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## Influence of delayed treatment in Thai women with breast cancer in Ramathibodi Hospital

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The purposes of this descriptive research were to examine the reasons of delayed treatment in Thai women with breast cancer. Participants were 60 new cases of women with breast cancer recruited from out patients department in a university hospital. Data were collected during December 2015 to December 2016. Two instruments were used: The demographic, disease and treatment questionnaires; and the questionnaire to assess delay in treatment for breast cancer. The second questionnaire was modified from Unger-Saldana, Pelaez-Ballestas, and Infante-Castaneda at University of Mexico. Data were analyzed by descriptive statistics. Results reported that average age of participants was varied from 35-80 years (mean=51.73, S.D=10.33), had marital status 61.67%, had occupation 65% and had bachelor degree 36.7%. Most of them were breast cancer stage 3 and 4 (66.67%), metastasis to axillary lymph node (90%), metastasis to other organ with axillary lymph node (28.33%). The most organ metastasis was lung (25%). The most presenting symptom that participants came to hospital was mass at breast (25%) by breast self-exam (98.3%). Reasons of delayed treatment from patients themselves thought that it was not cancer according to pain (51.67%) and health care system delayed from system referring and delayed diagnosis (23.33%). Participants choose the university hospital because of worse symptom and had more other symptoms (43%). The average time since had symptom to treatment was 15.62 months. Findings can provide an evidenced data for health care providers to give the knowledge about breast cancer with campaign for Thai women to do breast self-exam; reduce the misunderstanding of presenting symptoms of breast cancer and side effects of treatment. These will bring these women to early treatment with high effective cure.

### Biography

Suwaluck Wongjunlongsin has completed her Master's degree in Nursing Science (Adult Nursing) at Ramathibodi School of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University in 1999. She has received Advanced Onco-Surgical Nursing Program with Cancer Patients at School of Nursing MD Anderson Texas University USA in 1999. She has been working as an Advanced Practice Nurse (Breast cancer) since 2006. She takes care of breast cancer patients around 500 persons per year. She has published more than 10 papers in Thai journal and book chapter.

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