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ABSTRACT

YOUNG BREAST CANCER; A SINGLE CENTRE ANALYSIS FOCUSING ON HORMONAL SUBTYPES, STAGE ON PRESENTATION AND PROGNOSIS

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INTRODUCTION

Young breast cancer is defined as patients diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 39 or lower. Since the question of whether young age group is an independent prognosticator of breast cancer is an ongoing debate thus we provide an objective analysis on this matter to shed some light in answering this question.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

We did a retrospective review on cases of breast cancer at our centre from the year 2016 to 2020. The hormonal profile, cancer stage during presentation and prognosis of this subset group (<40 years old) is analyzed and compared to the rest of breast cancer cases (>40 years old) who presented to our centre at the same time period.

RESULTS

From 192 patients participated in this study 20 (10.4%) were young breast cancer patient while remaining 172 (89.6%) are 40 years old and above at time of presentation. Majority of young breast cancer patient are within triple negative subtype (45%) while majority of patient above 40 years old are within Luminal A subtype (49.13%). It is also observed that there is higher percentage of young breast cancer patient presented at advance stage (stage 4) (55%) as compared to those above 40 years old (32.81%). Despite above data, both subsets show almost similar good response to treatment where young breast cancer patient is at 52% and patients above 40 at 50%. Others either had disease progression, transferred to other centre or defaulted follow up.





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CONCLUSION

Young breast cancer patient showed a more aggressive trend by hormonal subtype and advance presentation. Thus supporting claim that young breast cancer have worse prognosis. However, aggressive surgical and oncological therapy proves to have tiped the scale in improving the overall outcome for the patient.



