



Cost-effectiveness of reduction mammoplasty.

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Abstract: OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this study is to provide a comparison of the benefits of reduction mammoplasty (RM) for women with heavy breasts often termed macromastia or breast hypertrophy (BH) surgery. The rationale is to provide information to allow decision-makers to make judgments about the cost-effectiveness of this intervention and make comparisons with other interventions which are commonly undertaken within publicly financed health-care systems. METHODS: Data from a previous outcomes study in Sweden is re-analyzed to derive quality of life measures, from which a mean level of benefit outcome is derived and a cost per quality-adjusted life year is calculated (cost per QALY). RESULTS: The low Cost per QALY suggests that reduction mammoplasty is cost-effective when compared with other treatments which are commonly undertaken. CONCLUSIONS: The authors suggest that the evidence in favor of funding reduction mammoplasty is strong and that decision-makers review their policy in light of this new evidence.

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