Abstract

Introduction: Fatigue is a common symptom in patients with cancer. Objective: To examine the prevalence and independent predictors of fatigue in women with breast cancer. Material and Method: A cross-sectional study with a nonrandom sample of 163 patients in outpatient follow-up. Fatigue was assessed by the Piper Fatigue Scale. Results: Clinical relevant fatigue (score 4) was present in 31.9% of the sample and the average intensity was 6 (SD = 1.3). Pain and depression were factors independently associated with fatigue. Conclusions: The association of fatigue, pain and depression confirmed the existence of cluster of symptoms. The management of fatigue is poorly understood, but depression and pain may be treated and may provide relief from fatigue.

Keywords

fatigue; prevalence; risk factors; breast cancer; hospice