Breast cancer in an island in India ; a retrospective cohort study.

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Introduction: Breast cancer was the most common cancer in India among women. This study was conducted to describe the demographic, clinical, histopathological, endocrinological and survival pattern of patients with breast cancers in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Methods: Andaman and Nicobar Islands (ANI) is an archipelago of 572 islands located about 1200 km away from mainland India. The study is a secondary data analysis of patients who attended the Medical Oncology out patient department (OPD) of GB pant hospital. Data was retrieved from the case sheets of patients who attended the OPD from 1st February 2015 to 31st January 2018.

Results and discussion:

During the study period 85 patients of breast cancer were treated. Of the 82 female patients, the standardised Incidence rates were 8.82, 13 and 14.42 per 100000 women. The prevalence and mortality rates in 2015, 2016, 2017 were 14.88, 27.96,40.37 and 1.1, 2.74, 0.55 per 100000 women respectively.

The mean (SD) age at diagnosis was 51.19 (11.66) years. Histopathologically, the tumour size in 62% of the patients was less than 3.5 cm. Invasive Ductal carcinoma was the most commonly occurring type (84%) and mostly of grade 2 (60.4%). Peri-vascular invasion was found in 65.5% and Lymph nodes were positive for malignancy in 69.4% of patients.

Breast cancers were slightly more in Left side (54%). Most cancers were detected in early stage (43.5%) followed by Locally advanced stage (36.5%). Metastasis was detected in 18.8% of patients. ER, PR status was available in 80% of patients and HER 2 in 75.29% of patients. ER and PR positivity was reported in 55.9% of patients. HER 2 was positive in 28.1% of patients and triple negativity was found in 27.3% of patients.

The overall survival at 12 months, 24 months and 36 months follow up were 88.9%, 84.3% and 52.7% respectively. In bivariate analysis, the hazard ratio's were significantly associated with stage at diagnosis and year of diagnosis.

Biography

Dr. Lena Charlette, working as Senior Resident in Andaman and Nicobar Islands Institute of Medical Sciences is trained in public health from All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. Fields of interest include Cancer Epidemiology, Health systems Research and Medical Education Research.

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