

SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION AND GENITOURINARY SYNDROME IN WOMEN WITH BREAST CANCER.

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This study was created due to the high number of women of childbearing age arranging gynaecological consultations at the Clinical Centre of the Champalimaud Foundation while receiving tamoxifen. We seek to evaluate the impact of genitourinary syndrome and sexual dysfunction in this group. Breast cancer is a pathology with high incidence in women, with physical, psychological and social changes arising from the various therapies that alter their quality of life. Tamoxifen is the drug of choice in the treatment of peri- and pre-menopausal women with breast cancer, who also have positive oestrogen receptors. Although its use may benefit women at high risk of disease, it also has elevated incidences of side effects, which is often underestimated. Despite the benefits, according to the literature, 10% of women stop taking the treatment due to these side effects. In addition to the risk of endometrial pathology described associated with tamoxifen, there are often symptoms of dyspareunia, vaginal dryness, vaginal discomfort, and reduced sexual desire. The various clinical manifestations and complications associated with this condition can interfere significantly with the various components of the women's quality of life. This work highlights the importance of evaluation and intervention regarding the needs of women undergoing treatment with hormone therapy, in order to promote their physical, psychological and social well-being. The follow-up and treatment by a multidisciplinary team has proven to be ideal for this type of patient, with a more comprehensive approach, promoting the standardisation of criteria, allowing for greater adhesion to the hormonal therapy.