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[Ann Plast Surg.](#) 2001 May;46(5):481-4.

Intercostal neuromas: a treatable cause of postoperative breast surgery pain.

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Author information

Abstract

Patients presenting with pain after breast surgery were selected to undergo resection of intercostal neuromas. The patients had localized Tinel's signs at one or more intercostal nerves at the lateral chest wall with radiation in the distribution of the pain. Patients also responded to diagnostic injections of local anesthetic. The patients were felt to have pain not related to breast implants and capsular contracture or intercostobrachial nerve injury. Neuromas were found in all patients meeting these requirements. Surgical resection resulted in complete pain relief. Diagnosis of this entity and consideration of surgical treatment may be underrecognized.

PMID: 11352419

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