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## **Ki-67 INDEX AND AXILLARY LYMPH NODE METASTATIC STATUS OF BREAST CANCERS IN SRI LANKA**

B Sayanthan, GH Rathnasiri, AD Silva

### **Introduction**

The Ki-67 is a nuclear protein seen in proliferating cells and this is a prognostic factor in breast carcinoma. We focused the correlation between Ki-67 index and axillary lymph node metastasis in carcinoma of breast.

### **Methods**

This retrospective study conducted at NHSL in 2015 with permission. Out of 198 patient's records we analysed only 79 records which were possess

the Ki-67 status.

### **Results**

Study shows 22.8% (n= 18) of the patients had the Ki-67 index < 10. There were 60% (n=48) of patients contain Ki-67 index more than 20. Only 6.3% of the patients had more than 70. Positive axillary nodes seen in 46 patients (58.2%). When see the correlation between patients with positive axillary lymph nodes and Ki-67 index, if the index is <10, only 22% of patients with positive lymph nodes, index is (60-70), 85% of the patients with positive lymph nodes and index is more than 70, all the patients were nodes positive.

### **Conclusion**

According to "International Ki-67 in Breast Cancer Working Group" the Ki-67 cut-off point is 15 for breast carcinoma, even though different laboratories and experts use different values. Wide clinical usage of Ki-67 is still limited due to uncertainty of cut-off value. In this study direct proportional relationship noted between the Ki-67 proliferation index value and metastatic involvement of axillary nodes.