Abstract:
Progress with technology and regulatory approvals has recently allowed the successful clinical translation of fluorescence molecular imaging to intra-operative applications. Initial studies have demonstrated a promising outlook for imaging cancer micro-foci, margins and lymph-nodes. However, not all surgeries will benefit equally from fluorescence guidance. This review paper outlines the clinical necessity for improving surgical procedures in the most prevalent solid tumors worldwide, demarcates major challenges currently encountered intra-operatively and outlines the role of imaging fluorescent agents during the operation.
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