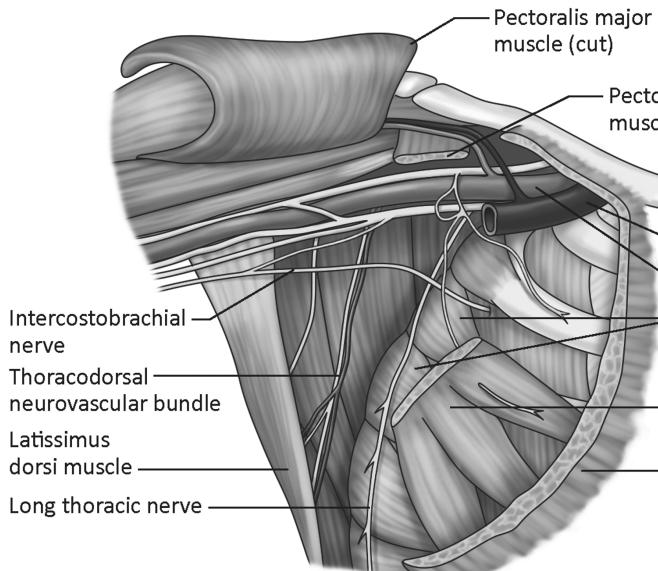
Commission on Cancer Operative Standards **Standard 5.4: Axillary Lymph Node Dissection for Breast Cancer**

Operation

For all axillary lymph node dissections performed with curative intent for patients with breast cancers of epithelial origin



Remove level I and II lymph nodes within:

- Axillary vein
- Latissimus dorsi
- Serratus anterior (chest wall)

Preserve long thoracic, thoracodorsal & intercostobrachial nerves when possible

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Documentation

Pectoralis minor muscle (cut)

Axillary vein

Axillary artery

Serratus anterior muscle

Pectoralis minor muscle (cut)

Pectoralis major muscle (cut)

Required elements/ responses in synoptic format

 \checkmark Curative intent

✓ Resection boundaries

 \checkmark Preservation of vasculature

✓ Level III node removal (if applicable)

Timeline

2022 Document final plan for implementation

2023 Standard 5.4 takes full effect

2024 Site visits begin reviewing operative reports



