

Breast cancer screening : Female doctors attitude and practice in a tertiary care hospital in New Delhi

Amresh kumar Andilya, Amita Tuteja, Pratima Mittal, Rupali Dewan

Vardhman Mahavir Medical College & Safdarjung Hospital

E-mail: amresh5786@gmail.com, amitatuteja83@gmail.com

Background

Breast cancer is the commonest cancer in urban Indian women. Screening helps in early detection & improves the survival of affected patients. Female doctors see more women than surgeons and can have a major impact in early detection of breast cancer.

Objectives

1. To study the knowledge and attitude of female doctors regarding breast cancer screening.
2. To understand the referral practices for mammography screening in asymptomatic women. Study design: Cross sectional study (June 2012)n=100.

Methodology

Over a period of one month a questionnaire adapted from a previous similar study in USA, was filled by female doctors in VMMC & SJH anonymously.

Results

More than 90% female doctors admitted to lack of clinical breast examination in OPD due to lack of time. Further only less than 40% of them send patients for mammography screening. The most common reason for not ordering investigation was cost concerns.

Conclusion

Active participation of gynecologists in breast cancer screening and higher utilization of mammography can actually help in early detection of cancer.