



Anemia y síntomas de depresión en pacientes con cáncer de mama temprano en el Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Neoplásicas, Lima, Perú [

2022

text (article)

Analítica

Objective. The aim of this study was to determine the relationship between anemia and depressive symptoms in patients with early stage breast cancer at the National Institute of Neoplastic Diseases (INEN), Lima, Peru. **Methods.** An analytical cross-sectional observational study of 60 Peruvian women diagnosed with early stage I and II breast cancer was conducted between June 2019 and March 2020. All participants were assessed by Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDII) score, had not received prior chemotherapy, and met the inclusion criteria. Each participant provided a blood sample that was used to estimate hemoglobin and red and white blood cell counts. **Results.** Of the 60 patients who met the inclusion criteria, twenty (33.3%) had depressive symptoms at the time of diagnosis. Mean hemoglobin levels in patients with depressive symptoms ($M = 10.9$, $SD = 2.1$) were lower compared to those in patients without depression ($M = 13.6$, $SD = 1$, $p = 0.004$). A limitation of our study was the small sample size and the fact that thyroid hormones and vitamin B12 were not tested. **Conclusions.** Our study found a significant difference in hemoglobin levels among breast cancer patients with symptoms of depression. Interventions to address the presence of anemia and depression in women with breast cancer are needed to improve health outcomes in these patients

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Título: Anemia y síntomas de depresión en pacientes con cáncer de mama temprano en el Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Neoplásicas, Lima, Perú [electronic resource]

Editorial: 2022

Tipo Audiovisual: anemia cáncer de mama depresión diagnóstico morbilidad mortalidad anemia breast cancer depression diagnosis morbidity mortality anemia cáncer de mama depresión diagnóstico morbilidad mortalidad

Documento fuente: Revista Peruana De Ciencias De La Salud, ISSN 2707-6946, Vol. 4, Nº. 2, 2022 (Ejemplar dedicado a: Revista Peruana de Ciencias de la Salud (abr-jun); e373), pag. 2

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Lengua: Spanish

Enlace a fuente de información: Revista Peruana De Ciencias De La Salud, ISSN 2707-6946, Vol. 4, Nº. 2, 2022 (Ejemplar dedicado a: Revista Peruana de Ciencias de la Salud (abr-jun); e373), pag. 2

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