

Male breast cancer patients: a retrospective study of patients characteristics and treatment outcome at the National Cancer Institute (NCI-UG) - Central Sudan

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Male breast cancer (MBC) incidence is higher in Africa. Cancer patients treated during 1999-2010 at National cancer Institute (NCI-UG), Central Sudan, were analyzed with regard to MBC. MBC accounted for 2.3% (34/1,505) with mean age of 56.5 ± 15.8 years. The mean period between complain awareness and MBC diagnosis was 25.3 ± 46 months. Most patients presented with large lump (mean size, 6.8 ± 3.0 cm) or metastatic disease (stages III/IV; 21/34, 61.8%). Seventeen patients (50%) were lost during follow-up. Almost all patients lost during follow-up were of late stage (stages III/IV, 16/17 patients). Relapse rate was 71.4% (15/21). The median disease free survival period was 20 months, one-year disease free survival was 58% and the five-year disease free survival was 21.1%. Although the existence of NCI-UG has facilitated MBC patients treatment, but the general impact of healthcare crisis in Sudan is evident by the advanced stage at disease presentation and the short disease free survival.