

Research paper 2

A descriptive study of histopathological features of breast carcinoma: a single centre experience

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Introduction: Breast carcinoma (BC) has increased in incidence over the years, and it is the most common cancer among females in Sri Lanka.

Objective: To describe the histopathological features of BC in a tertiary care setting in Sri Lanka.

Method: Clinicopathological data was retrieved from requests and histopathological reports of BC resection specimens, at the Unit from January 2018 to March 2021.

Results: 100 cases of BC were analysed. The mean age at presentation was 57.5 years (27-86). 86 (86%) invasive BC of no special type (NST), 5 (5%) metaplastic carcinoma and 3 (3%) mixed lobular ductal type were identified. Mucinous, lobular and micropapillary carcinoma accounted for one case each. 18 (18%), 35 (35%) and 47 (47%) were of histological grade 1, 2 and 3, respectively. 21.43%, 56.12%, 20.41% and 2.04% were pT1, pT2, pT3 and pT4, respectively. 24.1% were N1, 21.9% were N2, while 42.6% were negative for nodal metastasis. An in-situ component was seen in 40.7%. Lymphovascular and perineural invasion were seen in 40.8% and 6.4%, respectively. 12% showed tumour at the resection margin. The average tumour size was 36.6 mm (11-105) while the average Nottingham prognostic index (NPI) was 4.86 (2.2-7.9).

Discussion and conclusion: The mean age at presentation of BC is 57.5 years, which is lower than the mean age in a previous study in Sri Lanka in 2010. The commonest type is invasive BC-NST (86%). Most of the patients presented at the pT2 stage and most were histological grade 3.

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