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General or Internal medicine forms the core of medical science. The Archives of General Internal Medicine is a journal dedicated to highlighting the importance of this field by publishing key studies in the field. The current issue of the Archives of General Internal Medicine covers articles from diverse topics such as cancer, obesity, and diagnostics. These studies are aimed at bringing something new in terms of diagnosis, disease evaluation, and development of treatment programs.

Individuals with Morbid Obesity (MO) who are about to undergo Bariatric Surgery (BS) are subjected to extensive psychiatric and psychological assessments prior to surgery. van-der Hofstadt et al. [1] investigated whether there are any differences among the BS candidates in terms of psychosocial variables. Results revealed that the morbidly and super morbidly obese individuals differed only with respect to the scale of Body Dissatisfaction obtained on the Eating Disorder Inventory-2 (EDI-2). Furthermore, the study also identified differences between men and women with respect to the anxiety regarding weight, satisfaction with their appearance, and with feelings of worthlessness and inadequacy. These psychosocial differences can be taken into account while designing and implementing programs for undertaking BS and subsequent follow-up.

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers afflicting women all over. More than half the breast cancer cases have been reported from the developed and industrialized nations. The overall costs of breast cancer treatment increases in direct proportion to its stage of progression. Therefore, early screening of breast cancer is advantageous for the patient in terms of health as well as finance. Molecular diagnostics plays a key role in breast cancer detection and management, as it provides personalized diagnosis to the patients and allows for personalized treatment plans which would help limit resistance to anti-cancer drugs, and associated toxicity. This review by Patel Ankur [2] summarizes the latest molecular techniques available for diagnosis of breast cancer and showcases the novel approaches being taken in the field.

Accurate segmentation of the nodules might play an important role in the diagnosis of lung cancer. Manikandan and Suganya [3] used a spatial fuzzy C-means clustering, for effectively segmenting the suspected lung nodules in the CT images in order to detect the lung cancer. Following segmentation, the features were extracted and fed into the neural network for classification. The classification process involved a feed-forward-back propagation. The sensitivity and accuracy of this method were estimated to be 88% and 84%, respectively.

Tzerkovsky [4] performed a retrospective analysis of photodynamic therapy using data obtained from 130 basal cell carcinoma (T1N0M0, I stage) patients. The treatment was observed to be easily tolerated by the patients. Photolon injection of 2-2.5 mg/kg resulted in high therapeutic and cosmetic effects. Complete regression of carcinomas both primary as well as recurrent was observed in 90.9% and 88.9% of the patients. Local tumor recurrence was observed in 7.7% of the cases during a follow-up of 3 to 76 months (n=10).

References

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