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A neglected healthcare issue on sexual well-being following breast cancer diagnosis and treatment among Chinese women

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Breast cancer is one of the most prevalent cancers in women worldwide. Because advances in screening and treatment have led to a significant improvement in patient survival, to evaluate the psychosocial needs of cancer survivors is becoming increasingly important. Changes in sexual well-being and sexual dysfunction are common following breast cancer diagnosis and treatment in Chinese women. This has led us to focus on life quality issues, with a particular focus on sexual well-being. Our study was mixed with qualitative and quantitative designs. Twenty patients with breast cancer were recruited for in-depth interviews. The central questions covered a patient's cancer experience and perceptions of sexual activities following breast cancer. According to the findings of the qualitative study, we performed a quantitative study using a structured questionnaire to collect data on patient's experience and attitude to sexual well-being following breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. Based on the qualitative analysis, seven main themes emerged: (1) Decrease in sexual frequency; (2) Lack of sexual interest; (3) Menopausal symptoms; (4) Body image changes; (5) Effects on marital relationship; (6) Misconceptions about sex; (7) The need for professional consultation. Our study highlights the significant changes to sexual well-being following breast cancer among Chinese women, in addition to the lack of knowledge and misconceptions of sexual activity among patients. Addressing these problems will help improve a patient's quality of life. The findings of this study could help healthcare professionals recognize the sexual issues faced by women with breast cancer and ultimately promote a healthy life.

Evaluation of compliance of drug treatment in geriatric hypertensive patients

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Objective: The purpose of this study, was evaluated the drug compliance among geriatric hypertensive patients.

Material and Method: The study was conducted between may-july 2012 elderly people followed at the ankara gmma geriatric outpatients (n=107). The participants were over the age of sixty-five and had diagnosis of hypertension and drug treatment. the data were collected with the data collection form (patient demographics, chronic diseases, drug treatment) and the medication adherence self-efficacy scale-short form (mases-sf). the data were analyzed by using percentage, the student t-test and one way anova.

Results: The mean age of participants was 74.7±6.0. Participants were woman in 69.2%, had diabetes mellitus in 36.4% and 44% of patients used five or more number of drugs. cronbach alpha value was 0.99 for mases-sf. the mean score for drug compliance was 45.05±6.06 (total score 52). geriatric patient's drug compliance mean scores were higher who do not need to be reminded of time to take drugs and living alone (p <0.05).

Conclusion: In conclusion, geriatric patient's drug compliance scores relatively high compared to the total score and their personal characteristics were effective on drug compliance. therefore, it is suggested that the geriatric patients drug compliance should be evaluated and the elderly people educated according to their needs.