

Management of the axilla - Summary

Upfront surgery

- T1-3 (Luminal)
- T1a,b - TNBC and HER2-pos
- Luminal - Postmenopausal cN1 and RS < 25
- Luminal - Premenopausal cN0

1. Standard technique SLNB
2. No frozen section
3. AxRT if SLNB positive
4. Consider ALND if > 3 nodes positive on final histology

1. If palpable nodes - ALND
2. iN+ (> 3 abnormal nodes on US) - ALND
3. iN+ (< 3 abnormal nodes on US) - SLNB standard technique
4. Post op AxRT if ALND not done and pN+
5. TAS - Remove palpable nodes and SLNB (New and more evidence needed)

NACT

- Luminal T1-3
- T1c-3 - TNBC, HER2-pos or any size node positive
- Luminal (Premenopausal – cN+)
- Luminal (Postmenopausal cN+ and RS >25)

1. Standard technique SLNB
2. No frozen section
3. AxRT if SLNB positive
4. Consider ALND if nodes positive on final histology

1. Post NACT cN+ - ALND
2. Post NACT cN0 then
 - Modified SLNB (Dual tracer and 3 nodes) or TAD
 - Frozen section and ALND if pN+
3. Post - surgery AxRT

CN0

CN+