

The relationship between care requirements and life satisfaction of cancer patients receiving chemotherapy treatment

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Aim: This study was conducted to determine the relationship between care requirements and life satisfaction of patients receiving chemotherapy.

Methods: This correlational descriptive study was conducted in the hematology and medical oncology clinics of a university hospital. The population of the study consisted of cancer patients receiving chemotherapy. The sample of the study consisted of 210 cancer patients who were hospitalised in these

clinics between the dates, when the study was conducted. The data gathering tools used were demographics questionnaire, James care requirements scale, life satisfaction scale. In the evaluation of data, descriptive statistics, independent samples t-test, correlation analysis and Kruskal Wallis tests were used. The results were accepted as statistically significant at significance level of $p < 0.05$.

Results: It was found that 62.9% of the patients whose age average was 51.28 ± 11.98 were male. 29.5% of cancer patients were unemployed, 39.0% were secondary school graduate and 57.1% had moderate economic level. While care requirements mean scores of the cancer patients participating in the study were high (65.91 ± 14.72), their mean

scores of life satisfaction mean scores were low (13.27 ± 6.07). It was determined that gender and education level had an impact on the care requirements score and life satisfaction.

Conclusions: As a result of the study, it was found that there was a negative significant correlation between the care requirements and their life satisfaction ($p < 0.05$). As care requirements increased in the cancer patients, life satisfaction decreased. This situation shows that life satisfaction of cancer patients can be increased by a qualified nursing care.

Biography

Zeliha Cengiz is a PhD student in the Fundamentals of Nursing. She has more than 8 years of history in nursing profession. She is currently working research assistants at Inonu University Faculty of Nursing. She has expertise in fundamentals nursing.

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