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Nursing practice by oncology certified nurse specialist for female cancer patients with a minor child

Makiko Kondo¹, Chiori Onoue², Chie Suda³, Miho Takahashi³ and Kasumi Hanafusa³¹Okayama University, Japan²Osaka Medical Center for Cancer and Cardiovascular Diseases, Japan³Okayama University Hospital, Japan

This study explains how certified nurse specialists provide care to female cancer patients with minor children to help them carry out their motherly responsibilities. Semi-structured interviews were used to gather data and qualitative inductive method was used for data analysis. This research proposal was approved by the ethical committee. The nursing practice of six OCNS was summarized in ten categories: a) Accentuating the child as a person concerned, b) encouraging the parents to tell truth about the disease to their child, c) assessing whether the mother with cancer prioritizes the need of her child and family over hers, d) helping the husband deal with the wife's illness and realize the importance of mother-child bonding, e) alleviating husband's and child's anxiety by preparing them for the mother's imminent death, f) helping the mother create some good family memories by assessing the time left until her death, g) deciding the place of final farewell considering the child's age and comprehension, h) realizing inadequacy of support for the child after the mother's death, i) protecting staffs who empathize with them excessively, j) considering their own limitations as OCNS and helping staffs and younger nurses grow. The characteristics of OCNS nursing practice were as follows: a) Grief care for the child, b) support the husband in helping him realize his wife's wishes, c) assess the time left for the mother so that she may realize her hopes and d) support to the staff.

Biography

Makiko Kondo obtained a Bachelor from Tokushima University, a Master of Science in from Chiba University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing from Osaka Prefecture University. Currently, she is an associate professor in Okayama University. Her field of expertise is qualitative studies, and her research themes involve care for parents with cancer and their children, nurses' grief care, conceptualization of clinical nursing competency, and bioethics and life review of Hansen's disease survivors who have experienced extreme states..

mkondo@cc.okayama-u.ac.jp

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