and resources. The allocation of RAD alert positive patients, post pelvic USS, to early clinic appointments and further investigation, has been found to reduce the time to start of treatment which in turn will result in more positive treatment outcomes, improve patient safety and satisfaction with the service received.

Graph showing length of time from RAD alert positive to interventions.

M359
SURVIVAL RATE OF BREAST CANCER BASED ON GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATION IN IRAN, A NATIONAL STUDY
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Objectives: Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women worldwide. Based on the latest Iranian report, the total number of women registered with breast cancer was 6976 cases during 2007. Five year survival is one of the indicators used for evaluation of the quality for care to different types of malignancies including breast cancer. The aim of this study was to estimate survival rate of breast cancer in 6147 Iranian patients at a national level in different geographic regions.

Materials and Methods: 6147 cases of breast cancer which had telephone number and were diagnosed between 2001–2006 were called to obtain information about their life status. Survival estimates were calculated using the Kaplan-Meier method, and the survival probability was calculated for the overall cohort and in different categories of gender, age and pathologic type of tumor. Hazard ratios (HR) according to demographic and risk variables were calculated by Cox’s proportional hazard model.

Results: The overall 5-year survival rate was 71.0%. The mean survival time was different between men and women which was statistically significant. The number of men involved with breast cancer was 172 (2.8%) of all cases. The 5-year survival rate for patients in age group 41–50 years was significantly higher than other age groups (p = 0.001). The likelihood of death was higher in patients with 61 years old or more years rather than those below forty years old ([HR = 1.31; 95% CI: 1.12–1.55].

Conclusions: The findings of this study might help Iranian health managers: (1) to understand ethical and geographical determinants of breast cancer as socioeconomic factors might affect the cancer survival. (2) To carry preventive activities such as public education particularly in Iranian men. (3) To think about screening and early detection of breast cancer.

M360
ESTIMATION OF BREAST CANCER BURDEN IN IRAN IN 2003 AND ITS COMPARISON WITH EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION AND THE WORLD IN 2002
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Objectives: Health and its equal distribution among people is one of the major factors of society stability. Reaching this goal would be only possible by proper planning in health, monitoring and evaluating the projects, and interventional planning in different sections. Hence, indexes that describe the burden of diseases and injuries understandably for the managers and planners are necessary. DALYs unit (Disability Adjusted Life Years) or the years that are lost because of early death or disability, holds such property. In other words, the sum of the lost life because of early death plus the time passed in disability and infirmity, is quantified by DALYs or the burden of diseases, and is shown for each disease and injury.

Materials and Methods: An extensive study entitled “Estimation of the burden of diseases and injuries and their risk factors” started in 1382 at deputy for health of Ministry of Health and Medical Education, and the current project which is specified to estimation of the breast cancer burden is a part of that study. In this plan a specific methodology is defined to model the cancers in population and specific software is designed for such work. Breast cancer, the most usual cancer in women, should be significantly noticed. Breast cancer is counted as the most common reason of death in women between 40 and 44. Hence, estimation of its burden and determining its share of the total burden made by all the cancers in Iran, allow the planners to distribute the resources proportionately and evaluate the progress of combat campaigns scientifically and efficiently.

Results: The burden of breast cancer was estimated 0.62 DALYs in every thousand of women population in Iran.

Conclusions: The burden of the cancer in Iranian women was low relatively to Eastern Mediterranean region (1.1 DALYS/1000) and the whole World (1.99 DALYS/1000); Age peak of breast cancer in Iranian women was in 45–59 and over 80 age groups, The years lost because of early death or disability in 45–59, 60–69 and 70–79 age groups of Iranian women in every thousand population (DALYS/1000) is lower than the same cases in Eastern Mediterranean region and the World.