

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH



CONSENSUS DOCUMENT FOR MANAGEMENT OF BREAST CANCER

*Prepared as an outcome of ICMR Subcommittee on
Breast Cancer*



Indian Council of Medical Research
2016

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Indian Council of Medical Research,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110029
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Disclaimer

This consensus document represents the current thinking of experts on the topic based on available evidence. This has been developed by national experts in the field and does not in any way bind a clinician to follow this guideline. One can use an alternate mode of therapy based on discussions with the patient and institution, national or international guidelines. The mention of pharmaceutical drugs for therapy does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use but will act only as a guidance for clinicians in complex decision –making.

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan
Secretary,
Department of Health Research
and Director General, ICMR

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Dr. V. K. Srivastava : Head (Publication & Information)

Compiled & Edited by : Dr. Tanvir Kaur, Scientist 'F', Dr. R. Sarin

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Foreword

I am glad to write this foreword for consensus document for management of breast cancers. The ICMR had constituted sub-committees to prepare consensus document for management of various cancer sites. This document is the result of the hard work of various experts across the country working in the area of oncology.

This consensus document on management of breast cancers summarizes the modalities of treatment including the site-specific anti-cancer therapies, supportive and palliative care and molecular markers and research questions. It also interweaves clinical, biochemical and epidemiological studies.

The various subcommittees constituted under Task Force project on Review of Cancer Management Guidelines worked tirelessly in formulating site-specific guidelines. Each member of the subcommittee's contribution towards drafting of these guidelines deserves appreciation and acknowledgement for their dedicated research, experience and effort for successful completion. Hope that this document would provide guidance to practicing doctors and researchers for the management of patients suffering from breast cancers and also focusing their research efforts in Indian context.

It is understood that this document represents the current thinking of national experts on subject based on available evidence. Mention of drugs and clinical tests or therapy do not imply endorsement or recommendation for their use, these are examples to guide clinicians in complex decision making. We are confident that this first edition of Consensus Document on Management of Breast Cancer would serve the desired purpose.



Dr. S Swaminathan
Secretary, Department of Health Research
and Director General, ICMR

Message

I take this opportunity to thank Indian Council of Medical Research and all the expert members of the subcommittees for having faith and considering me as chairperson of ICMR Task Force project on guidelines for management of cancer.

The Task Force on management of cancers has been constituted to plan various research projects. Two sub-committees were constituted initially to review the literature on management practices. Subsequently, it was expanded to include more sub-committees to review the literature related to guidelines for management of various sites of cancer. The selected cancer sites are lung, breast, oesophagus, cervix, uterus, stomach, gall bladder, soft tissue sarcoma and osteo-sarcoma, tongue, acute myeloid leukemia, acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, CLL, Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma-high grade, Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma-low grade, Hodgkin's Disease, Multiple Myeloma, Myelodysplastic Syndrome and Pediatric Lymphoma. All aspects related to management were considered including, specific anti-cancer treatment, supportive care, palliative care, molecular markers, epidemiological and clinical aspects. The published literature till October 2015 was reviewed while formulating consensus document and accordingly recommendations are made.



Now, that I have spent over a quarter of a century devoting my career to the fight against cancer, I have witnessed how this disease drastically alters the lives of patients and their families. The theme behind designing of the consensus document for management of cancers associated with various sites of body is to encourage all the eminent scientists and clinicians to actively participate in the diagnosis and treatment of cancers and provide educational information and support services to the patients and researchers. The assessment of the public-health importance of the disease has been hampered by the lack of common methods to investigate the overall worldwide burden. ICMR's National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) routinely collects data on cancer incidence, mortality and morbidity in India through its co-ordinating activities across the country since 1982 by Population Based and Hospital Based Cancer Registries and witnessed the rise in cancer cases. Based upon NCRP's three year report of PBCR's (2012-2014) and time trends on Cancer Incidence rates report, the burden of cancer in the country has increased many fold.

In summary, the Consensus Document for management of various cancer sites integrates diagnostic and prognostic criteria with supportive and palliative care that serve our three part mission of clinical service, education and research. Widespread use of the consensus documents will further help us to improve the document in future and thus overall optimizing the outcome of patients. I thank all the eminent faculties and scientists for the excellent work and urge all the practicing oncologists to use the document and give us valuable inputs.

(Dr. G.K. Rath)
Chairperson
ICMR Task Force Project