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DETERMINATION OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF INDIVIDUALS WITH STOMAZuhal Bahar^a, Burcu Cengiz^a and Seda Cansu Yenigün^a^aKoç University, Turkey

Statement of the Problem: Stoma cause significant changes in mood and style of the individual's life. Among these changes, reasons like disruption of the body image, anxiety and reduction of self-esteem are located. This study aimed to determine the quality of life in stoma.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: It is a descriptive study. As the data collection tool; demographic data form and Stoma Quality of Life Questionnaire, developed by Baxter et al. and turkish validity and reliability performed by Karadağ et al., was used. For evaluation of data, SPSS 15.0 (number, percentage and Mann-Whitney U test) was used.

Findings: The average age of the participants was 47.16±12.62. This result was found to be less than the mean age of other studies. According to Stoma Quality of Life Questionnaire subscale scores; the highest average score in stoma function subscales; the lowest score sexuality/body image subscales was determined. It is similar to the literature. It was determined that type of stoma, temporary or permanent, does not indicate a statistically significant result in terms of their quality of life of individuals. Women's work/social life subscale mean score was found statistically significant and higher than men ($p < .05$).

Conclusion & Significance: It was determined that Stoma have negatively affects quality of life of individuals, especially on sexual function or the body image function. Giving priority to these issues in the nursing curriculum will be a guide for nurses involved in the care of stoma patients.