number of biopsies that result in benign findings. There is also significant cost savings associated with using short-term follow-up rather than immediate [biopsy](#)," she said.

Source: American College of Radiology

Citation: Reasonable alternative to invasive biopsy of palpable breast lesions with benign imaging features identified (2009, November 20) retrieved 24 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2009-11-alternative-invasive-biopsy-palpable-breast.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.