

# 7<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS ON BREAST CANCER

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## The importance of radiographer training about communication with woman patient with breast cancer during breast imaging procedures

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**Purpose:** This paper seeks to explore the benefits that come with radiographer training in communication in the company of a cancer patient. The study targets a woman patient undergoing the breast imaging procedure. Therefore, the study will try to show that it is beneficial for the patient to be aware of the way radiographer relays the patient's situation of the ailment.

**Aim:** The aim of the study was finding out whether their interaction with patients who understood how their examination procedure through radiographers eased diagnosis and treatment procedures.

**Method:** The procedure involved administering questionnaires with multiple choice questions that sought to determine if patients are comfortable with being taken through the process. The multiple questions helped to determine the degree of comfort or discomfort the patients have during the process. Another survey was done to determine whether patient's knowledge of their condition helped radiologists in avoiding mistakes in diagnosis, or whether it improved the accuracy of the diagnosis. This was done by administering questionnaires to radiologists.

**Results:** Two thirds of patient respondents expressed interest in understanding the radiography procedure. They were as equally comfortable with the knowledge. Half of the radiologists who responded acknowledged that patients who understood radiographer communication made the diagnosis and treatment a smoother experience as they were able to understand the importance of all other procedures.

**Conclusion:** Radiographer training in good communication is a great way of making communication easier both for all parties involved in cancer diagnostic. The arrangement improves quality and speed in cancer treatment procedures.