



Mobilising
Action
Inspiring
Change



Practice, policy and advocacy reports

Track 2 - Closing the gap: quality cancer treatment and diagnosis for all

Clinical advances in treatment

2016WCC/PPAR-1346

Indian Consensus on the management of Locally Advanced Breast Cancer: The Gulmarg Declaration

Sameer Kaul¹, Rajat Thawani²

¹Breast Cancer Patients Benefit Foundation, Noida, ²Breast Cancer Patients Benefit Foundation, New Delhi, India

The abstract or summary reports has already been published or presented previously: No

Select your preferred type of presentation: Oral presentation

Background and context: Locally advanced breast cancer (LABC) constitutes a varied group of breast cancers that include advanced stage primary tumours with extensive nodal involvement and inflammatory breast carcinomas. LABC is on a declining trend in most developed countries but it is still commonly seen in developing countries like India, due to late presentation to experts amongst other causes. The prognosis of LABC is often unfavourable; despite aggressive treatment, patients are more likely to develop distant metastases and die from the disease. Advances in treatment and a multidisciplinary approach has led to an increase in survival and improved the outcome of patients. Notwithstanding these developments, LABC still remains a problem in India with around 35% breast cancer patients presenting with advanced disease. There are many controversies in the management of the disease, and significant variation in practice in India, as well as on an international basis.

Aim: To reach a consensus which can be used to standardise the treatment to improve outcomes in patients.

Strategy/Tactics: A meeting with a total of 31 experts in different fields was held to address various questions on LABC, including: pathology, radiology, medical oncology, surgical oncology and radiation oncology. For each question, recommendations were made including the grade of recommendation. The consensus focusses on the diagnosis and multidisciplinary management of LABC.

Program/Policy process: Five panels discussed the following: diagnosis and staging, neoadjuvant therapies, surgical options, standard radiotherapy techniques, and adjuvant therapies.

Outcomes: The Government of India endorses the declaration and its recommendation. It is recommended that all regional cancer centers follow the guidelines laid down by the panel.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

Keywords: Breast, Guideline