

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
POLICY

Subject: Comprehensive Breast Cancer Treatment

Document Number: PS-153-0

Effective Date: June 1, 2019

Revision Date(s): NA

POLICY STATEMENT

Approximately one in eight (or 12.4%) U.S. women will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. In 2018, an estimated 266,120 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women in the U.S., along with 63,960 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer.

The South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA):

1. Believes that reconstruction of the breast for post-treatment rehabilitation of patients within situ or invasive breast neoplasm should be considered reconstructive surgery (rather than plastic surgery);
2. Supports education for physicians and breast cancer patients on breast reconstruction and its availability;
3. Recommends that third party payers provide coverage and reimbursement for medically necessary breast cancer treatments including but not limited to prophylactic contralateral mastectomy and/or salpingo-oophorectomy; and
4. Recognizes the validity of contralateral breast procedures needed for the achievement of symmetry in size and shape and urges recognition of these ancillary procedures by Medicare and all other third parties for reimbursement when documentation of medical necessity is provided.

AUTHORITY

South Dakota State Medical Association Policy Council, 5/31/2019; Reaffirmed by South Dakota State Medical Association Board of Director, 6/1/2019.