

Age related quality of life among selected breast cancer patients in Aden, Yemen

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Abstract

Background: Evaluation of the quality of life (QOL) among breast cancer patients, after their exposure to the disease stress and therapeutic traumas is not performed in Aden.

Patients and Methods: This was a cross-sectional study conducted to assess the QOL of Yemeni patients with early stage breast cancer in Aden by using the Functional Assessment of Cancer Treatment-Breast (FACT-B) scoring system version 4. The study enrolled 58 female patients who attended for follow-up investigations in the Central Public Health Laboratories – Aden branch, for the period from July to Sep. 2010.

Results: The overall QOL score ranges from 40 to 134, with a mean of 77.6 (median 74). The mean score for various subscales were: physical well being (GP) (21.3 ± 3.2), social/family well-being (GS) (17.2 ± 6.3), emotional wellbeing (GE) (18.2 ± 2.1), functional wellbeing (GF) (7.8 ± 2.7). The mean scores for breast cancer specific subscale (B) was 21.2 ± 5.4 . Younger patients were having worse QOL in breast cancer specific concerns, except in B4 item (related to sexuality) when compared to older patients.

Conclusion: This study concluded that Yemeni patients with early breast cancer are having lower QOL after treatment, this QOL was deteriorated among younger patients when compared to older patients.