THE EFFECT OF BREASTFEEDING ON BREAST PTOSIS FOLLOWING AUGMENTATION MAMMAPLASTY

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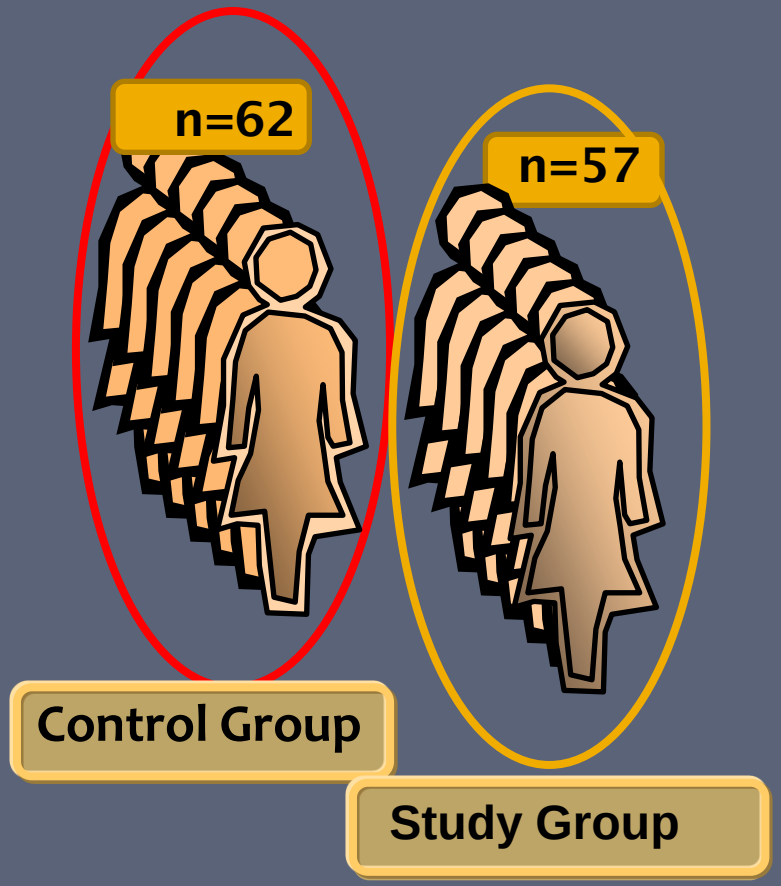
Disclosure: Nothing to disclose.

Clinical Question

Is breast ptosis increased by breastfeeding in women with breast implants?

Method

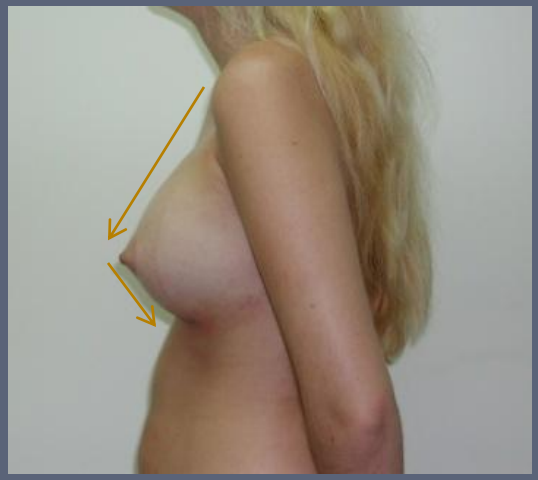
A study was designed to evaluate the changes in breast measurements resulting from pregnancy without breastfeeding (control group) vs. pregnancy with breastfeeding (study group).



Measurements

- Mid-clavicle to nipple
- Nipple to inframammary fold (IMF)

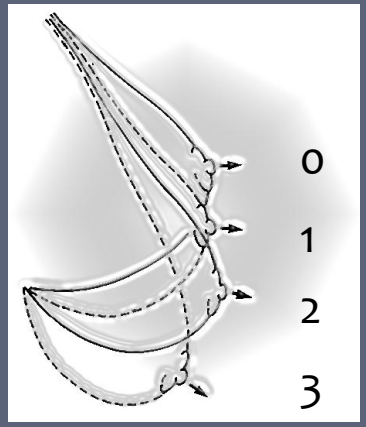
Measurements were made before pregnancy and one year after pregnancy or one year after completing breastfeeding.



Before pregnancy

After pregnancy without breastfeeding

Breast ptosis was recorded using Regnault's classification



- **No ptosis (Grade 0)**: nipples lie above the level of the IMF
- **Grade 1** : mild ptosis, nipples lie at the level of the IMF
- **Grade 2** : moderate ptosis, nipples lie below the level of the IMF but remain above the lower breast contour
- **Grade 3** : severe ptosis, nipples lie below the IMF at the lower contour of the breast

Other data collected

- Age
- Body mass index
- Bra size
- Duration of breastfeeding

Results

The groups were not significantly different regarding age, BMI or mean bra size ($p>0.05$)

	Control Group	Study Group
Age	24±5	25±6
Body mass index	23±3	22±4
Bra size	34-C	34-C

Results

The mean duration of breast feeding for the study group was 6±3 months.

Results

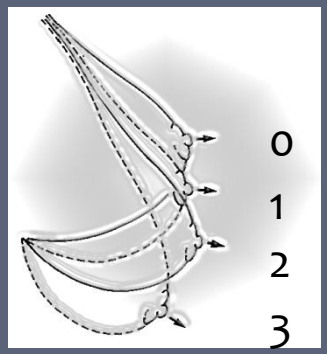
	Control Mean±SD	**Study** Mean±SD	***P***
Mid-clavicle to nipple (before)	21±2 cm	21±3 cm	>0.05
Mid-clavicle to nipple (after)	23±3 cm	22±4 cm	>0.05
Nipple to IMF (before)	6±2 cm	6±3 cm	>0.05
Nipple to IMF (after)	8±3 cm	8±2 cm	>0.05

Control Group

Study Group

Breast measurements were not significantly different between the groups

Results



	Control	Study	*P*
Regnault's grade (before)	0.5±1.0	0.5±1.0	>0.05
Regnault's grade (after)	2.0±1.0	2.0±1.0	>0.05

Control Group

Study Group

The degree of breast ptosis was not significantly different between the groups.

Conclusion

The significant changes in breast measurements are caused by pregnancy. Breastfeeding does not appear to cause further breast ptosis in women with breast augmentation.