CHARACTERISTICS OF PATIENTS WITH BREAST CANCER IN JORDAN

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to identify the important characteristics of patients with breast cancer among Jordanian women. This is the first study that links medical and anthropological views in Jordan.

In discussing these characteristics: Age at onset of the disease, age at marriage, breast feeding, family history of breast cancer, living area, radiation exposure, nutrition, breast self examination, and oral contraceptives, the main findings can be summarized as follows:

- The average age at onset of breast cancer women suffering from breast cancer is 35 years old.
- Age at marriage does not play an important role in breast cancer, because most women in Jordan usually get married at young age.
- There is a negative correlation between breast feeding and breast cancer because most women having the disease are breast feeding.
- Patients with breast cancer manifest family history defined as first degree relatives especially mothers and sisters.
- People living in southern areas, and the Zarqa area have the highest percentage of breast cancer cases compared to those living in the northern area and Amman.
- The incidence of breast cancer is higher among women who uses oral contraceptives.