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Diagnosis Patterns in Breast Cancer Women in Brazil: Inequities Among Public And Private Settings in São Paulo State

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Introduction

- Breast cancer diagnosis and treatment evolved a lot in the last two decades, with an increased importance to screening programs and introduction of hallmark novel treatment strategies
- In this context, it is crucial to evaluate diagnosis patterns in and clinical characteristics changes through time
- In Brazil, inequities in public and private healthcare settings exist in both diagnosis and treatment

Objective

- This real-world data analysis will evaluate diagnosis patterns disparities among both healthcare perspectives in São Paulo state, Brazil
- To describe clinical characteristics of breast cancer patients treated in both public and private setting of São Paulo state

Methods

- This is a descriptive analysis using real-world data from FOSP São Paulo state registry, considering female breast cancer cases from 2000-2020, with healthcare coverage information available.
- We performed descriptive analysis regarding demographic, clinical and diagnosis characteristics among public and private healthcare setting patients through the period

Results

- In the study period, we identified 95,368 eligible cases of breast cancer, of which 77,736 (81.5%) were from public and 17,632 (18.5%) from private perspective
- Patients mean age at diagnosis were 56.0y ± 13.5, 56.2y ± 13.4 and 55.1y ± 13.5 for overall, public and private, respectively (Table 1)
- The proportion of diagnosis at metastatic stage was larger in public (10.6%) when compared to private setting (4.3%), and this proportion almost doubled through decades in both perspectives, from 6.7% in 2000 - 2010 to 11.5% in 2011 - 2020 in the public setting, and 2.4% to 4.7% in the private setting (Figure 1).

Figure 1 – Staging per year in Private and Public healthcare setting from 2000-2020

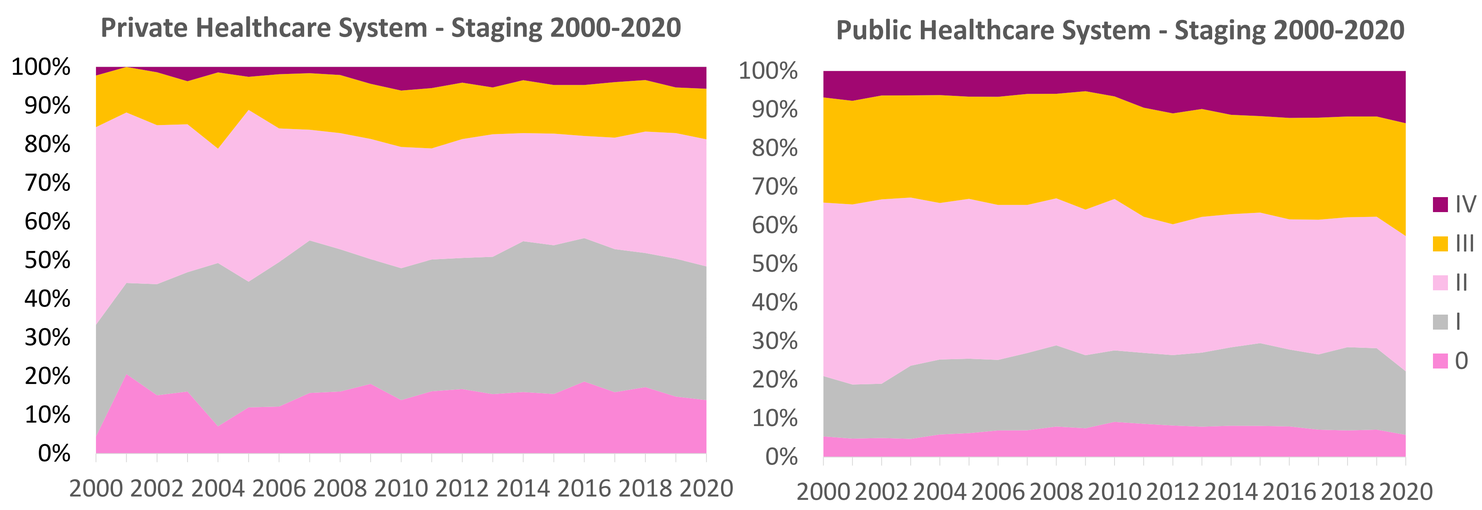

Table 1 – Demographic and clinical characteristics of the study population

	Public	Private	Overall
N(%)	77,736 (81.5)	17,632 (18.5)	95,368 (100)
Age at diagnosis, years*			
Mean (SD)	56.2 (13.4)	55.1 (13.5)	56.0 (13.4)
Age at diagnosis, Age group; N(%)			
0-29 years old	1,078 (1.4)	228 (1.3)	1,306 (1.4)
30-39 years old	7,017 (9.0%)	1,910 (10.8)	8,927 (9.4)
40-49 years old	17,791 (22.9%)	4,468 (25.3%)	22,259 (23.3)
50-59 years old	20,942 (26.9%)	4,740 (26.9%)	25,682 (26.9)
60-69 years old	17,635 (22.7%)	3,438 (19.5)	21,073 (22.1)
70+ years old	13,273 (17.1%)	2,848 (16.2)	16,121 (16.9)
Staging - N(%)			
0	5,618 (7.2)	2,701 (15.3)	8,319 (8.7)
I	14,883 (19.1)	6,138 (34.8)	21,021 (22.0)
II	26,907 (34.6)	5,165 (29.3)	32,072 (33.6)
III	20,437 (26.3)	2,280 (12.9)	22,717 (23.8)
IV	8,111 (10.4)	757 (4.3)	8,868 (9.3)
Unknown	1,780 (2.3)	591 (3.4)	2,371 (2.5)
Diagnosis Period - N			
2000-2005	5,32	437	5,757
2006-2010	7,747	1,678	9,425
2011-2015	30,675	7,863	38,538
2016-2020	33,994	7,654	41,648

Conclusions

- Breast cancer inequities in diagnosis are huge among public and private settings in Brazil, which leads to important differences in the outcomes
- In addition, an increase on the proportion of metastatic disease is notable in both settings, which reinforces the importance of awareness campaigns and screening

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