



## Current comprehensive assessment and management of women at increased risk for breast cancer

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### Abstract

The potential for reducing the risk of breast cancer through selective estrogen receptor modulators, aromatase inhibitors, and surgery has generated interest in the use of quantitative models of risk assessment. With the addition of ductal lavage cytology to traditional epidemiologic risk factors, a discovery of cellular atypia can result in refinement of assigned risk values, while simultaneously optimizing patient selection for selective estrogen receptor modulators utilization. In view of increasing complexity in this arena, a Risk Assessment Working Group was formed to outline management strategies for the patient at an elevated risk for the development of breast cancer. No longer a statistical exercise, quantitative risk assessment is part of basic breast care and comprehensive management includes a discussion of the following: ductal lavage for improved risk stratification, multiple options for risk reduction, and high risk surveillance strategies that might incorporate investigational imaging protocols. © 2004 Excerpta Medica, Inc. All rights reserved.

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