

1111 IMMUNE COMPLEXES AND BREAST CANCER : INFLUENCE OF RADIOTHE-  
RAPY AND PROGNOSTIC IMPLICATIONS. J.M.Deneufbourg and  
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Circulating immune complexes (CIC) were measured by C1q binding test among 308 breast cancers before radiotherapy , during and after treatment. Irradiation modifies CIC levels in a two-sided way : 40% of negative patients ( n=218;  $CIC=4.88 \pm 1.8\%$  ) exhibit a transitory positivation (  $CIC=15.56 \pm 6.52\%$  ) and normalisation occurs in 60% of positive patients ( n=90 ;  $CIC=16.25 \pm 7.1\%$  ). Seventy per cent of 123 ( T2+T3 ) operated patients are disease-free at 2 years minimum ( mean follow-up  $37.5 \pm 7.1$  months ). In negative patients whose CIC rise under radiotherapy , metastatic evolution occurs in 38% as compared to 18% for stable CIC levels (  $p < 0.05$  ). In positive patients , 42% of normalised cases develop metastasis as opposed to 10% when CIC remain at high levels troughout irradiation (  $p < 0.05$  ). These results indicate that radiotherapy induces modifications of CIC levels which might have prognostic implications.