

ASSESSMENT OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR SKIN CANCER IN THE STATE OF PARÁ (2020 TO 2024)

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Introduction: Skin cancer is one of the most common neoplasms in Brazil, accounting for about 30% of malignant tumors, representing a significant public health challenge. In the State of Pará, factors such as high sun exposure and sociodemographic characteristics may influence the incidence and severity of this disease. **Objective:** To analyze the epidemiological profile of hospitalizations due to skin cancer in Pará from 2020 to 2024. **Methods:** This is a retrospective, descriptive, and quantitative study. The data used are available in the notification database of the Sistema Único de Saúde (SUS) - DATASUS, specifically from the SUS Hospital Information System (SIH/SUS). The collection included all hospitalizations in the State of Pará with a primary diagnosis of "malignant neoplasm of the skin" and "other malignant neoplasms of the skin" between January 2020 and December 2024. The following variables were analyzed: number of hospitalizations; year; age group; race; and deaths. **Results:** There were 2,192 hospitalizations during the period, with 1,244 (56.75%) being male. Regarding age group, 24.87% of the hospitalizations were among individuals aged 60 to 69 years, followed by those aged 70 to 79 years (24.68%). 81.6% of the hospitalized patients were identified as brown (pardo) race, and of the total number of hospitalizations, 161 deaths occurred. **Conclusions:** The predominance of hospitalizations in male patients may be related to factors such as higher occupational sun exposure and lower adherence to preventive measures, such as the use of sunscreen. The prevalence of cases in individuals of brown (pardo) race differs from the national pattern, where 62% of hospitalizations are among white individuals. This difference may be explained by the ethnic composition and economic disparities in the region. The higher incidence of hospitalizations in individuals aged 60 years or older highlights the importance of early diagnosis, preventive measures, and education directed towards this population.

Keywords: Skin cancer; epidemiology; hospitalizations.