New breast imaging protocol detects more cancer, study finds

Cleveland Clinic researchers suggested that advanced breast cancer that may have spread to the lymph nodes may be accurately detected with a higher dose of technetium-99m filtered sulfur colloid agent. Researchers increased the dose from 0.4 mCi to 3.0 mCi and injected it in 51 patients the day before surgery and in 49 patients the morning of their surgery. Researchers found that injecting the agent the day before surgery resulted in 76% sensitivity compared with 49% in the group given the tracer on the day of surgery. The study was presented at the SNMMI Annual Meeting. AuntMinnie.com (free registration) (6/10)