

***Assessment of Factors Contributing to
Early Detection of Breast Cancer
among Perimenopausal Women***

Thesis

Submitted for partial fulfillment of the requirement
of Master Degree in Maternity & Neonatal Nursing

By

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Bsc Nursing

Faculty of Nursing

Ain Shames University

(2009)

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Protocol

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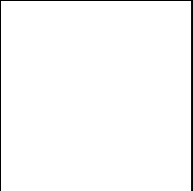
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List of Tables

TABLE NO	TITLE	PAGE NO
1	Demographic data of the women with breast cancer.	62
2	Number and Percent distribution of the women with breast cancer in relation to previous history of breast problem..	64
3	Current breast problem symptoms, method of detection and actions taken among the women with breast cancer.	65
4	Number and Percent distribution of the women with breast cancer regarding their source of knowledge about breast cancer & its methods of diagnosis.	66
5	Total knowledge score among the women with breast cancer.	67
6	Number and Percent distribution of the women with breast cancer regarding their performance of breast self examination	68
7	Attitude score categories among the women with breast cancer regarding BSE & other screening procedures based on evidence efficiency of the detection.	68
8	Relation between age and phase of detection of the breast cancer among the women with breast cancer.	69

TABLE NO	TITLE	PAGE NO
9	Women opinioner about factors related to phase of detection of the breast cancer	70
10	Psychosocial factors contributes to phase of detection of the breast cancer.	71
11	Women awareness and its relation to phase of detection of the breast cancer.	73
12	Woman awareness about their breast changes & phase of the breast cancer detection.	74
13	Past history of the breast problem and its impact on phase of detection of the breast cancer.	75
14	Factors contributing to late detection of the women with breast cancer.	76
15	Factors related to care givers contributing to phase of detection of the women with breast cancer.	77
16	Factors related to health services contributing to phase of detection of the women with breast cancer.	79
17	Relation between women knowledge and its impact on phase of detection of the breast cancer.	81



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No.	Title	Page
1	Figure of literature review (stage of breast cancer)	47
2	Figure of results.....	75
	- Number and percent of the women with breast cancer regarding their performance of BSE	
	- Distribution of the women with breast cancer regarding causes of not performance of BSE	

List of Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Meaning
BSE	Breast self Examination.
HRT	Hormonal Replacement Therapy
SBN	Specialized Breast Nurse
SES	Soci -Economic Standard
P	Probability
X2	Chi test
ALH	Atypical lobular hyperplasia
ADH	Atypical ductal hyperplasia
HRT	Hormonal replacement therapy
SOC	Standard OF Competency

LCIS	Lobular carcinoma in situ
DCIS	Ductal carcinoma in situ
Gp	General practitioner
CBN	Clinical breast nurse
BCFE	Breast cancer foundation of Egypt
CBE	Clinical Breast Examination
ERT	Estrogen replacement therapy
FND	Fine Needle Aspiration
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Image
BCN	Breast Cancer Nurse
CARE	Cancer Recording and Evaluation Project

List of Appendices

APPENDIX NO	TITLE
Appendix (1) Appendix (2) Appendix (3) Appendix (4)	Protocol. Questionnaire sheet. "Modified Likert Scale". Women oppenioner

List of

Items	Page No.
▪ INTRODUCTION& AIM OF THE STUDY	1
▪ REVIEW OF LITERATURE	
1: Perimenpousal women	7
2:breast cancer	15
3: Factors contributes to detection of breast cancer among Perimenpousal women	19
4: Management for Perimenpousal Women with Breast Cancer	
a-Controlling of the breast cancer	
b- Medical management for perimenpousal women with breast cancer	39
c-Nursing management for perimenpousal women with breast cancer	49
	53
▪ SUBJECT AND METHOD	
▪ RESULTS	
▪ DISCUSSION	63
▪ CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS	70
▪ SUMMARY	93
▪ REFERENCES	113
▪ APPENDICES	115
▪ ARABIC SUMMARY	119
	133
	139

Introduction

Breast cancer is a cancer that starts in the cells of the breast. The female breasts are often seen as symbols of sexuality, femininity, and motherhood. The breast serves a vital purpose in the reproduction of the female and secondary role in gender identification. So that this form of cancer has an interconnected psychological and physiological influence on the well-being of the women. Cancers in the body are given names, depending on where the cancer started. Cancer that begins in the breasts will always be called a breast cancer, even if it has spread to another place (Carey et al., 2006).

Breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer death among women worldwide and the commonest cancer among women in both high and low-income countries, and it accounted for 22% of the 4.7 million new cases of cancer occurring annually among females worldwide. **In Egypt**, it has been estimated that breast cancer represents about 40% of all diagnosed cancers with an annual increase that ranges between 1.5% and 2%. (**WHO,2006**).

Every woman is at risk, and the risk of breast cancer increases With age. The disease rarely affects women younger than 25 years of age, the majority of all breast cancers are found in women over age 50. Whereas close to 80 percent of breast cancers occur in women older than age 50 years (**Newman et al., 2006**).

Introduction

Surveillance Breast cancer in Egyptian patients has younger age distribution with the majority of cases occurring at 30–60 years of age. The median age is 46 years, and most patients are premenopausal (60.5%) The incidence of breast cancer is very low in the twenties age gradually increases and plateaus at the age of forty-five and increases dramatically after fifty. The most common cancer major cause of death of women at aged 35-55 (**Abdalla, 2005**)

Perimenopause, (it means around menopause), describes the transitional period between full reproductive function and menopause that begins several years before menopause, women normally go through perimenopause between ages 45 and 55, but some women start perimenopause earlier, even in their 30 years. Perimenopause ends the first year after menopause when a woman has gone 12 months without having her period. Perimenopausal women experience many symptoms during this period. (Jemal et al., 2007).

Because studies of the aetiology of breast cancer have failed to identify feasible primary prevention strategies suitable for use in the general population to reducing mortality from breast

cancer so early detection has become a high priority. When breast cancer is diagnosed at a local stage, the 5-year survival rate is 96%; this rate decreases to 21% Timely screening can reduce breast cancer mortality in women 40 and older by 17% to 30%. Breast cancers that are found because they are causing symptoms tend to be larger and are more likely to have already

Introduction

spread beyond the breast. In contrast, breast cancers found during screening exams are more likely to be smaller and still confined to the breast. (Leslie et al., 2003)

Breast care nurses are now recognized as key members of the cancer team. . It was strongly suggested that breast cancer nurses had positive effects on quality of care, are highly valued on treatment teams because of the nurse's relationship with the patient is often long lasting and can be both rewarding and challenging. establishing the educational requirements , providing specialist physical and psychological support, ability to serve as links between members of teams and women and coordinating the passage of women from diagnosis through to therapy and follow up, identifying and facilitating referral for counseling, and collaboration which was understood to establish and strengthen links and feedback to women from the treatment team.. (Ferrario, 2005)

Justification of the study:

According to the recent incidence of the ministry of health & population breast cancer in Egypt 1 every 12 women has breast cancer and 42 case every 100,000case. About 90%of cases diagnosed in late stage. Every year more than 180,000women are diagnosed with breast cancer and 45,000women die from it. Breast cancer mortality continues to represent a major public health problem especially in the developing countries. So that assessing factors contributing to early detection of the breast cancer is very important (WHO .2006)

Introduction

Aim of the study:

To assess factors that facilitates or delay early detection of breast cancer among perimenpausal women.

Research questions:

- * What are the women attitude regarding screening and breast self examination?
- * Are there certain factors that facilitate or delay early detection of breast cancer?
- * Do these factors contribute to the maintenance of women's health integrity?