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**AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY**  
Faculty of Medicine  
High Institute Of Nursing

**ASSESSMENT OF NURSES CARING FOR  
CANCER PATIENT UNDER  
CHEMOTHERAPY**

**Thesis**

Submitted for partial Fulfilment of the  
Requirement of Master Degree in Science of Nursing  
(Medical - Surgical Nursing)

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**1993**

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”بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ”

قَالُوا سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا  
إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْحَكِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ”

”صدق، الله العظيم”

سورة البقرة / آية ٣٢



you are just starting!

Last but not the least, my great appreciate to my husband, daughter, father, mother, sisters and brother who did their best from the beginning of the study to help and encourage me.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

* DF	Degree of freedom.
* N.S	Non significant.
* S	Significant
* IV	Intravenous
* Bsc.	Bachelor degree.
* i.e	That means.
* e.g.	For example.

# **INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK**

## INTRODUCTION

Cancer is the most feared disease worldwide, yet the incidence rates for many cancers are unnecessarily high o even increasing. Despite remarkable progress in diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation, the most effective long-term survival strategy against all cancers, continue to be p<sup>r</sup>evention and early detection. (*Criag and Stitzel, 1982*).

Critical nursing care of the client with cancer requires comprehensive nursing knowledge that includes nursing theory, cellular physiobiochemistry, neoplastic pathophysiology, radiotherapy<sup>k</sup>, antineoplastic pharmacotherapeutics, and genetic<sup>k</sup>, immunologic<sup>k</sup> and epidemiologic theories. (*Chernecky, and Ramzy, 1984*)

Yasko, (1986); stated that cancer nursing has consistently played a major role in the care of persons being treated with chemotherapy. Trends in chemotherapy administration since 1940s have progres<sup>s</sup>ed from a daily single dose of chemotherapeutic agents to the cyclic adminstration of a combintion<sup>a</sup> of drugs to the wide-spread use of chemotherapy as an adjuvant to surgery and radiation therapy to prevent the recurrence and/or spread of disease. These methods of

administration have resulted in some cancer cures and the long term control of several other cancers. The three most recent chemotherapy trends that have greatly influenced nursing practice are the wide spread use of vascular access devices, the regional administration of agents, and the establishment of guide lines to ensure safe handling, administration, and disposal of chemotherapeutic agents.

Nurses have a critical role in helping people understand what chemotherapy is and what its effects and side effects are and in demystifying the symbolism that it may have. Through the years, nurses have cared for patients undergoing chemotherapy and have expanded their role as this speciality field in cancer care has developed. Today, nurses administer the drugs in both conventional and experimental situations. They collect and record essential information about patients and families and the treatment course. They plan interventions to meet the physical, emotional, spiritual, educational, and social needs of patients on the basis of continuing assessments. They evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions and share information with colleagues by making presentations at conferences. The speciality of oncology nursing has expanded its base of knowledge energetically in the last decade. (*McLutvie and Cioppa, 1984*).

## **AIM OF THE STUDY**

To assess the nurses knowledge and skills in caring for cancer patients under chemotherapy.

# **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

## **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

The literature review will be presented under these main headings:

- 1- Definitions of (Neoplasm - Cancer - Chemotherapy)
- 2- Historical back ground.
- 3- Anatomy and physiology of the cell.
- 4- Effect of chemotherapy on the cell.
- 5- Cancers amenable to chemotherapy.
- 6- Factors affecting choice of chemotherapy.
- 7- Purposes and uses of chemotherapy.
- 8- Methods of administering chemotherapy.
- 9- Principles of chemotherapy administration.
- 10- Combination chemotherapy.
- 11- Classifications of chemotherapeutic agents.
- 12- Side effects of chemotherapy.
- 13- Guidelines for safe handling chemotherapy.
- 14- Ng. care of pt. receiving chemotherapy.