Reviewer’s report

Title: Pathological profiles and clinical management challenges of breast cancer emerging in young women in Indonesia: a hospital-based study

Version: 0 Date: 06 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Sarah J. Nechuta

Reviewer's report:

This report describes a cohort of Indonesian breast cancer patients from one hospital. Data is limited on breast cancer characteristics, treatment, and survival patterns among breast cancer patients from Indonesian, and this report could help to fill a gap. However, some major and minor revisions must be considered. The major revision is that the analysis should compare young breast cancer patients <40 to the rest of the cohort, to add substance and value to the analysis and results. Currently, the analysis focuses on breast cancer patients <40 years of age, with a small sample size of 144. Conducting the analysis stratified by age (<40, 40+) years will provide additional important data for Indonesian breast cancer patients in the cohort, and enable improved understanding of how breast cancer characteristics and survival differ for younger and older patients in Indonesia. Further, the tables should present the hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals for the associations evaluated, including adjusted hazard ratios to be able to determine the independent contribution of the factors of interest.

Minor Revisions include:

1. Abstract says "In addition, fertility concern, genetic risk, and psychosocial needs were not yet specifically addressed during the course of cancer treatment" but no data on this are presented in the results.

Introduction:

2. Remove the word "is" from second sentence of paragraph 2 of the introduction "….annual mortality is over 500,000".

3. Need to provide denominator and clarify "500,000" and "55,000" and "20,000" are mortality rates.
4. The use of abbreviation is inconsistent, need to introduce the first time the word is used, and use consistently thereafter. For example "YBCs" in the second sentence of the first paragraph.

5. Add "median age at diagnosis is 48 years old" after "while in Indonesia, ....." in place of "it is younger (48 years-old)" to improve the grammar of the sentence (last sentence of the first paragraph).

6. Replace "which may have contribute to delayed diagnosis of breast cancer" with "which may contribute to a delayed diagnosis of breast cancer" to fix grimmer issues (fifth sentence of paragraph 2).

7. Insert "a" between "in" and "tertiary" in first sentence of last paragraph of introduction.

Methods

8. Fourth paragraph and first sentence, add timing for smoking assessment and fix one grammatical error "Smoked" instead of "smoke" and "in their lifetime" at the end of the sentence.

9. Luminal A should have a + after Her2

10. Spell out Her2 and FISH and IHC before abbreviating

11. The sentence describing the physical activity assessment is very unclear and has poor grammar, please rewrite.

12. Provide some information on the validity of measure of physical activity for this cohort.

13. "Parity was determined by…" add "number of" before full term pregnancy.

14. First sentence of the statistical analysis section, add "the" after "carrying out". Also replace "carrying out" with "conducting".

15. PFS is mentioned without describing what this stands for.
Results

16. First sentence of second paragraph, "Around 7%.." add "of" before "patients".

17. In the treatment choice section, replace "attended" with "received" when referencing chemotherapy.

Discussion

18. The Discussion has lots of grammatical errors and is poorly written. Needs to be revised to improve writing and reduce errors.

Tables

19. How was urban and rural defined.

20. Each table needs a clear title that describes the population and setting and sample size.

21. What is "mSBR grading", please add footnote to describe.

22. Where are the hazard ratios and confidence intervals described in the text? There is space to include in the tables. These provide important information.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

- Needs some language corrections before being published

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