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Experiences of patients after radical prostatectomy: Systematic review

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Radical prostatectomy is the most preferred method for the surgical treatment of localized prostate cancer. Some postoperative complications affect the patient's quality of life. Health professionals have not enough knowledge about these problems and the levels of being affected. The aim of this study was to determine the problems patients experience after radical prostatectomy. This study examined 7857 qualitative studies articles. PubMed, Cochrane Library, Science Direct, Web of Science, Scopus and Google Academic databases were searched using the keywords radical prostatectomy patient experience qualitative from January to February 2016. About 19 articles were examined from the obtained results. These articles were given in chronological order, with authors, year, title, purpose, sample, method, findings, discussion and results. According to the findings; most of the patients stated that patients experienced postoperative urinary incontinence and erectile dysfunction problems. Patients were informed about their illness by doctors and via the internet. They stated that they were not sufficiently informed about the problems that may develop at the home. It is stated that patients use pads and diapers due to urinary incontinence, feel uncomfortable, embarrassed and inadequate. They used Kegel exercises to recover continence. In articles, patients expressed that support was important and they were mostly supported by their partners and their social activities were limited due to urinary incontinence. Patients stated that they experienced reduced masculinity and quality of life due to erectile dysfunction and they experienced changed body image. More qualitative studies are needed to demonstrate the physical, psychological and sociocultural effects of radical prostatectomy on patients.

Biography

Ayla Yavuz Karamanoglu is a teaching assistant at Pamukkale University, Faculty of Health Sciences, Surgical Nursing Department and has worked as a Nurse at Dokuz Eylül University, Faculty of Medicine. She has completed her PhD at Ege University Health Science Institutes on Surgical Nursing. Her doctoral dissertation was urinary incontinence experiences of patients after radical prostatectomy.

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