

ABSTRACT

The topic of this bachelor thesis is breast cancer, which is one of the most common cancers in women from the Czech Republic. This thesis includes theoretical and practical part.

The theoretical part was focused on the description of the issues related to breast cancer. Initially, it guides the reader through the anatomy and development of the female breast. The following chapters then introduce the reader to the different types of breast disease, either benign or malignant.

Risk factors, symptoms of the disease, and current methods of diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer are also described. The last chapter elaborates on primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of breast cancer.

In the practical part, two main objectives have been set. The first was to find out what is the awareness of women about secondary prevention and the second was to find out whether women are actively involved in it. These two objectives were further explored through nine sub-objectives. The research investigation was carried out using an anonymous, quantitative questionnaire survey conducted at the Gynaecology and Obstetrics Clinic of the First Faculty of Medicine of the Charles University in Prague.

Data collection at the clinic took place from 1 November 2022 to 31 March 2023 and was carried out using a questionnaire that was completely anonymous and contained 25 questions. The sample consisted of 200 women who visited the clinic during the data collection. The data arising from the responses of the respondents were subsequently processed with graphical analysis using Microsoft Excel.

The set main and sub-objectives were accomplished in the practical part. As a result, the awareness of the respondent women in the field of secondary prevention is at a relatively high level. This may be presumably due to the higher participation of respondents with completed university education, and also due to the participation of women with BRCA mutation, from whom it can be expected to be more aware of breast cancer and its prevention. At the same time, the survey shows that a large proportion of the participants are involved in breast cancer prevention in their lives, either by regular breast self-examination, attending sonography or mammography, or a combination of these methods.

Keywords: breast carcinoma, secondary prevention, mammography, breast self-examination, ultrasonography, awareness