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சுவசிரிபாய

SUWASIRIPAYA

මගේ අංකය) NCCP/ADM/30/2014

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திகதி) 10/09/2014
Date)

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General Circular Letter No :

All Provincial Directors of Health Services,
All Regional Directors of Health Services,
All Heads of Institutions,
MO/MCH, MOs/NCD,
Medical Officers of Health (MOOH)

World Breast Cancer Awareness Month – October 2014

Breast cancer is the commonest neoplasm amongst the Sri Lankan females. The age standardized incidence rate (ASR) for breast cancer was 21.8 per 100,000 female population, accounting for the highest percentage of cancer (25%) among females in 2008 while age-standardized incidence rate for breast cancer has risen significantly from 1985 to 2008. Further, breast cancer has the highest age standardized mortality rate (4.7 per 100,000) out of all cancers among females in Sri Lanka.

Even though breast cancer is the commonest amongst women, it has a very good prognosis if detected in the early stages. The five-year survival rate is higher, if detected and treated early and promptly. Hence, detecting breast cancer at an early stage, would result in, not only in prolonged survival, but also higher chances to be cured, receiving more conservative surgery, preserving the body image and less aggressive treatment options/methods.

The methods used in early detection of breast cancer are breast self-examination, clinical breast examination and mammography. Even though, the above strategies are offered, considerable percentage of breast cancer are detected at a late stage. This could be, probably, due to lack of

