FMTVDM/BEST©℗ Imaging for Women with Breast Implants and Dense Breasts

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Prior to FMTVDM/BEST Imaging, diagnostic testing was limited to looking for breast cancer either using “qualitative” imaging defining disease as either present or absent, or semiquantitative methods [1-10] which is also limited to the same yes you have breast cancer or no you don’t interpretation. These imaging methods include mammography, ultrasound, CT, MRI, as well as other SPECT/Planar and PET imaging approaches and as such are with associated sensitivity and specificity problems. These tests are further limited when imaging dense breast tissue or when breast implants exist either for augmentation or following mastectomy.

The ability of FMTVDM/BEST to differentiate transitional changes in tissue, associated with regional blood flow differences (RBFDs) and increasing tissue metabolism, makes it possible for FMTVDM/BEST to measure these tissue changes across an entire spectrum of changes; recognizing a “Health-Spectrum” shown by Figure 1. The interaction between cellular genetics and environmental factors consequently influence changes in tissue resulting in transitional changes including regional blood flow differences and metabolism. At one end of the spectrum is the absence of life, which may or may not be associated with a significant accumulation of cellular debris, inter alia, calcium, which may occur prior to the actual loss of cellular “life”. In order of increasing regional blood flow and cellular metabolism are what is considered to be the “normal” state of a given tissue; resulting changes occurring due to an increased signaling and consequential accumulation of an inflammatory state; sequentially followed by further changes in tissue transitioning through increasingly metabolically active tissue with increased metabolic activity and demands for increased regional blood flow, until arriving at a tissue state where the expected controls and functionality of tissue no longer exist; what has classically been defined as “cancer”. Implicit in this understanding is the appreciation that this continuum across transitional states reflects the interrelationship between these various “Health-Spectrum” states, which (1) Are not defined by some arbitrary absolute cutoffs between tissue states, (2) Demonstrate the ability of tissues to transition in either direction towards “normalization” or towards “cancer” and (3) Allow for the absolute measurement of the affect of treatment upon any of these tissue states across the “Health-Spectrum” providing the ability to direct care at the “patient-specific” level, improving outcomes across these transitional states; saving time, money and most importantly lives.
Because FMTVDM/BEST measures the RBFDs and metabolism of tissue, which is not altered by dense breasts or foreign bodies; e.g. breast implants, FMTVDM/BEST can be used to evaluate the “health” of a woman’s breast in such circumstances. The following study represents a woman who has breast implants evaluated using FMTVDM/BEST.

### FMTVDM/BEST Imaging of Woman with Bilateral Breast Implants and Compressed (Dense) Breasts

A 38-year-old woman positive for BRCA1 & 2 who had previously undergone bilateral prophylactic mastectomy followed by bilateral breast implants was referred for diagnostic evaluation following mammographic imaging.
questions associated with dense breasts from the residu-
ually compressed breast tissue in addition to limitations
associated with breast implants.

She underwent FMTVDM/BEST imaging per protocol
[11] with the measurements shown in Figure 2, which
shows the lateral image of the left breast followed by
the lateral image of the right breast. FMTVDM/BEST
Imaging of woman with bilateral breast implants. Breast
implants are shown in “blue” with compression of
breast tissue (yellow) showing the left breast to the left
and the right breast to the right in these images. The
measured results reveal counts of 158 in the left breast
and 143 in the right breast, both associated with “nor-
mal” breast tissue with early “inflammatory” changes.
In both instances, the appearance of the breast tissue
(yellow) appears to be visually increased particularly
when compared with the breast implants, which are
blue in appearance surrounded by less compressed
breast tissue, noted in green.

Despite the appearance, FMTVDM/BEST measure-
ments placed the woman in the upper range for “nor-
mal” breast tissue approaching “inflammatory” chang-
es, measuring 158 in the left breast and 143 in the right.

Discussion

The limitations in mammography for women with
dense breasts has resulted in legislation existing in
more than 30 U.S. States, requiring the inclusion of
statements with the mammography report notifying
physicians and women that mammograms may miss
breast cancer in women with dense breasts. In women
with genetic markers associated with an increased
risk for breast cancer many have elected to undergo
bilateral prophylactic mastectomy to reduce their risk
of breast cancer. While this may reduce the potential
for breast cancer it does not altogether eliminate it and
the inclusion of breast implants now adds an additional
complicating factor into breast imaging.

FMTVDM/BEST Imaging provides the only quantita-
tive method for measuring changes in RBFDs and met-
abolic tissue differences across the “Health-Spectrum”.
While the qualitative imagine may appear abnormal,
the true measurement of tissue health with FMTVDM/
BEST allows clinicians to be able to monitor women’s
breast health in the presence of dense breasts and
breast implants.

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