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Gynecological and breast cancers profile in Yaounde, Cameroon

Jovanny Tsuala FouogueUniversity of Yaounde, Cameroon

Background: Sub Saharan Africa is scourged by cancers whose features are still to be specified.

Methods: To determine clinical and histological features of breast and gynecological cancers in Cameroon, we carry out a descriptive and retrospective study during a period of 54 months at the Yaounde Gyneco-Obstetric and Pediatric Hospital.

Results: Hereby is the distribution of the 424 cancers registered: cervix 49.5% (210 cases); breast: 34% (144 cases); ovary 7.4% (31 cases); endometrium: 4.9% (21 cases); vulva: 3.3% (14 cases); uterine sarcomas: 0.7% (3 cases); vagina: 0.2% (1 case). Concerning the breast cancer, the average age at diagnosis was 46.08±4.0 years, 92.4% of clinical presentation was a mass (of which 60.9% localized in the upper-external quadrant), 76.4% were diagnosed at stages T3 or T4, and 71.5% were carcinomas. Concerning the cervical cancer, the mean age at diagnosis was 52.43±3.82 years, 62.9% were diagnosed at FIGO 1 or 2 stages and 87.6% were squamous cell carcinoma. Concerning the ovarian cancers, the mean age at diagnosis was 49.0±9.31 years, 90.3% were epithelial tumors and 74.2% were at stages 2 and 3 of FIGO. Concerning endometrial cancers, the mean age at diagnosis was 59±14.55 years, 90.5% were adenocarcinomas.

Conclusion: Cervical and breast cancers were the most frequent in our series. Since gynecological and breast cancers are usually diagnosed at advanced stages in Cameroon, prevention should be reinforced.

Biography

Jovanny Tsuala Fouogue has graduated as a general practitioner in 2009 at 23 from University of Yaoundé 1. He served as Head of unit of a regional hospital and as a Director of a rural district for two years. Since 2011 he is a resident in obstetrics and gynecology in Cameroon. He is certified in evidence based medicine and clinical research from the Institute of Tropical Medicine of Antwerp (Belgium). He is also certified in reproductive health research from the Geneva Foundation of Medical Education and Research – A WHO collaborating center. He has published 15 papers in reputed journals.

fotsujo@outlook.com

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