ORIGINAL ARTICLE

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Prevalence of Death Anxiety in Patients with Breast Cancer in Kermanshah, 2015

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Abstract

Introduction: Breast cancer is the most common women's cancer and as chronic condition with psychological complications such as death anxiety. The aim of this study is evaluate the incidence of death anxiety in women with breast cancer in 2015 in one of the public hospitals of Kermanshah.

Methods: This is a descriptive study and we use a two part questionnaire that included demographic characteristics in first part and the second part was Templer Death Anxiety questionnaire contains 15 questions Yes and No. 48 female patients with breast cancer in one of the public hospitals in Kermanshah were selected randomly and data were analyzed using SPSS version 22.

Results: The age range of patients was between 29 to 67 years that 93.4% of the patients were married. 79.2% of patients have high death anxiety, that the highest and lowest scores for death anxiety were 15 and 2 and the average scores of the patients was 9.04 with standard deviation of 3.71. Middle-aged people also had the highest death anxiety and as well as patients with poor education and weak economic situation also had higher death anxiety.

Conclusion: The results show that there is high Score of death anxiety in studied population which may be due to lack of adequate training to deal with death and death anxiety awareness in patients with cancer in the department of oncology and radiotherapy. According to the results, it is suggested, while more attention to mental health in the same population to improve the quality of mental health of these patients and broader studies done in this issue.

Keywords: Death Anxiety, Breast Cancer, Kermanshah.