

Category 17, Items 19 and 20

19. Which of the following statements about the use of tamoxifen in breast cancer prevention is NOT true?

- (A) Potential side effects include nausea, hot flashes, and an increased risk of thromboembolic events
- (B) The proven efficacy of tamoxifen mandates its use in all patients with lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS)
- (C) Annual pelvic examination with endometrial biopsy should be done
- (D) In patients who have had a previous resection for early stage breast cancer there is a 40% reduction in contralateral breast cancer
- (E) A decrease in total serum cholesterol and stabilization of bone loss may be anticipated

20. A 72-year-old woman has a 5-cm breast mass and severe back pain. The bone scan shown [right] is obtained. Radiation therapy to the lumbar spine is recommended.

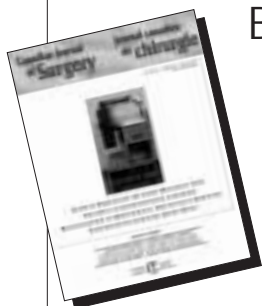
This patient should also be counseled that

- (A) immediate surgical right femoral fixation is indicated
- (B) the median survival is 9 to 12 months
- (C) combination chemotherapy will provide optimal initial treatment
- (D) initiation of tamoxifen may result in an increase in pain
- (E) bracing is indicated to prevent extradural compression by tumor

For item 19 choose 1 of the 5 answers given and for item 20 choose the completion that is best of the 5 given.

For the critique of items 19 and 20, see [page 24](#).

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