

Tilburg University

Effect of surgery on quality of life with operable breast cancer in limited resource environments

van der Steeg, A.F.W.; de Vries, J.; Roukema, J.A.

Published in:

World journal of surgery: Official journal of the International Society of Surgery = Société Internationale de Chirurgie

DOI:

[10.1007/s00268-010-0834-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00268-010-0834-4)

Publication date:

2011

Document Version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication in Tilburg University Research Portal](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

van der Steeg, A. F. W., de Vries, J., & Roukema, J. A. (2011). Effect of surgery on quality of life with operable breast cancer in limited resource environments: Reply. *World journal of surgery: Official journal of the International Society of Surgery = Société Internationale de Chirurgie*, 35(2), 457-457. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00268-010-0834-4>

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Effect of Surgery on Quality of Life with Operable Breast Cancer in Limited Resource Environments: Reply

Alida F. W. van der Steeg · Jolanda De Vries ·
Jan A. Roukema

Published online: 26 October 2010

© The Author(s) 2010. This article is published with open access at Springerlink.com

We thank Purvi Thakkar et al. for their comments on our article [1]. It is good to see that our results are reproducible. The reported decrease in quality of life may be explained by the fact that a different questionnaire was used. The FACT-B is a disease-specific questionnaire that inquires more into functioning than into satisfaction with functioning.

The primary goal of our study was to present surgeons with other factors than only the clinical parameters, such as tumor size, that can help in the decisional process. We hope that more surgeons will assess the personality of a woman with early-stage breast cancer and use this as additional information when counseling her about possible breast cancer treatment modalities.

Open Access This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License which permits any noncommercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author(s) and source are credited.

References

1. van der Steeg AF, De Vries J, Roukema JA (2010) Anxious personality and breast cancer: possible negative impact on quality of life after breast-conserving therapy. *World J Surg* 34(7): 1453–1460

A. F. W. van der Steeg (✉) · J. A. Roukema
Department of Surgery, St. Elisabeth Hospital, P.O. Box 90151,
5000 LC Tilburg, The Netherlands
e-mail: A.F.vanderSteeg@amc.uva.nl

J. De Vries · J. A. Roukema
Department of Psychology and Health, Medical Psychology,
Tilburg University, P.O. Box 90153, 5000 LE Tilburg,
The Netherlands

A. F. W. van der Steeg
Pediatric Surgical Center Amsterdam, Emma Children's
Hospital, AMC and VU University Medical Center,
P.O. Box 22660, 1100 DD Amsterdam, The Netherlands

A. F. W. van der Steeg · J. De Vries · J. A. Roukema
CoRPS, Center of Research on Psychology in Somatic diseases,
Tilburg University, Tilburg, The Netherlands