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A REVIEW OF CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS OF MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

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Abstract

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women worldwide, accounting for approximately 25% of all female cancer cases. Given the increasing impact of breast cancer in developing countries, early detection and timely treatment are crucial in reducing morbidity and mortality associated with the disease. Mammography screening is a well-established method for early detection, as it can identify breast cancer at an early stage when the chances of successful treatment are higher. Mobile mammography screening has the potential to significantly improve early detection and reduce mortality rates associated with breast cancer in developing countries. However, various challenges still impede the full realization of its benefits.

This review article aims to identify and explore the challenges and prospects of implementing mobile mammography screening programs in developing countries, and to provide recommendations on how to overcome these obstacles. Overall, the future of mobile mammography screening in developing countries can be promising, with opportunities for technological advancements, increased global cooperation, and ongoing research to further enhance the effectiveness of these programs. By seizing these opportunities and addressing the challenges related to accessibility, affordability, human resources, cultural and social factors, and infrastructure, mobile mammography screening can make a significant impact on the lives of women in developing countries and contribute to reducing global disparities in breast cancer care. Several successful mobile mammography screening projects in low- and middle-income countries showcase the potential for such programs to improve access to early detection services, raise breast cancer awareness, and ultimately reduce breast cancer mortality rates. By adapting best practices and lessons learned from these projects, other low- and middle-income countries can develop and implement mobile mammography screening programs tailored to their unique contexts and resource constraints.

Keywords: *breast cancer, mammography, breast cancer screening, developing countries, digital breast tomosynthesis, LMICs.*

Introduction

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women worldwide, accounting for approximately 25% of all female cancer cases. Globally, about 2.3 million new breast cancer cases have been diagnosed in 2020, with an estimated 685,000 deaths attributed to the disease [*BCFS, 2023*]. By 2040, the number of newly diagnosed breast cancers is projected to grow by over 40%, to about 3

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