

COMPLIANCE WITH MDT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BRCA TESTING AND GENETIC COUNSELLING IN ELIGIBLE BREAST CANCER PATIENTS: A SINGLE-CENTER EXPERIENCE

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OBJECTIVE

- BRCA testing guides treatment and identifies candidates for targeted therapy
- MDTs identify eligible patients.
- Timely testing, counselling and result communication are essential.
- This Audit assessed compliance and gaps in the BRCA pathway.

METHODS

- Study Design & Setting:** A retrospective audit was conducted in the Surgical Oncology Department at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital, Peshawar.
- Study Population:** The audit included **100 breast Ca patients** for whom **BRCA genetic testing** was recommended during (MDT) discussions between **January 2025 and January 2026**.
- Data Collection:** Clinical records were retrospectively reviewed to determine **BRCA testing status**, documentation of **genetic counselling**, and whether **BRCA test results were communicated to patients**.
- Outcome Assessment:** The audit assessed the completion of recommended BRCA testing and the documentation of key steps in the genetic testing pathway.
- Descriptive statistics** were used to summarize patient and testing-related outcomes.

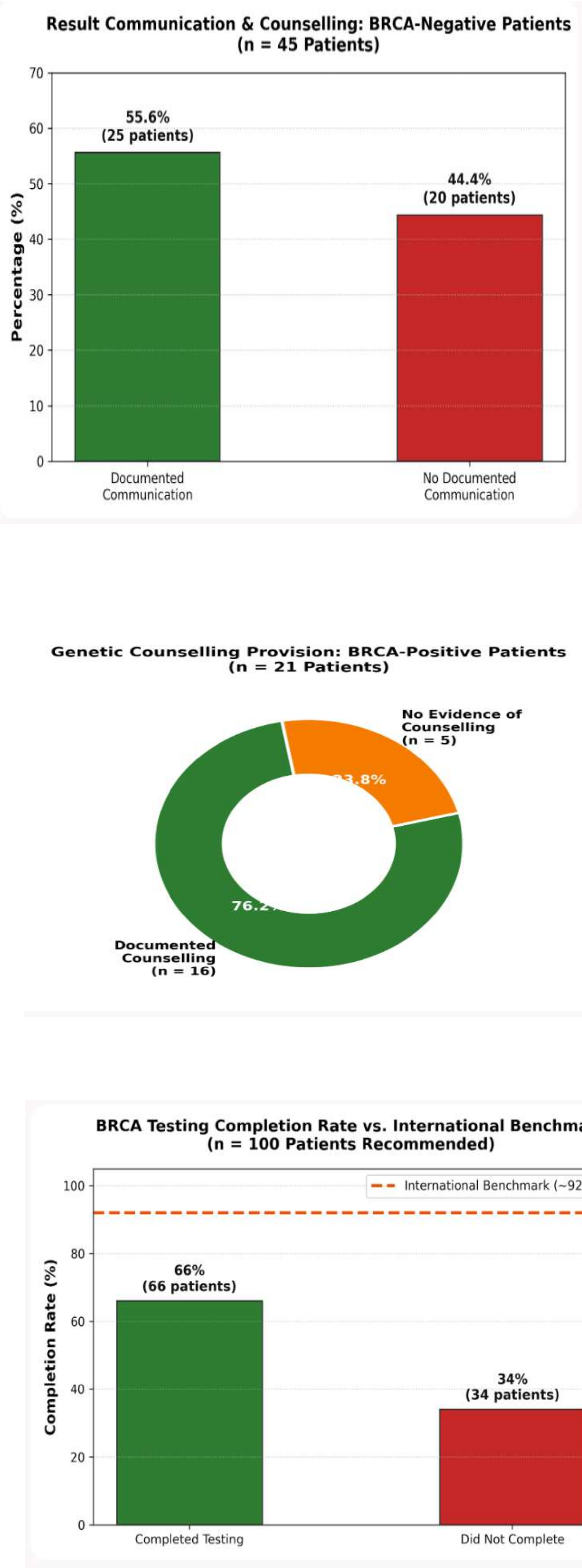
RESULTS

- BRCA Testing:** Of 100 patients recommended for BRCA testing, **66 completed testing** while **34 did not**, resulting in a **66% completion rate**, below the reported international benchmark of approximately **92%**.
- Test Results:** Among the 66 patients tested, **21 (31.8%) were BRCA-positive** and **45 (68.2%) were BRCA-negative**.
- BRCA-Positive Patients:** Documented genetic counselling was provided to **16 (76.2%)**, while **5 (23.8%)** had no evidence of counselling.
- BRCA-Negative Patients:** 25 (55.6%) had documented counselling/communication of results, whereas **20 (44.4%)** had no documented communication

TABLE 1: RESULTS

Patient Cohort	Received Counselling	No Evidence of Counselling
BRCA Positive	16(76.2%)	5(23.8%)
BRCA Negative	25(55.6%)	20(44.6%)
Overall Tested	41(62.1%)	25(37.9%)

RESULTS



CONCLUSION

- Compliance with MDT recommendations for **BRCA testing** was suboptimal.
- Additional deficiencies were identified in **genetic counselling** and **communication of test results**.
 - Standardized pathways** with clearly defined responsibilities may improve:
 - Implementation of recommendations
 - Documentation
 - Service delivery
 - Patient outcomes