

Breast Cancer patients aged 70 and over in Borj Bou Ariridj (BBA), Algeria: Epidemiology, Risk Factors, clinical characteristics and treatment from hospital in BBA.

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Background:

Breast cancer incidence in the elderly is rising with overall increased life-expectancy.

The aim of this study was to verify tumor characteristics in patients 70 years and older, and compare tumor characteristics, treatment options to those of younger subgroups

Methods:

From 01 January 2020 to 31 august 2023, breast cancer patients of 50 years old or over whom therapy was initiated at oncology unit (Hospital BBA) were assessed in this study.

Patients were categorized into 2 groups: those aged 70 years or older, and those between 50 and 69 years old.

The data provided patients demographics, such as age at cancer diagnosis; history of other cancer. Their clinical characteristics including subtypes, histologic grade, LN status, and stage were collected. Treatments that patients received were reviewed

Results:

A total of 86 patients were included in this study. The majority of patients (79%) were aged 50-69 years, while 21% were 70 years or older. A significant gender disparity was observed, with a higher proportion of older patients being female.

Age at Diagnosis

Older patients were diagnosed at a significantly later age, with a median age of **77.82** years compared to **57.74** years for younger patients.

Comorbidities

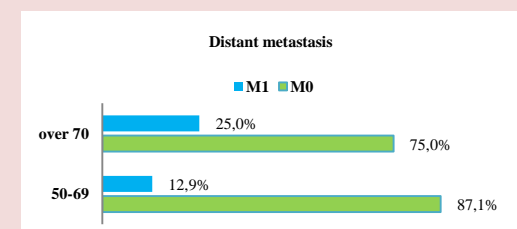
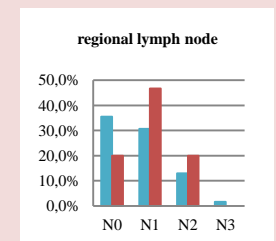
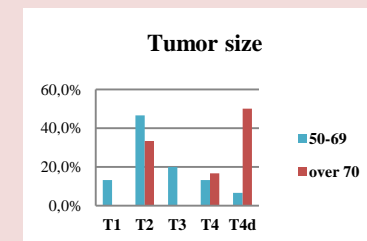
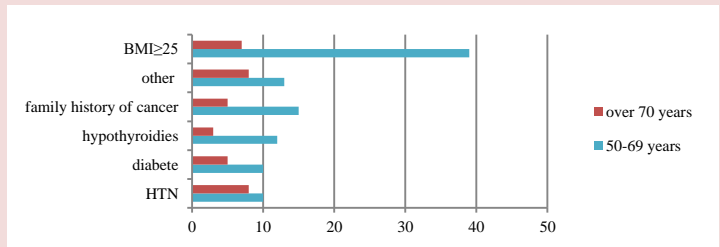
Older patients presented with a higher burden of comorbidities, including hypertension, diabetes, and a family history of cancer.

Tumor Characteristics

Older patients were more likely to have ductal carcinoma. While they were more likely to have hormone receptor-positive tumors, they also had a higher proportion of advanced-stage disease stage **III** was **37.5%**, and the frequency of stage **IV** was **(18.8%)** respectively, mostly (50%) had T4 tumor, **(75%)** were **T4d** and high-grade. Additionally, they were more often hormone receptor positive and had low Ki-67 expression.

Treatment

Older patients were less likely to receive surgery and adjuvant chemotherapy, potentially due to factors such as age-related comorbidities and perceived poorer prognosis.



conclusion:

This study highlights significant age-related differences in breast cancer, with older patients (≥ 70 years) presenting with more aggressive disease characteristics. They were more likely to have ductal carcinoma, a more aggressive histological type, and were diagnosed at a more advanced stage. Additionally, a higher proportion of older patients presented with metastatic disease, indicating a more challenging clinical course.. These findings underscore the importance of early detection and timely intervention for older women. Given their higher risk of aggressive disease, regular screening and prompt diagnosis are crucial. Additionally, tailored treatment approaches may be necessary to address the unique characteristics of breast cancer in older populations.

Keywords:

Breast cancer, Aged, neoplasm staging, Adjuvant therapy, Chemotherapy