

Psychiatric manifestations in cancer breast patients

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Both groups were subjected to: Physical and standard psychiatric examination.

Psychometric test; the Arabic version of Beck Depression Inventory (BDI)

Half of cancer breast patient were in 5th decade.

No family history of cancer was found in 90% of cases.

Radiation therapy, mastectomy are definite evidences of cancer.

Depression was 77% using psychiatric interviewer and Beck Depression Inventory.

By using Beck Depression Inventory, 1/3 of patients were not depressed; 1/3 was mildly depressed, and 1/3 was severely depressed.

Most common symptoms were somatic preoccupation, sadness, insomnia and body image change while least common symptoms were suicidal ideas and guilt.

Loss of libido is reported in 75.5% of cases.

Anxiety is reported in 50% of cases.

Fear is reported in 52, 5% of cases (of death-disability-disease- disfigurement and husband's rejection).

Most common defense mechanisms used are denial, displacement and reaction formation.

There is no role for stressful like events or prior psychiatric disturbances.

Conclusion: cancer breast patients suffer from psychiatric manifestations e.g.: anxiety , depression, fears other has to be liaison between psychiatry, oncology to help these patients.