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Clinical and pathological characteristics of breast cancer in Syria

The behavior and characteristics of breast cancer (BC) in Syria was studied through reviewing the charts of 665 breast cancer patients I personally operated within the last five years. According to our MOH Cancer Registry, based on 8000 breast cancer cases collected from several hospitals in Syria; BC accounted for 30% of female cancers in Syria. According to my personal studied cases (665), the average age of incidence was 48 years which is consistent with that figure in neighboring countries like Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt. Those patients below the age of 40 accounted for 20% of cases. This might be explained by the fact that according to our population pyramid, 82% of our people are under the age of 40. Lesions below 2 cm in size were 21%, 2-5 cm in size accounted for 55%. Negative axillary LN's were 47%. Positive ER/PR was 56%. Positive HER2 accounted for 32%. Modified Radical Mastectomy (MRM) was done on 72%. Conservative Surgery (CS) accounted for only 20%. Conversion from CS to MRM accounted for 8%. Local recurrence after CS was 13%. Locally advanced BC was 12%. Our periodic campaigns in breast cancer awareness are paying off in early detection and better survival.

Biography

Suheil Fayek Simaan has obtained his MD from the American University of Beirut and General Surgical training at the Cleveland Metro Gen Hospital and the Mayo Clinic. He has also received his Cancer Surgery training at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center NYC. He has served as an Editor in Chief of the journal *Advances of Medical Science*.

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