Table 1 Demographic characteristics and clinicopathological parameters in 721 patients diagnosed with breast cancer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>No. of cases</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age group (years)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>31.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>26.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital status</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
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<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried</td>
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<td>22.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widow/divorced</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residence</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>72.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>History of breast feeding</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>63.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>36.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>History of contraceptive pills</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
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<td>29.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
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<td>71.0</td>
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<td><strong>Positive family history</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Mass was detected by:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Patient</td>
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<td>90.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examining physician</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Nodal status</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
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<td>26.9</td>
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<td><strong>Clinical stage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>7.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>45.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>31.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>15.7</td>
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<td><strong>Tumour grade</strong></td>
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<td>3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
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<td>56.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>III</td>
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<td><strong>Nuclear DNA ploidy tumour content</strong></td>
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<td>Aneuploid</td>
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<tr>
<td>PR +</td>
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<td>45.1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Her-2/neu tumour expression</strong></td>
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<td>Positive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
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<td>53.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>721</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total number of patients classified according to the American Joint Committee on Cancer: Staging system = 667.
*Total number of specimens analysed for nuclear DNA ploidy tumour content = 137.
*Total number of specimens analysed for ER content = 255.
*Total number of specimens analysed for Her-2/neu expression = 192.