

Social Support for Women with Breast Cancer: Review of Brazilian Scientific Articles

Abstract

This study undertakes a review of empirical papers of the literature on social support in women with breast cancer. The publications were found in BIREME, LILACS, SCIELO, PEPSIC, MEDLINE from 2000 to 2010. Resulted in the following categories: 1) database, 2) study design, 3) area of the profession of researcher, 4) region of Brazil, 5) year and journal, 6) covered topics of the papers. Within the following topics: a) reactions diagnosis, b) perception and reaction of the family, c) early detection and support, d) impact of mastectomy, e) contributions of the support group. Most papers present a qualitative method, published by the nursing area, the Southeast region which shows the use of social support as a support or social relations have changed. It is necessary the presence of health staff in the care of women with breast cancer, as well as a greater incentive for investment and scientific production in health.

Keywords: breast cancer; social support; systematic literature review.