

INTRODUCTION

Lymphedema of the upper limb is a common and serious complication after radical mastectomy and represents one of the most resistant clinical problem in breast surgery. The aetiology of this complication is not yet completely understood. It is mainly due extensive lymphatic extirpation during radical operations, also radiotherapy and infection play a major role in the aetiology. Management of this problem is so difficult, once lymphedema is established it is never eradicated.

The aim of this work is to throw a light on the possible etiological factors of lymphedema following radical mastectomy in addition to the various aspects of the management modalities.