

# Monitoring and Management of infection following prepectoral implant-based breast reconstruction: retrospective analysis of conservative treatment versus implant removal

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## Introduction

**Infection after implant-based breast reconstruction (IBBR) can lead to implant removal.**

**No standardized prevention or management protocols exists.**

**Study aim:** evaluates **conservative treatments** to prevent implant removal.

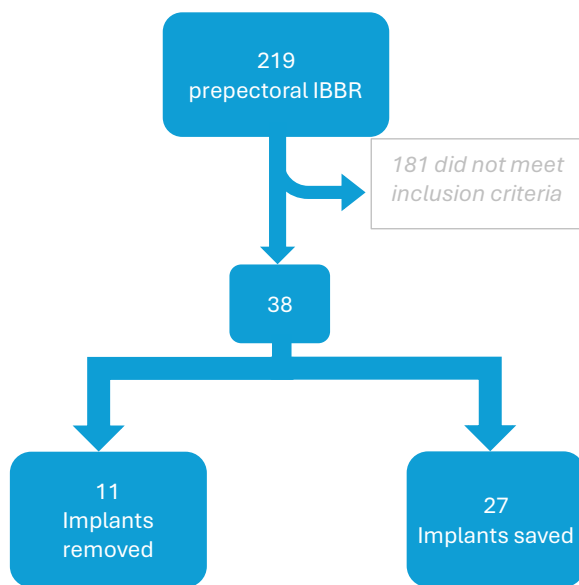
## Methods

**Study design:** Retrospective review.

**Patient recruitment:** Underwent **immediate prepectoral IBBR** (Oct 2020 - Jan 2024) with **postoperative complications (seromas, cellulitis, infections)**.

**Analysis:** Compared conservative treatment (**aspiration, antibiotics**) vs. **implant removal**.

## Results



- Positive bacterial cultures were associated with implant removal.
- Higher implant retention when no pathogens identified.
- All seroma-only cases were managed conservatively.



Figure 1. Seroma



Figure 2. Positive for: co-amoxicillin resistant *E. coli*



Figure 3. Positive for: *S. epidermidis*, *S. capitis*, *K. pneumoniae* complex

## Conclusion

- **Positive cultures** indicate the need for **implant removal** after prepectoral reconstruction.
- **Non-infected seromas** support implant **preservation**.
- Highlights need for **region-specific protocols**, timely action, and standardized guidelines.