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OPEN PEER REVIEW

The Effect of a New Vaginal Cream (A Persian Medicine Product) on Subjective Symptoms of Vulvovaginal Atrophy in Breast Cancer Survivors

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

1 comment · 27 Oct 2021

Associate Editor

MAJOR REVISION 27 Oct 2021

Many thanks for submitting your manuscript to IJCM. Your manuscript has been reviewed by our specialist, whose comments are provided below:

1. Instead of "Menopause breast cancer survivors," it is better to write "menopause induced by chemical drugs".

2. Introduction: paragraph 5: "In recent decades, there has been ….…."

Please clarify the meaning.

3. Topical hormonal therapy is not absolutely contraindicated and has minimal systemic absorption.

4. Discussion: paragraph 1: "decline from baseline was statistically significant": please clarify the meaning.

5. Please use Iranian statistics on breast cancer in Iran, including incidence, mortality, and…

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Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

January 17, 2022

Dear Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editor of the International Journal of Cancer Management,

My co-authors and I are truly grateful for your helpful comments related to our manuscript entitled, “The effect of a new vaginal cream (A Persian medicine product) on subjective symptoms of vulvovaginal atrophy in breast cancer survivors“. We did our best to address all the comments and have summarized the changes below. We have also highlighted all changes in the new version of manuscript that is being resubmitted along with this letter.

I hope these changes make our manuscript acceptable for publication. We believe that the findings of our study will be of interest to the readers of your great journal.

Sincerely,

Corresponding Author

Q1. *Instead of Menopause breast cancer survivors It is better to write menopause induced by chemical drugs*

R1. The change in phrase was made to “menopause induced by chemical drugs” in abstract (page 2) and background (page 3)

Q2. *Introduction: paragraph 5: In recent decades, there has been ……” please clarify the meaning*

R2. The sentence was changed to “In recent decades, there has been growing interest in complementary and alternative medicine in many countries”

Q3. *Topical hormonal therapy is not absolutely contraindicated and has minimal systemic absorption*

R3. The paragraph in Objectives was modified and the statement about contraindication was removed.

“Considering that topical hormone therapy, particularly for a long period of time, is associated with risks in breast cancer patients and warrants endometrial evaluation, this study was designed ….”. A reference regarding the risks of vaginal hormone therapy was also added to this segment.

Q4. *Discussion; paragraph 1: decline from baseline was statistically significant: please clarify the meaning*

R4. The sentence was modified to clarify the meaning. It was changed to “The difference in severity of the subjective symptoms before treatment and 4 weeks after completion of treatment was statistically significant”.

Q5. *Please use Iranian statistics about breast cancer in Iran, Incidence, mortality, and …*

R5. Iranian statistics of breast cancer were added to paragraph 3 of the Background section (page 3)

2 Revision 1

0 comments

No public comments in this round.