



شبكة المعلومات الجامعية
التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكرو فيلم

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



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التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكروفيلم



شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكروفيلم



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جامعة عين شمس

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**Needs and Problems of Children Undergoing
Chemotherapy and their Caregivers:
An Assessment Study**

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of
Master Degree in Pediatric Nursing

By

Alaa Elhussieny Mohammed

(B.SC. 2012)

Faculty of Nursing

Ain shams University

2021

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List of Abbreviations

AAP	American Academy of Pediatrics
ALL	Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
CBT	Cognitive behavioral training
CBT	Cognitive behavior(al) therapy
CIA	Chemotherapy-Induced Alopecia
CNS	Central Nervous System
CT	Computer-based training
DNA	Deoxyribo-Nucleic Acid
FCC	Family-Centered care
GHQ	General Health Questionnaire
GIT	Gastrointestinal tract
GUS	Gallbladder Urinary System
HFS	Hand-Foot Syndrome
IOM	Institute of Medicine
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
NA	Nursing Assistant
NCCN	National Comprehensive Cancer Network
NCI	National Cancer Institute
NHL	Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
PHC	Primary Health Care
PICU	Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
PNA	Primary Nursing Assessment
PSCPCC	Psychosocial Standards of Care Project for Childhood Cancer
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
QoL	Quality of Life
RPN	Registered Practical Nurse
ST	Strategy Training
TENS	Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation
WHO	World Health Organization

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Needs and Problems of children Undergoing chemotherapy and their Caregivers: An assessment study

ABSTRACT:

Background: Cancer is a group of diseases characterized by uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells. It has been categorized as a chronic disease that is characterized as a prolonged course, which does not resolve spontaneously and for which a complete cure is rarely achieved. **so, this study aimed** to assess needs and problems of children undergoing chemotherapy and their caregivers. **Design:** A descriptive study exploratory design was used to conduct this study. **Subject:** A purposive sample composed of 100 children undergoing chemotherapy. **Settings:** this study was carried out in Oncology Units in Children Hospital affiliated to Ain Shams University Hospitals and Minia Oncology Center over six months. **Tools:** two tools were used to collect necessary data, Interview questionnaire sheet and children's needs and problems sheet. **Result:** more than two thirds of the studied caregivers had unsatisfactory level of total knowledge while this study revealed that more than third of studied children had high needs. Also, more than half of studied children had severe problems related to cancer and chemotherapy. **Conclusion:** Based on the results of the current study, it can be concluded that, more than half of studied children had high total needs of psychological & social, cognitive & mental, and medical needs and less than two thirds of them had severe problems related to cancer and chemotherapy. Moreover, it was found that three quarters of the studied caregivers had unsatisfactory level of total knowledge about cancer and chemotherapy. In addition, there was highly statistically positive correlation between the needs of the studied children and their problems. Also, there was statistically positive correlation between the knowledge of the studied caregivers and the needs and problems of their children. **Recommendation:** Further research study is recommended to assess needs and problem of children undergoing chemotherapy and their caregiver.

Keywords: Pediatric nurse, Caregiver, Chemotherapy, Needs, Problems, children

Introduction

Cancer is a term used for diseases in which abnormal cells which divide without control are able to invade other tissues. Cancer cells can spread to other parts of the body through the blood and lymph systems (**National Cancer Institute, 2012**).

Childhood cancers make up less than 1% of all cancers diagnosed each year. About 10,380 children in the United States under the age of 15 will be diagnosed with cancer in 2016 (**Aliabadi et al., 2019**).

Cancer is a second leading cause of death worldwide, it is accounting for 8.2 million death in 2012, more than 60% of world's total new annual cases have cancer in Africa, Asia and central and South America. These regions account for 7% of the world's cancer deaths (**Barello et al., 2013**). In Egypt, each year, it is estimated that there are approximately 8400 children to develop cancer, 24% of these children died due to lack of adequate treatment and facilities (**Becker et al., 2017**).

The cause of childhood cancers are not known, about 5% of all children are caused by both external factors such as tobacco, infectious organisms, chemicals or radiation and internal factors such as hormones, Inherited mutations, immune conditions, or mutations that occur from

metabolism, these causal factors may act together or in sequence to initiate or promote the development of cancer **(Borjalilu et al., 2014)**.

The major types of cancers in children age 0 to 14 years are acute lymphocytic leukemia (All) (34%), followed by brain and other nervous system (26%), neuroblastoma (6%), soft tissue sarcomas (6%), one - half of which are (rhabdomyo sarcoma), renal (Wilms) tumors (5%) and Hodgkin and non - Hodgkin lymphomas (including Burkitt lymphoma) (5%) **(Murphysl et al., 2012)**.

Cancer now agreed to be accruable disease especially with rapid development in medicine and technology. Most cancers in children, like those in adults, are thought to develop as a result of mutations in genes that lead to uncontrolled cell growth and even tally cancer. However, environmental causes of childhood cancer have been difficult to determine what children might have been exposed to early in their development **(Christ et al., 2015)**.

The nurse plays a crucial role to assessment need and problems of children undergoing chemotherapy and promote the optional condition of physical, psychological and social for children **(Cicerone et al., 2015)**.

Nurses undertake substantial responsibilities in assisting children and parents to adjust to the illness and the treatment procedures through avert acute or delayed side effects of the treatment and decrease the intensity of the symptoms by monitoring, providing care, educating and consulting. The child with a terminal illness has the same need for love. Emotional support and normal activities as any person facing death. Love, respect, and dignity are all important factors in caring for a dying child **(Davey et al., 2016)**.

A child's reaction to hearing that you are going to die will depend very much on their age and stage of development. No two children will react in exactly the same way. Children sometimes seem to cope with such situations better than adults. This is probably because children tend to live in the moment. You might find that they won't look ahead and worry about what it really means to lose someone they love. But it will still have a big impact on them. Chemotherapy has early and late adverse effects 75% of children with malignancy **(EL-Sharkawy et al., 2017)**.