

# Peripheral neuropathy and neuropathic pain in people with breast cancer: a systematic review

Raquel Veiga-Seijo<sup>1,2</sup>, Cristina González-Martín<sup>1,2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of A Coruña, Department of Health Sciences, Faculty of Nursing and Podiatry, Campus of Esteiro, 15471, Ferrol, Spain; <sup>2</sup>University of A Coruña, Research Group Rheumatology and Health Research Group (GIR-S), Faculty of Physiotherapy, Campus of Oza, 15008, A Coruña, Spain; <sup>3</sup> Research Group in Nursing and Health Care, Instituto de Investigación Biomédica de A Coruña (INIBIC), Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de A Coruña (CHUAC), Sergas, Universidade da Coruña (UDC), 15071 A Coruña, Spain

## 1. Background

Peripheral neuropathy and neuropathic pain are common among people with cancer. Generally, it is due to chemotherapy, and it occurs in 90% of patients with this type of treatment. For this reason, it is important to pay attention to chemotherapy's repercussions on the global health and quality of life of people with breast cancer because the main treatments that they receive include chemotherapy with neuropathy peripheral effects.

## 2. Objectives

To better understand the impact of peripheral neuropathy and neuropathic pain on the quality of life in people with breast cancer.

## 3. Methods

Systematic Review. July – September 2021.

Electronic databases: Cochrane Plus, Scopus, Web of Science, Pubmed.

Data were reported following PRISMA.

200 results were identified. We included 12 articles.

## 4. Results

- The analysis developed shows us that people with taxane-based chemotherapy have less quality of life and functionality when they develop peripheral neuropathy.
- In general, peripheral neuropathy affects a greater number of quality of life indicators.
- The studies included show us the repercussions on the quality of life and global health of people with breast cancer due to the peripheral neuropathy that chemotherapy produces.

## 5. Conclusion

It is necessary to improve the studies about neuropathic pain and its impact on people's quality of life. Besides, it is important to make healthcare professionals aware of the importance of chemotherapy-associated adverse reactions, as neuropathic pain.

## Acknowledgments

UNIVERSIDADE DA CORUÑA



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



This research is part of first author's doctoral work at University of A Coruña, Spain. She received doctoral fellowship from the Galician University System (GUS) and the Xunta de Galicia, which obtained funds through European Regional Development Fund (European Social Fund 2014 - 2020) with the reference ED481A- 2020/034.