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The relationships among physical symptoms, fatigue, depression, social support, spiritual wellbeing and health-related quality of life in lung cancer survivors

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The purpose of the study was to investigate the influence of symptom distress fatigue, depression, and social support on health-related life quality of lung cancer survivors. The study was a descriptive correlational research design. Participants were recruited from a medical center in middle Taiwan. There were 85 lung cancer survivors answered the study questionnaire which included the basic information, the Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy – General (FACT-G) Scale, FACT Lung Symptom Index 12 item version (FLSI-12) Scale, Functional Assessment of Chronic Illness Therapy-Fatigue (FACIT-F) Scale, Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression (CES-D) Scale, Medical Outcome Study Social Support Survey (MOS-SSS), Functional Assessment of Chronic Illness Therapy-Spiritual Well-Being Scale, (FACIT-Sp) Scale. Data were analyzed using SPSS 19.0 software. The average age of the participants were 59.6 (SD=10.6) with a range 37~80 year old. There were 41 male and 44 female. The participants' cancer stages were 68 (80%) in stage I, 10 in stage II (11.8%) and 7 (8.2%) in stage III. Among the 85 participants, sixty (70.6%) of them had lobectomy, 18 (21.2%) had segmentectomy, and 7 (8.2%) had wedge resection. The results showed that the participants' average score on health related quality of life (HRQOL) was 82.21 (SD=12.32). Person correlation coefficient analysis showed that health-related quality of life were significantly correlated with symptom distress and fatigue but were not correlated with depression or spiritual well-being. Results of stepwise linear regression analysis showed that symptom distress and social support together explained 58.3% of the variance in health-related quality of life. Lung cancer survivors who had higher symptom distress and lower social support reported lower level of health related life quality. Therefore, interventions which relieving symptom distress and increasing social support may help to improve life quality in lung cancer survivors.

Biography

Chin-Yen Wu is an acute care nurse practitioner. She has worked in acute care settings for more than twenty years. Thoracic surgical nursing and critical care are her clinical specialty areas. She has great passionate on proving evidence based care to her patients and developing nursing knowledge.

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