BREAST CANCER IN CHILE: Incidence rising, young women dying. What are we missing?

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INTRODUCTION

In Chile, official databases related to mortality and hospitalization record all events, identifying the cause of death or hospitalization using the ICD-10 coding system. Since 2005, the Explicit Health Guarantees (GES) program has been in place, providing defined timelines for treatment with financial coverage for certain conditions, including breast cancer (BC), a registry that could shed light on the magnitude of new cases of this condition in Chile. Last year we showed in SABSC 2024 an unexpected rising mortality in young women, causes not well understanding.

Objective: Analysis breast cancer incidence in young and older women, to understand if an increase in incidence explain bigger mortality in young women.

METHODOLOGY

This is a descriptive study based on official secondary databases from Chile, incidence data from 2007 to 2023. All data sources have nearly 100% coverage.
For incidence, data from the GES program were used as a proxy.
We analyzed crude incidence rate per 100.000 women and Annual Percent Changes (APC) to describes annual tendencies

CONCLUSION

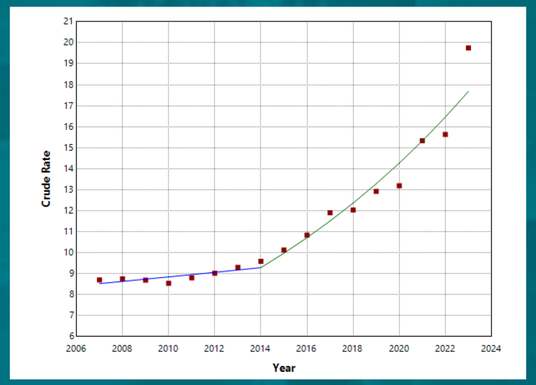
Our study showed last year an unexpected increase in mortality among young women in recent years. When examining incidence data from the GES program, an increase was observed in this population, although to a greater extent than in women over 40 years old
It is important to highlight that the recent increase in mortality among women under 40 is not solely due to significant changes in incidence. Both younger and older women have experienced increased incidence, but at different magnitudes. Other investigators in Chile showed Lifestyle changes, directly related to the increased participation of women in the workforce and delayed childbearing..
While breast cancer health policies have shown favorable outcomes for women over 40, similar progress has not been observed in younger women, indicating the need for targeted strategies for this demographic group.

RESULTS

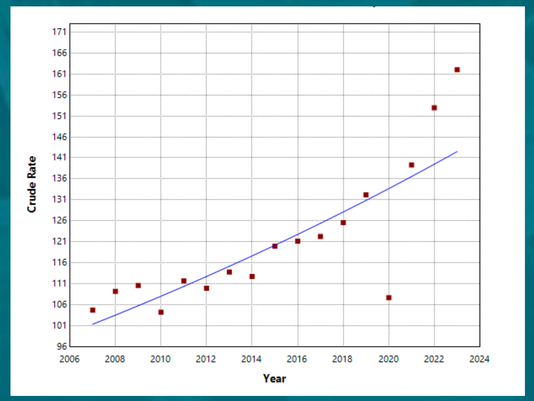
Data from GES program indicate that between 2007 and 2023, the number of new breast cancer BC cases in women under 40 increased by an Annual Percentage Change (APC) of 7.42%, while cases in women over 40 rose by 9.94% between 2007, and 2023. The crude incidence rate per 100,000 women aged 20-39 increased from 8.7 in 2007 to 19.75 in 2023, highlighting a concerning upward trend in younger patients. In contrast, the incidence rate in women over 40 rose from 104.82 in 2007 to 162 in 2023.

Among women under 40, the APC was 1,23 (2007-2014) and 7,42 (2014-2023), indicating a faster rise in incidence rates between 2014 and 2023. Conversely, women over 40 experienced a more gradual increase, with an APC of 2.15 (2007-2023)

APC youge women (<40)



APC old women (>40)



GES cases admitted under 40 and over 40 years old

