

**Epidemiology of Breast cancer in Ardabil province north-west of Iran**

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**Abstract**

**Introduction:** Breast cancer is the most common cancer and the leading cause of death from cancer in women aged 20 to 59 years that is about 26% of all newly diagnosed cancers in females. As the basic programming for cancers control and prognosis includes screening, early diagnosis, treatment, palliative services and collecting information, thus, this study was conducted with the objective of determining the epidemiology of breast cancer in Ardabil province during 2003-2010.

**Material and Methods:** This study is a cross sectional descriptive that was carried out over 469 recorded cases of breast cancer in cancer registry of Ardabil. Necessary information collected by check list from patient's files and then analyzed in SPSS software by statistical methods.

**Results:** 455 of patients (97%) were female and rest of them was male. 329 of the cases (70.1%) resided in Ardabil and others were in another place of province. The mean age of patients was  $46.80 \pm 13.64$  and most of them were in the age range of 40 - 60. The most prevalent pathologic form in these patients is infiltrative ductal carcinoma with 316 cases (67.4%). Most of patients with 144 patients (30.6%) belonged to the grade 3.

**Conclusion:** The breast cancer in Ardabil province which is similar to other places has lower incidence and suffering age than other countries. With regard to this, the more and widespread studies require on effective factors to its prevalence in low age.

**Keywords:** Breast cancer, epidemiology, incidence rate, cancer registry