

Clinico-morpho pathological profile of breast cancer patients at a tertiary cancer care centre –the significance of finding Indian solutions to Indian problems !

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Abstract

Background

Breast Cancer is the leading cause of mortality and morbidity in women world-wide. The present study attempts to highlight some of the clinico-pathological features of breast cancer patients seen at a tertiary cancer care center. The parameters studied included age, menopausal status, morphological patterns of tumor, histological grade and stage at presentation. Various predictive immunochemical markers like Estrogen (ER), progesterone (PR), human epidermal growth factor receptors (HER2), BRCA I and II were also evaluated. Patients and method: All patients registering for breast cancer treatment from 2003 to 2011 will be evaluated using a specified proforma. Mean and standard deviation and Odds ratios along with 95% confidence intervals were estimated. The statistical analysis was done using Chi²/Fisher's exact test for proportions.

Results

The profile of Indian breast cancer is significantly different from their western counterparts in terms of clinic-morphological patterns and outcome. There were more younger patients and there were two peaks of presentation were recorded. The incidence of triple negative cancer was significantly higher than reported in most western studies. The study highlights the significance of screening practiced in the western world.

Conclusions

Only indigenous data can help us understand the clinic-morphological profile of our patients and the tailoring of therapy. The need of the hour is to find Indian solutions to Indian problems. Educating the population will be helpful in early detection of breast cancer.