

'Lipofilling' technique found safe for reconstruction after breast cancer surgery

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lead author Dr. Todor Krastev of Maastricht University Medical Centre in the Netherlands.

More information: T. K. Krastev et al, Meta-analysis of the oncological safety of autologous fat transfer after breast cancer, *British Journal of Surgery* (2018). [DOI: 10.1002/bjs.10887](https://doi.org/10.1002/bjs.10887)

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Micrograph showing a lymph node invaded by ductal breast carcinoma, with extension of the tumour beyond the lymph node. Credit: Nephron/Wikipedia

Autologous fat transfer, also known as "lipofilling", is a minimally invasive procedure in which the plastic surgeon uses the patient's own fat obtained by liposuction to perform breast reconstruction. For more than a decade, experts have questioned the oncological safety of this technique when applied to the former breast cancer patient, because autologous fat transfer stimulates the formation of blood vessels and tissue regeneration; however, a recent *BJS (British Journal of Surgery)* meta-analysis of published studies found that the technique does not result in an increased rate of cancer recurrence.

The findings indicate that autologous fat transfer can be performed safely in [breast reconstruction](#) after breast cancer.

"Lipofilling need not be feared of causing cancer relapse in the former breast cancer patient," said

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