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Associate Professor Jacqueline Drouin Examines Side Effects of Breast Cancer Treatments

While methods for treating cancer are constantly improving, the subtle long-term side effects of these treatments may not become evident until years after their development. Associate Professor **Jacqueline Drouin**, of the **School of Health Sciences**, recently conducted an extensive review of the medical literature to examine side effects of breast cancer treatments, such as **axillary lymph node** dissection and **radiotherapy**. Drouin and her collaborator published their findings in the July 2009 issue of the journal **Breast Cancer Research and Treatment** (**Magnitude of late effects of breast cancer treatments on shoulder function: a systematic review**, Volume 116, Pages 1-15). They conclude that "there is sufficient evidence of late effects of [axillary lymph node dissection] or radiotherapy post-breast cancer to warrant careful attention to shoulder function across time in individuals who have had breast cancer."

SUMMARY

While methods for treating cancer are constantly improving, the subtle long-term side effects of these treatments may not become evident until years after their development.

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