

o A cross sectional survey of female healthcare professionals posted by Nasiru A Ibrahim and Olumuyiwa O Odusanya in a tertiary institution in Lagos, Nigeria in 2009. A total number of 207 participants were selected among all eligible healthcare professionals in ratio 7:2:1 for nurses, doctors and others respectively. The objective of this study is to assess knowledge of breast cancer risk factors, beliefs about treatment and practice of screening methods among female healthcare professionals. And awareness and knowledge about breast cancer vary among communities and population groups worldwide. This study suggests the need for continuing medical education programmes aimed at improving knowledge of breast cancer among female healthcare providers other than doctors. In Nigeria, about two-third of patients with this disease present with advanced stages when therapy offers minimal benefit. Breast cancer is the most prevalent cancer worldwide with about 1 million new cases annually. Majority (86%) believed that early breast cancer is curable while half of participants believed that prayer .can make breast cancer disappear from the affected breast