

QUALITY OF LIFE OF WOMEN OVER 50 YEARS WHO UNDERWENT BREAST CANCER TREATMENT IN BRAZIL

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INTRODUCTION

Considering the increase in survival among women diagnosed with breast cancer, it is important to assess the quality of life to measure the impact of cancer treatment on the health status of patients.

OBJECTIVE

To analyze factors related to quality of life in women diagnosed with breast cancer after the end of treatment.

METHODS

Cross-sectional study with 71 women aged ≥50 years, diagnosed with breast cancer between 2014 and 2016, assisted at an oncology service in Brazil and selected from the hospital cancer registry. Quality of life was assessed using the EORTC QLQ-C30 and BR-23 questionnaires. Analyses were performed using the Student's T Test and the Mann-Whitney Test.

Table 1. Quality of life of the women who participated in the study on the scales of the QLQ-C30 and QLQ-BR23 questionnaires according to sociodemographic characteristics, 2014-2016. Juiz de Fora, MG, Brazil.

Variables	N (%)	Global Health Scale *			Functional Scale*			Symptoms Scale**			Functional Scale*			Symptoms Scale**		
		M (SD)	Me (IR)	P ²	M (SD)	Me (IR)	P ³	QLQ-C30	Me (IR)	P ³	QLQ BR-23	Me (IR)	P ³	QLQ BR-23	Me (IR)	P ³
TOTAL¹	71 (100)	76,06 (18,1)	83,3 (25,0)	-	77,8 (18,2)	80,0 (20,0)	-	18,8 (15,4)	15,4 (15,4)	-	63,1 (15,6)	66,7 (17,3)	-	17,7 (14,0)	14,3 (17,3)	-
Education level - years of education																
> 8 years	38 (53,5)	76,9 (18,7)	83,3 (25,0)		81,8 (16,4)	90,0 (20,5)		18,5 (16,8)	17,9 (26,2)		63,4 (17,4)	66,7 (19,6)		16,9 (14,0)	11,9 (13,5)	
≤ 8 years	33 (46,5)	75,0 (17,55)	75,0 (33,3)	0,509	73,2 (19,2)	75,5 (26,6)	0,046	19,0 (13,7)	15,4 (20,5)	0,897	62,7 (13,2)	66,7 (19,0)	0,863	18,5 (14,1)	16,7 (20,4)	0,651
Marital status																
With partner	34 (47,9)	81,4 (16,9)	83,3 (33,3)		84,5 (14,2)	91,1 (22,2)		13,6 (12,8)	8,97 (20,5)		67,1 (14,0)	70,8 (22,0)		14,8 (12,4)	11,9 (15,2)	
Without partner	37 (52,1)	71,2 (17,9)	66,7 (25,0)	0,019	71,6 (19,3)	75,5 (28,8)	0,002	23,5 (16,1)	25,4 (23,0)	0,006	59,4 (16,2)	61,9 (19,0)	0,038	20,3 (14,9)	19,0 (18,4)	0,096
Per capita income																
≥ 0,5 minimum wage	63 (91,3)	77,1 (17,8)	83,3 (25,0)		79,1 (16,8)	80,0 (17,7)		18,2 (15,3)	15,4 (23,0)		62,9 (15,5)	66,7 (17,2)		17,1 (14,3)	11,9 (17,7)	
< 0,5 minimum wage	6 (8,7)	63,9 (18,7)	58,3 (25,0)	0,063	61,1 (25,7)	61,1 (50,0)	0,020	24,8 (14,4)	24,3 (30,1)	0,320	60,7 (18,3)	62,5 (33,0)	0,747	23,2 (13,1)	21,8 (22,7)	0,318
Economic class (ABEP)																
A-B1-B2	30 (42,3)	77,2 (18,5)	79,2 (25,0)		82,7 (16,4)	90,0 (20,5)		18,3 (17,1)	12,8 (26,2)		63,5 (16,3)	64,6 (25,0)		13,3 (13,0)	9,5 (12,1)	
C1-C2-D-E	41 (57,7)	75,2 (17,9)	83,3 (33,3)	0,508	74,2 (18,7)	77,8 (25,5)	0,054	19,1 (14,1)	17,9 (23,0)	0,821	62,7 (15,1)	66,7 (16,0)	0,830	20,8 (13,9)	20,0 (18,4)	0,025
Religiosity⁴																
≥ 8 points (mean)	26 (36,6)	71,8 (19,5)	66,7 (18,7)		80,9 (15,2)	85,5 (18,3)		17,6 (15,5)	12,82 (25,6)		60,8 (15,8)	62,2 (17,7)		13,1 (11,4)	9,5 (13,0)	
< 8 points (mean)	45 (63,4)	78,5 (16,9)	83,3 (25,0)	0,177	76,0 (19,6)	80,0 (23,3)	0,273	19,4 (15,4)	17,9 (23,0)	0,643	64,4 (15,4)	66,7 (16,0)	0,357	20,2 (14,8)	19,0 (16,6)	0,039
Practice of physical activity (IPAC)⁵																
Active or inactive	52 (73,2)	77,7 (16,3)	83,3 (25,0)		80,2 (17,1)	84,4 (20,0)		16,5 (14,9)	12,8 (20,5)		63,6 (16,6)	66,7 (22,1)		16,9 (14,8)	13,3 (19,6)	
Sedentary	19 (26,8)	71,5 (22,1)	66,7 (33,3)	0,336	71,3 (19,9)	73,3 (26,6)	0,070	25,1 (15,2)	28,2 (25,6)	0,036	61,4 (12,3)	66,7 (13,6)	0,598	19,7 (11,5)	19,0 (16,6)	0,461
Presence of comorbidities⁶																
Yes	55 (77,5)	73,3 (17,9)	75,0 (25,0)		75,5 (18,6)	80,0 (24,4)		20,7 (14,7)	20,5 (23,0)		62,7 (14,7)	66,7 (17,2)		18,6 (14,6)	16,7 (19,0)	
No	16 (22,5)	85,4 (15,6)	87,5 (29,1)	0,015	85,7 (14,1)	91,1 (19,4)	0,048	12,2 (16,1)	3,8 (21,7)	0,051	61,2 (18,7)	71,1 (25,6)	0,732	14,5 (11,4)	11,9 (14,4)	0,315

M – Mean; SD – Standard deviation; Me – Median; IR– Interquartile Range; 1 The differences are justified by the lack of information; 2 Mann-Whitney test p-value; 3 Student's t-test p-value; 4 Assessed using the Duke religiosity scale, in which the total sample obtained an average of 8 points; 5Active: Performs at least 150 minutes of weekly physical activity; Inactive: Performs less than 150 minutes of weekly physical activity; Sedentary: Does not perform physical activity; 6 Comorbidities considered yes, when there was a record in the medical record of comorbidities such as hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia, depression, among others; *positive correlation. Higher scores, better quality of life; **negative correlation. Higher scores, worse quality of life

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KEYWORDS

Breast cancer, Quality of life, Sociodemographic Factors, Life Style, Health Care Quality, Access, and Evaluation.

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