Abstract: Cancer patients in developing countries often delay seeking medical advice. It can adversely influence the outcome of the disease. The purpose of this study was carried out to describe demographic and social profile and to determine stage at the time of diagnosis and seeking help of women with breast cancer were reported from Delhi.

Materials and methods: This was a cross sectional study. All the new cases (172) of breast cancer detected during the study period in 2006 - 2008, at Lok Nayak Hospital, Delhi were interviewed by using a questionnaire. Statistical Analysis of data was expressed in proportion.

Results: Mean age of subjects was 46.99 (range 25 - 80) years. 38.4% subjects were ≤40 years. Majority of study subjects (61%) were in stage IV of cancer at the time of diagnosis. 70.9% of the subjects were aware of the fact that they were suffering from breast cancer. The mean duration of the gap between knowing the problem and consultation a doctor (patients delay) was 10.90 months. There was no significant association between stage of cancer and consultation gap. Significant association was found between the stage of breast cancer and income. 71.5 % subjects sought treatment from doctor belonging to allopathic system of medicine.

Conclusion: A negative correlation showed between the monthly income of the subjects and stage of breast cancer, subjects with lower income having higher stage of breast cancer. There was no significant association between stage of cancer and consultation gap.

Key Words: Breast Cancer, Socio-demographic, Women, health seeking behavior

Presentation: Poster