53. CARCINOMA OF THE BREAST: A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY AT THE ONCO-SURGICAL UNIT, TEACHING HOSPITAL KANDY

Kanishka de Silva, H A Amaratunga, S P M Peiris, Anoma De Silva, H. Perera, S.Herath

Teaching Hospital, Kandy

The objective of this study was to analyze some of the major risk factors present in patients diagnosed with carcinoma of the breast. To achieve this, 643 patient records spanning over a period of 5 years were studied. All but two patients were females. Youngest patient was 12 years while the oldest was 90. Highest number of cases were seen in the age range of 40 to 60. This age range accounted for 413 cases (64%). There were 87 patients in the 30 to 40 age group (13.5%) and 228 patients in the 40 to 50 age group, (35.4%) while the 50 to 60 age group had 185 patients (28.7%). The median age for menarche was 13 and 14, while the commonest age range for menopause was 45 to 55. Three hundred and seven patients had active menstrual cycles (48%). Mean range for estrogen exposure was 30 to 40 years. Of the patients with children 89.2% had breast fed their infants. The average number of children was 3. A positive family history of breast carcinoma was seen in 55 patients (8.5%). Twelve patients had family history of gynecological malignancies while 12 patients had gastrointestinal malignancies in their families. Hormonal contraceptives have been used by 112 patients (17.4%). Hormonal replacement therapy has been used by only 14 patients. In conclusion, breast carcinoma appears to be commoner in the 40 to 60 age group while the 5th decade holds the most number of cases. Mean age for menarche and menopause appear to be similar to that of the normal Sri Lankan population. A considerable