

Article information: <https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/gc-23-384>

Reviewer A

“Contralateral prophylactic mastectomy for unilateral breast cancer in Chinese female population: a retrospective cohort study” is a single institution review of contralateral prophylactic mastectomy after unilateral breast cancer. The study is unique in its focus on Chinese women compared to many other works that included majority American or European women. Overall, the study finds that the use of prophylactic surgery is much lower among Chinese women, peaking at 3% in this population compared to western reports. Also, the study findings of the outcomes of CPM are in line with other previously published data with no survival advantage to risk reducing surgery. In general, this adds to the literature in large part because the study population is Chinese and Asian women are underrepresented in the literature on the use of CPM. However, please revise this manuscript for verbosity. The methods and conclusion sections especially need to be condensed to increase the readability of the manuscript. Subtitles can help break up the sections to enhance readability. Also, the table font can be reduced and better organized in structured rows and columns.

Reply : Thank you for your comments.

We have made deletions to the methods section (Page 7-9, Participants, Clinicopathological factors and definitions, Follow-up).

Changes have also been made to the conclusions section (Page 18-19).

In the results section of survival analysis, We added two subheadings to facilitate interpretation of the results (Page 12-13, Post-PSM analysis, Subgroup analysis).

For the tables, we made changes to the fonts.

Have the authors considered cost as a factor in choosing CPM? There was no information in the payment/ insurance structure of this institution. Is there universal coverage or personal cost to the patient for these procedures?

Reply : Thank you for your comments. CPM surgeries are covered by universal health insurance and the cost difference with SM surgeries is not significant. And since patients and their families do not give much consideration to cost in daily clinical practice, this study did not include cost as a factor influencing patients' decision-making.

For grammatical concerns please address:

In the abstract, this sentence is awkward: “A significant percentage of patients expressed that the physical labor was affected”. An alternative can be “... expressed limitations in physical functioning.”

For the background section third sentence “high risk” not necessary. All women with breast

cancer who have contralateral mastectomy are classified as having a CPM.
For the method section please explain the exclusion criteria: “The exclusion criteria were as follows: (I) specific types of breast cancer;”
Page 9 line 2 please remove “anatomic” before pathological TNM.
Please add a reference for the breast Q survey used.
Page 11, line 16 Please add comma to “In 2017..”

Reply : Thank you for your comments. We have made changes accordingly. We have explained the exclusion criteria: “The exclusion criteria were as follows: (I) specific types of breast cancer;” in Page 7 line 9. The reason for the exclusion of the special type of breast cancer was that it was not present within the CPM group and given that the special type of breast cancer may affect patient survival, it was excluded from the entire study to ensure intergroup comparability between the CPM group and the UM group.

Reviewer B

1. Please re-confirm the **design type** of your study, your manuscript shows conflicting information. Please **check the whole text for consistency**.

2 **Title: Contralateral prophylactic mastectomy for unilateral breast cancer in Chinese female**

3 **population: a retrospective cohort study**

4 **Authors: Jingjin Zhu ^{1,2#}, Ningning Min ^{1,2#}, Yanjun Zhang ², Huan Wu ³, Chenyan Hong ^{1,2}, Rui Geng**

17 present this article in accordance with the STROBE reporting checklist. ↵

18 **Methods** ↵

19 This **cross-sectional**, retrospective, single-institution study was approved by the Ethics Committee of

Reply: We have revised.

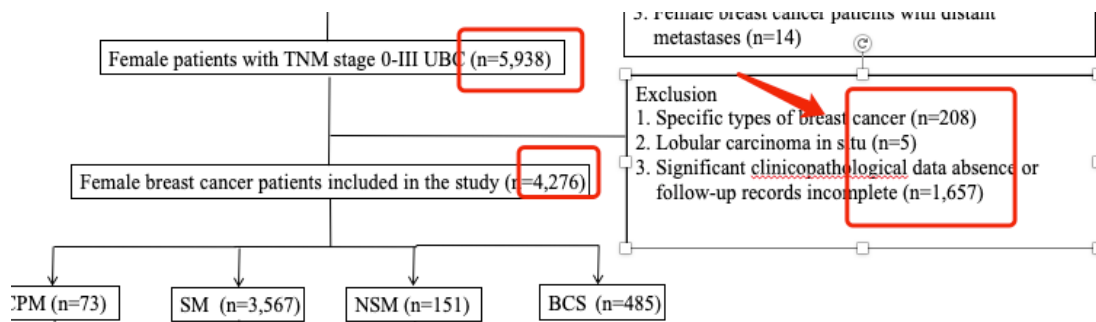
2. Please indicate the hospital’s name in the main text.

1 **Participants** ↵

2 The patients undergoing breast surgery in **our medical institution** from January 1, 2005 to December

Reply: We have revised.

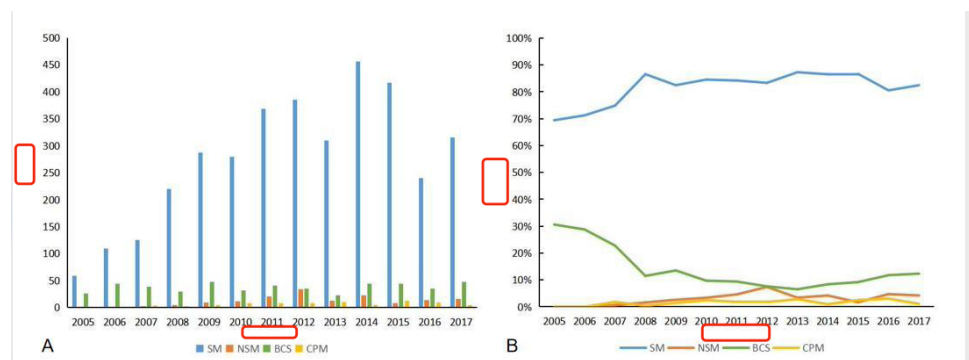
3. You need to check and revise Figure 1, the numbers are wrongly counted.



Reply: We have revised.

4. Figure 2

- Please add the descriptions for Y-axis.
- Please add “Years” for X-axis in figure 2.



Reply: We have revised.

5. Please add the descriptions for Y-axis in Figure 3 and resend us updated figure.

Reply: We have revised.

6. Please define all abbreviations in Table 1 and Table S1 footnote respectively.

Reply: We have revised.