symptoms (RR 0.25 (0.10 to 0.60)) of C30 questionnaire. Emotional support was negatively associated with global health in women aged under 60 years (RR 0.65 (0.50 to 0.85)).

Conclusions In this population social environment is positively associated with QOL, this effect is greatest in elderly women.

Early complications of breast cancer treatment and quality of life in Brazilian women

Introduction Post-operative complications are a major cause of morbidity in women with breast cancer. The aim of this study was to evaluate the association between quality of life (QOL) before treatment for breast cancer and early post-operative complications in the National Cancer Institute-Brazil.

Methods Participants were women with unilateral breast cancer, requiring oncological treatment in National Cancer Institute-Brazil between June 2009 and March 2010. QOL before treatment was assessed using EORTC QLQ-C30 and BR23 module. Information about early post-operative complications (axillary web syndrome, pain and subjective symptoms related to early oedema in the upper limbs) were obtained by physical examination 30 days after surgery, collected using a standardised form. Bivariate analyses of dichotomous variables and independent variables were carried out and ORs, with 95% CIs present.

Results 181 women were studied. Women who reported good health overall were 57% less likely to experience early subjective oedema (95% CI 0.20 to 0.96). Symptoms scale of BR23 was negatively associated with pain (OR=0.11, 95% CI 0.21 to 0.73). Patients with good functionality-C30 were less likely to experience pain (OR 0.66 (95% CI 0.15 to 0.75)). There was no statistically significant association with axillary web syndrome.

Conclusions In this study pre-treatment QOL in women with breast cancer was a useful predictor of early post-operative complications.

Infant Leukaemia is a rare haematological neoplasm associated with MLL gene rearrangements. Maternal exposure during pregnancy to pesticides, hormones, dipyrene, and topposomerase-II DNA inhibitors and birth weight were associated risk factors. This is a hospital-based multicenter case-control study, and were interviewed mothers of 252 IL cases and of 423 controls. Data were obtained regarding environmental maternal exposure during periconceptional, pregnancy and breast-feeding periods, including exposure to pesticides. Unconditional logistic regression was performed and ORs on the association between maternal pesticides exposure and IL, including their 95% CIs, were ascertained after adjustment to hormonal intake during pregnancy, mother’s age, mother’s level of education, birth weight and infant’s skin colour. An adjusted OR, 2.39, 95% CI 1.63 to 3.51 was observed for the association between IL and maternal exposure to pesticides during pregnancy, being higher for acute myeloid leukaemia (adjusted OR 5.50, 95% CI 2.01 to 6.11). The use of pyrethroids during pregnancy revealed an OR 2.18 (95% CI 1.44 to 3.29), while the use of other pesticides showed an OR 3.61 (95% CI 1.69 to 7.73). The reported household use of pesticides revealed an adjusted OR 2.25 (95% CI 1.48 to 3.45), and agriculture exposure showed an adjusted OR 9.26 (95% CI 2.82 to 30.4). Mixed exposure to different pesticides showed an adjusted OR, 3.83 (95% CI 1.33 to 11.0) and the exposure to different chemical classes revealed an adjusted OR, 8.87 (95% CI 1.55 to 50.6). The observed results seem to support the hypothesis that mothers’ household use of pesticides and other contaminants may be involved in the aetiology of infant leukaemia.

The aim of this study was to explore the unapparent relationships that several factors related to environmental exposures and individual characteristics existing in our environment seem to be involved with childhood leukaemia. From a database of clinical and epidemiological data obtained from hospital-based multicenter case-control study on risk factors for childhood leukaemia, exploratory multivariate analysis was performed the principal component and factor analysis. Further, an unconditional logistic regression was carried out aiming to ascertain the magnitude of association between the selected factors, and their composing variables, with childhood leukaemia. The model displaying the highest power explained 52% of the total variance, including three factors, each one