

Quality of life and spirituality/spirituality well-being in cancer patients

Hatice Oner¹ and Meryem Yilmaz²

¹Bezmialem Vakif University, Turkey

²Cumhuriyet University, Turkey

Background: Cancer is a situation that separates the person from his healthy peers and there is a sense of meaning in life for individual. In earlier investigations, it was reported that the spirituality plays an important role in increasing life quality of cancer patients and dealing with illness.

Objective: The study was done to determine the relationship between spiritual well-being and quality of life in cancer patients.

Method: This descriptive study was performed in 150 patients receiving treatment for cancer at the General Surgery Clinic and the Oncology Centre of Cumhuriyet University Hospital. A questionnaire form for this study was developed on the basis of demographic data and spiritual well-being by the researcher, and used for the data collection. Additionally, the Functional Assessment of Chronic Illness Therapy-Spiritual Well-Being Scale (FACIT-Sp) was applied to define the level of quality of life and spirituality/spiritual well-being in cancer patients. The data obtained were analyzed using SPSS version 16.0 software for Independent Sample t-Test, Kruskal-Wallis test, Mann-Whitney U test, Tukey Test and Pearson Correlations.

Results: The average total score of the patients' quality of life (64.94 ± 1.84) and spiritual well-being (31.88 ± 8.44) was identified being over the middle level.

Conclusion: It was found that the spiritual well-being in patients receiving treatment for cancer was positively correlated with the level of quality of life. Therefore, the required importance and attention should be given to spiritual care in cancer patients.

Implications for practice: To improve the quality of life in cancer patients, spiritual care should be given by providing adequate spaces and suitable opportunities.

Biography

Hatice Oner is a research assistant in Nursing Department, Faculty of Health Sciences at The Bezmialem Vakif University. She is graduated master's degree at the Cumhuriyet University in 2012. She is still in doctoral education at The Department of Surgical Nursing, The Florence Nightingale Nursing Faculty of Istanbul University.

htcnr8878@gmail.com