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Mammography in the Federal District: analysis of suspected and confirmed malignancy cases between 2018 and 2023

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Objective: This study aimed to evaluate information related to mammograms classified as BI-RADS 4–6 in the Federal District over the past 5 years. **Methodology:** This is a retrospective study of descriptive and quantitative nature, utilizing secondary data collected from the Cancer Information System (SISCAN), available on the DATASUS electronic platform. The situation in the Federal District between 2018 and 2023 was analyzed, incorporating the following variables: quantity of mammograms, clinical indication, age range, type of screening, prior mammography, whether a physical examination had been previously conducted, BI-RADS classification, and the interval between request, collection, and results.

Results: During the analyzed period, 2,806 mammograms resulting in BI-RADS 4–6 were performed, with the vast majority indicated for screening (76.8%) and predominantly in patients aged 50–60 years (37.4%). Regarding screening mammograms, a large proportion was allocated to the target population (81.7%), with the remainder for the high-risk population (11.5%) and patients already treated for breast cancer (6.6%). The majority of patients had previously undergone mammography (71.8%), and it was also predominant to perform a physical examination of the breasts before the examination was requested (90.5%). Category 4 of the BI-RADS classification was the most prevalent among the three (73.4%). The time between request and examination was also verified, with more than half of the mammograms performed within 10 days (60.6%), and the time between examination and result, with almost half also being released within 10 days (49.3%).

Conclusion: The commendable performance in both access to and execution of mammograms as a preventive strategy in the Federal District is noteworthy. Mammography proves to be an excellent screening method, demonstrating its usefulness for early detection and appropriate follow-up of breast cancer.

Keywords: breast cancer; mammography; screening.