



AAST Acute Care Surgery Didactic Curriculum

Breast Abscess/Infection

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Highlights:

- Non-lactational abscesses can be classified as either peripheral or subareolar
 - Peripheral abscesses usually respond to aspiration and antibiotics
 - Subareolar abscesses (Zuska's disease) have higher recurrence rate and may need surgical excision of elliptical excision of duct if aspiration fails
- Lactational abscesses often fail aspiration due to viscosity of milk
 - Small incisions away from the nipple with drain placement are definitive
 - Normal breast feeding is encouraged to decrease risk of fistula