

RISK OF DEPRESSION, ANXIETY, AND ADJUSTMENT DISORDERS IN WOMEN WITH A SUSPECTED BUT UNCONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS OF BREAST OR GENITAL ORGAN CANCER IN GERMANY

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BACKGROUND

Breast cancer (BC) and genital organ cancers (GOC) are known to have a major impact on the quality of life of patients. The aim of this study was to analyze the risk of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorders in women in Germany with a suspected but unconfirmed diagnosis of BC or GOC in their medical history.

METHODS

This study included women who received a suspected diagnosis of BC or GOC and were followed between 2007 and 2015 (index date). These women were matched (1:1:1) by age to women with a confirmed diagnosis of BC or GOC and women without a cancer diagnosis. The main outcome measure of the study was the rate of depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorder diagnoses within 3 years of the index date.

RESULTS

The present analysis included a total of 4,842 patients (mean age = 49.3 years). Within 3 years of the index date, 23.5% of women with a confirmed diagnosis of BC or GOC, 14.1% of those with a suspected diagnosis of BC or GOC, and 10.5%

of those without a cancer diagnosis developed depression, anxiety, or an adjustment disorder (log-rank p value <0.001). Women with a suspected diagnosis of cancer were at a higher risk for these psychiatric conditions than those without a cancer diagnosis (BC and GOC: HR 1.32; BC: HR 1.21; GOC: HR 1.50).

CONCLUSION

A suspected diagnosis of BC or GOC in a woman's medical history is associated with an increased risk of developing depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorders.

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Thank you for your interest!