Breast cancer in Latin America and Caribbean Region

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Breast cancer is the leading cause of female cancer in Latin America & Caribbean

- Approximately 120,000 cases each year
- Most of them (90,000) in South America
- 12% of the total Breast Cancer cases in the world
Breast cancer incidence in Latin America & Caribbean

Incidence rate X 100,000 females

Source: IARC, Globocan, 2002
Age at breast cancer diagnosis

Source: Adapted from Rodriguez-Cuevas, 2001.
Breast cancer incidence from available cancer registries in Latin America & Caribbean

Fatality (deaths/cases) breast cancer ratio in selected regions

Body burden (lost-years) adjusted by discapacity

Source: Gomez-Dantés, et al., 2006.
Risk factor research in Latin America & Caribbean

Source: Torres-Sánchez, et al., 2009
Westernization of the developing world

MEXICO

- **Parity**: Graph showing the risk of breast feeding over various parity levels.
- **Breast feeding**: Graph showing the risk of breast feeding over different months.
- **Age at first birth**: Graph showing the risk of breast feeding over different age at first birth categories.
- **Obesity**: Graph showing the risk of obesity over different weight categories.
Westernization of the developing world

URUGUAY

Risk

Red meat

De Estefani, 1997
Ronco, 1996
de Lima, 2008
Matos, 1991
The breast cancer stage in selected Latin America & Caribbean countries

![Graph showing breast cancer stage distribution in selected Latin America & Caribbean countries.](image-url)
Clinical exam and/or mammography in the three previous years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Stage 0</th>
<th>Stage I</th>
<th>Stage II</th>
<th>Stage III</th>
<th>Stage IV</th>
<th>N/C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rep Dom</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>13%</td>
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</table>

Source: WHO, 2002-2003
According to the WHO only 5% of global resources for cancer are spent in the developing world.

Main resource constraints in Latin America & Caribbean include:

- Scarcity of necessary specialized skills (radiologists)
- Limited number of diagnostic equipments
- Insufficient funds for BC research
Breast cancer in Latin America & Caribbean Region is an unrecognized public health priority

Major challenges are:

- Lack of national cancer registries in most countries of Latin America & Caribbean
- Lack of effective prevention and detection programs in the Region
- Insufficient research to identify major factors of BC and understand how they interact to determine BC situation in the Region
Thanks for your attention