Impact of Time Since Last Childbirth on Survival of Women with Premenopausal and Postmenopausal Breast Cancers

Abstract

Background

Reproductive factors are associated with risk of breast cancer, but the association with breast cancer survival is less well known. Previous studies have reported conflicting results on the association between time since last childbirth and breast cancer survival. We determined the association between time since last childbirth (LCH) and survival of women with premenopausal and postmenopausal breast cancers in Malaysia.

Method

A historical cohort of 586 premenopausal, and 1153 postmenopausal, parous breast cancer patients diagnosed from 2001 to 2012 in University Malaya Medical Centre were included in the analyses. Time since LCH was categorized into quintiles. Multivariable Cox regression was used to determine whether time since LCH was associated with survival following breast cancer, adjusting for demographic, tumor, and treatment characteristics.

Results

Premenopausal breast cancer patients with the most recent childbirth (LCH quintile 1) were younger, more likely to present with unfavorable pT status, and had a lower risk of mortality and the hazard ratio for LCH quintile 1 vs. quintiles 3, 4, and 5 was 0.69 (95% CI 0.48-0.97), 0.49 (95% CI 0.33-0.73), and 0.44 (95% CI 0.30-0.65), respectively.