

Reply to Klinger et al

Dear Editor,

We thank prof. Klinger et al for their interesting comment on our review¹. His group has an extensive and well known experience on the use of lipofilling in several clinical conditions.

Concerning its use on irradiated expanders, who writes first described it² (on this journal, in 2011) for patients undergoing unplanned postmastectomy radiotherapy (early breast cancers with specific risk factors), and later on in 2013 expanded the applications³ to patients where radiotherapy was planned in advance (advanced breast cancers). The rationale of our protocol, which we called "protective lipofilling", was to *protect* the expanded skin from ulceration and other complications.

As an adjunct to our protocol before second stage breast reconstruction, Klinger's group also uses lipofilling *during* the second stage, a practice which we have adopted since their contribution in 2014⁴.

We know that this philosophy has gained wide acceptance in several breast centers in Italy, because of its great results in terms of reducing complications.

Conflict of Interest

The Authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

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