



Conference on Breast Imaging

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By A Staff Reporter -

MUSCAT — To contribute to the continued medical education programme of doctors and paramedics in Oman, Aafiyaa Imaging and Diagnostic Centre and the Oman Association of Radiographers are organising a Radiology Conference on the theme, 'Update in Breast Imaging'.

The day-long event will be held at the Institute of Health Sciences in Wattayah today. There will be eminent international and local speakers at the conference. Yuthar al Rawahy, Chairperson of the National Association of Cancer Awareness (NACA), will start the lectures with talk on why breast cancer screening is required. Dr S K Ramani, a Senior Professor of Radiology and Breast Imaging, from one of the biggest cancer hospitals in India — Tata Memorial Hospital — will speak on benign and malignant lesions, BIRADS, calcifications on mammograms, MRI and PET. Dr Sukhpal Sawhney, Senior Consultant from SQU Hospital, will talk on breast ultrasonography. Dr Taha al Lawati, Senior Consultant Surgeon from Royal Hospital, will deliberate on the treatment of breast cancer in Oman.

Targeted at radiologists, doctors and paramedical staff, the programme will offer a complete update of what is latest in breast imaging.

"In our field, it is very important to remain updated and know what is the latest because technology is developing so fast, and so is medical science," says Dr Hiral Jerajani Kamath, eminent radiologist in Muscat and founder of Aafiyaa Imaging and Diagnostic Centre.

There will be another lecture organised by Aafiyaa on September 22 at 9 pm for doctors who cannot make it to today's conference. Aafiyaa, which marked its first anniversary yesterday, has now launched its mammography services.

According to Dr Kamath, breast cancer is a growing problem today. One in seven women is likely to develop cancer in their lives. As the woman ages, the chances of her getting breast cancer increases

"Mammography helps in detecting breast cancer at a very early stage. It can be detected much before a lump may be felt. Certain microcalcifications are seen on mammograms which are suggestive of early cancer. When cancer is treated early, then the treatment is very successful.

The woman may not have to lose her breast, and only a part of it is removed. After treatment, the woman can lead a good quality life and the prognosis is good." Mammography, says Dr Kamath, is the gold standard for early detection of breast cancer. No other modality is as sensitive as mammograms.

Those interested in attending the conference can **contact** Dr Kamath on 99445624 or **email** hiral@aafiyaaimaging.com