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4. Judul Artikel : Study of Risk Factor and Marker in Women with Breast Cancer in

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Study of risk factors and marker status in women with breast cancer in Brunei Darussalam

Abstract: OBJECTIVE: To investigate the associations between breast cancer staging and body mass index (BMI), menopausal status, and family history of breast cancer, as well as to assess the expression of tumor markers in women with breast cancer in Brunei Darussalam. METHODS: A retrospective cross-sectional study was carried out at The Brunei Cancer Centre. Cases of women with breast cancer between 2000 and 2013 were retrieved from the medical records section and entered into a clinical proforma. These were reviewed and analyzed using appropriate statistical methods. RESULTS: Overall, the mean age at diagnosis was 53.6 years \pm 9.83. The postmenopausal women had a significantly higher risk of being diagnosed with late-onset breast cancer than premenopausal women (P = 0.022). The expressions of PR (P = 0.034), Her2 (P = 0.046), and CatD (P = 0.004) were significantly different in breast cancer staging. Other factors did not have a statistically-significant association with breast cancer staging. CONCLUSION: While most of the factors studied were not significantly different in breast cancer staging, our findings showed that it is recommended that high-risk women perform regular breast screening after the age of 40 years old. A future study highly appreciates comparing breast cancer risk factors among the Bruneian and Western populations.

Keywords: Breast cancer, body mass index, menopausal status, family history, tumor markers, breast cancer staging

DOI: 10.3233/BD-239001

Journal: Breast Disease, vol. 42, no. 1, pp. 183-189, 2023

Published: 19 June 2023