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Oncological practices in the clinical management of breast cancer: An Indian survey

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Aim: A survey was conducted to understand clinical practices in the management of breast cancer in Indian patients.

Materials & Methods: A questionnaire was developed to undertake a survey among oncologists across India in 2016. Response from 17 doctors were recorded and analyzed.

Results: Around 35.41% newly diagnosed cases, 37.53% follow-up patients and 24.12% relapsed breast cancer patients are treated by these doctors. Around 52.9% patients were of early breast cancer (EBC) and 47.1% were metastatic breast cancer (MBC). For first line therapy for HER2 positive EBC, 35.3% prefer targeted therapy, 17.6% use Trastuzumab as choice of targeted therapy and for HER2 positive MBC, 11.8% prefer targeted therapy with hormonal therapy, 11.8% use only targeted therapy and 11.8% use trastuzumab as choice of targeted therapy. For second line therapy for HER2 positive EBC, 11.8% use targeted therapy, 11.8% use targeted therapy with hormonal therapy, 11.8% use lapatinib and for HER2 positive MBC, 29.4% use Trastuzumab Emtansine (TDM1), 11.8% use targeted therapy, 11.8% use trastuzumab as choice of targeted therapy. Trastuzumab as choice of anti-HER2 agent was used in 94.1% doctors, 88.2% use lapatinib, 64.7% use Pertuzumab and 58.8% use TDM1.

Conclusion: Trastuzumab stands out as choice of targeted therapy as an anti-HER2 agent for early and metastatic breast cancer in clinical practice as reiterated in this survey with Indian oncologists.

Biography

Ashish Bajaj has completed his MD in Pharmacology and presently is a Medical Advisor in Oncology at Biocon Limited.

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