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Breast cancer: An Overview

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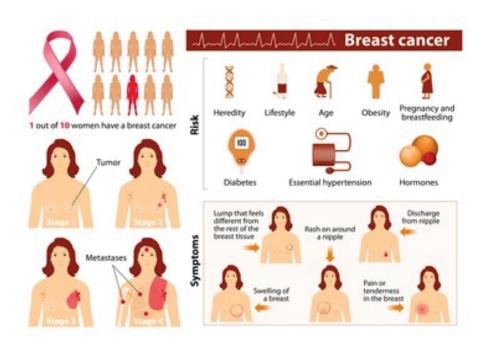


Figure 1

Breast cancer is the most common female cancer, with more than one million new patients diagnosed annually worldwide. The great heterogeneity, in terms of prognosis and outcome, within patients with the same clinical and pathological characteristics may limit the potential for personalized therapy. Breast cancer remains the second most lethal cancer in women, responsible significant deaths per year worldwide, and the disease affects so many women in their prime. The lethality of breast cancer can be because of its prominent heterogeneity . Particularly in the Asian countries the cancer risk is more because of lack of awareness on treatment and diagnosis. By the time it is detected, the women are with more advanced disease state which is difficult to treat. While optimizing and enhancing the strategies for existing therapies in the form drug targeting, sustained release dosage forms and enhanced drug delivery techniques, it is important to develop new and tolerable therapies in the 21st century. One of the latest and promising areas to address the cancer therapy is pharmacogenomics