



Welcome to *Annals of Breast Surgery*

Many patients were aghast when they were diagnosed with breast cancer. Their first usual response was “how much longer I can live”, followed by “I must get the best surgeon to remove the tumor” and “whether there is an optimal treatment that can cure my illness while keeping me pretty”.

Casting our mind back to the history of breast surgery, in 1894, Prof. William S. Halstead in Johns Hopkins Hospital implemented the radical mastectomy named after him. In the 20th century, modified radical mastectomy was in vogue across the world. It is until recent years that breast-conserving surgery, sentinel lymph node biopsy and reconstruction surgery have entered the mainstream. As far as we know, breast cancer is a systemic disease. Even though the concept of multidisciplinary approach to the management of breast cancer is getting more and more prevalent, surgery is still the mainstay of comprehensive treatment. Surgeons and patients both desire to reduce surgical trauma and improve survival rate while taking postoperative quality of life and cosmesis into account.

Since the kickoff of the new century, the treatment of breast cancer has been taking a leap in terms of early screening and diagnosis, surgery and radiotherapy technology, molecular classification, susceptibility gene mutation research, as well as endocrine and targeted therapy drugs. With an eye to establishing a contemporary academic exchange forum for all related areas of breast surgery, *Annals of Breast Surgery (ABS)* was launched in Sept. 2017 by AME Publishing Company. It is an international, open access, peer-reviewed online journal disseminating current and practical information about the prevention, diagnosis, and clinical investigations of breast surgery. *ABS* rivets on cutting-edge findings of breast surgery and reconstruction techniques, neoadjuvant therapy, genetic susceptibility and prophylactic mastectomy, including but not limited to, multimodality therapy, biomarkers, imaging, biology, pathology, clinical trial, nursing and technical advances related to breast surgery. *ABS* is an innovative journal with a distinct format that will make significant contributions to open up new avenues of research on breast cancer and meet the ultimate goal of benefiting the patients.

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