

**DETERMINANTS OF PRESENTATION DELAY OF
BREAST CANCER PATIENTS: A HOSPITAL-BASED
STUDY IN YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA**

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Background: The cancer of the breast is the most diagnosed malignancy and is the leading cause of cancer death in women throughout the globe. In Indonesia, a LMIC, breast cancer ranks the highest in incidence and placing second in mortality among other malignancies in females.

Purpose: To assess the sociodemographic factors for presentation delay and diagnosis delay in breast cancer presentation.

Methods: Our study design is a cross-sectional study. The researcher collected secondary data from another cross-sectional study titled “Delays in the presentation and diagnosis of women with breast cancer in Yogyakarta, Indonesia: a retrospective observational study” that is nested on another prospective cohort study . Presentation delay or the time between initial symptom and the patient’s first consultation was defined as ≥ 3 months. Diagnosis delay or time between first visit and breast cancer diagnosis confirmation was defined as ≥ 1 month. A logistic regression analysis was conducted to explore the factors that contributes significantly to the patient presentation delay.

Results: Sixty-eight (45.3%) patients had a ≥ 3 -month presentation delay and 99 patients (66.0%) had a diagnosis confirmation by ≥ 1 month. Patient knowledge on breast skin abnormalities as an early sign of BC was significantly associated with presentation delay (OR, 0.29, 95% CI, 0.9-0.99,



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p =0.049). Multivariate analysis shows significant relationship between age ≥ 60 years and presentation delay (OR, 7.56, 95% CI, 1.25-45.93, p =0.028).

Conclusion: A large number of women suffered a delay in receiving a diagnosis. Older age (≥ 60 years) is a high-risk determinant of presentation delay. There is no significant relationship between the marital status, education, annual income, commute time with both of presentation and diagnosis delay. The study found that breast cancer patients that knew 'breast skin abnormalities' as an early sign have higher risk of delaying presentation compared to patients who were unaware. In the future, to prevent patient delay, breast cancer health education and screening programs should be undertaken, with a focus on women who are at a higher risk of delay such as older age.

Keywords: breast cancer, diagnosis delay, system delay, patient delay, bc, Indonesia.