

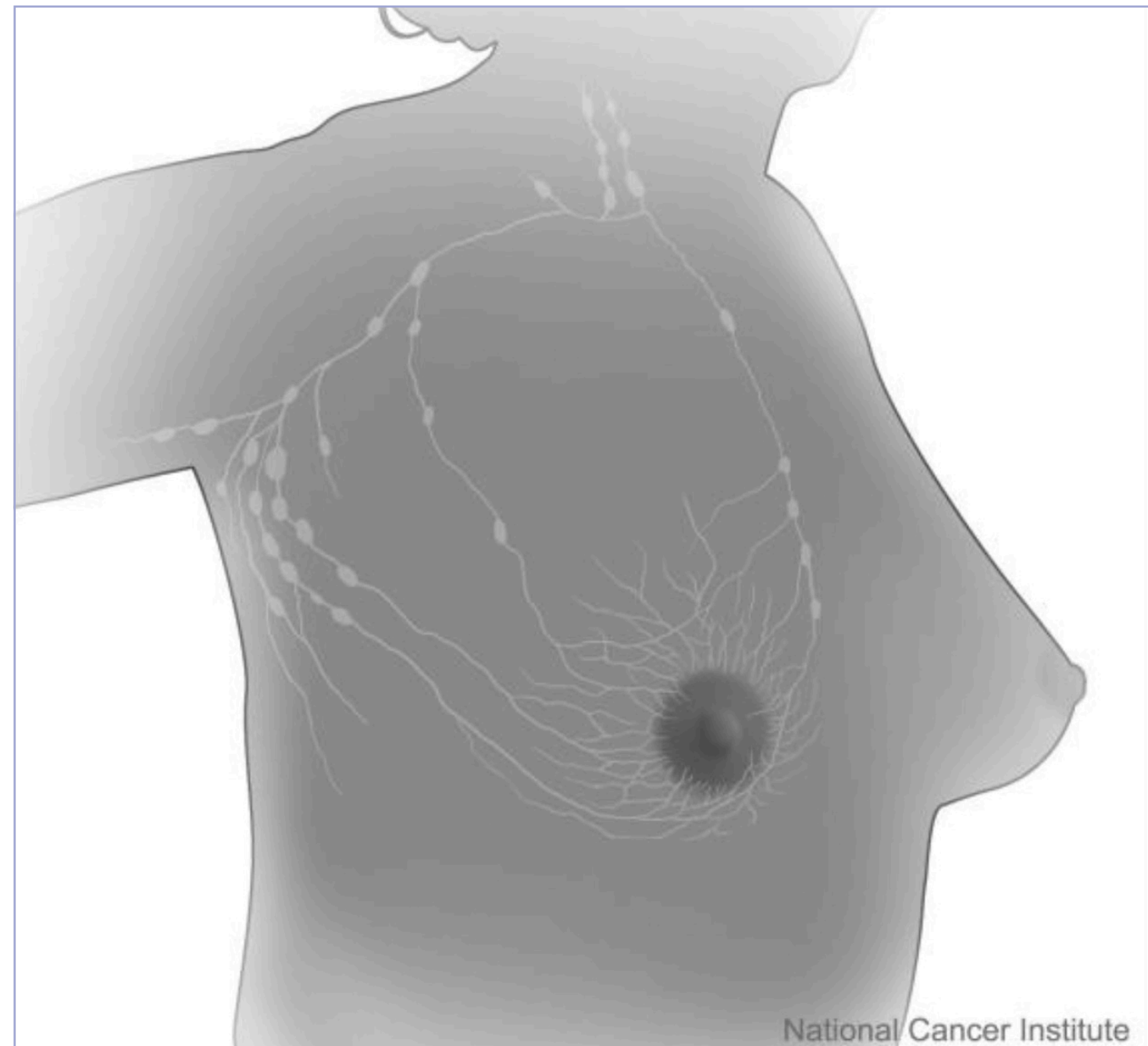
## Standard 5.3: Sentinel Node Biopsy for Breast Cancer

### Operation

For all nodal staging operations performed with **curative intent** for patients with breast cancers of epithelial origin

Remove nodes that are:

- Radioactive
- Dye stained
- Present at the end of dye-filled lymphatic channel
- Palpably suspicious
- Clipped



All sentinel nodes must be identified, removed, and subjected to pathologic analysis.

### Documentation

**Required elements/ responses in synoptic format**

- ✓ Curative intent
- ✓ Tracer(s) used
- ✓ Upfront or neoadjuvant setting
- ✓ Removal of all sentinel nodes
- ✓ Removal of all clipped nodes (*if applicable*)

### Timeline

**2022**

Document final plan for implementation

**2023**

Standard 5.3 takes full effect

**2024**

Site visits begin reviewing operative reports

Image by Don Bliss via National Cancer Institute (NCI).