

QUALITY OF LIFE AND SUICIDAL IDEATION AMONG PATIENTS WITH WELL DIFFERENTIATED THYROID CARCINOMA UNDERGOING RADIOACTIVE I-131 THERAPY AT PERPETUAL SUCCOUR HOSPITAL, CEBU CITY FOR THE YEAR 2018

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Objective: This descriptive co-relational study aimed to determine the quality of life of patients with well differentiated thyroid carcinoma undergoing radioactive iodine (I-131) therapy and their suicidal ideation at Perpetual Succour Hospital for the year 2018.

Method: The subjects of the study with well differentiated thyroid carcinoma comprising the entire group and classified as to: age, sex, civil status, educational attainment, work status, stage of cancer and co-morbid conditions. The data gathered were subjected to descriptive and inferential statistics set at 5% level of significance.

Result: The level of cancer and the socio-demographic profiles of the respondents indicated that at least one of the predictors in the model has a statistically significant association with a higher level of cancer. In particular, only age is statistically significant at the significance level of 0.05. Since the coefficient is positive, it indicates that a higher level cancer becomes more likely as the age increases. The odd ratio also indicates that for every one year the patient grows the likelihood of a higher level cancer is increased by 1.12 times. The overall level of the Quality of Life of the respondents in terms of psychological, physical, emotional, social and financial is good. While the respondent's level of suicidal ideation in terms of psychological and emotional is low. Moreover, marital status is observed to be statistically significant. Finally, co-relational analysis of quality of life and the suicidal ideation of the respondents show that the correlation coefficient is statistically significant at the significance level of 0.05. The coefficient suggests a moderate negative relationship.

Conclusion: This study proved that once the patient is diagnosed with cancer, changes in the age are associated with changes in the probability of the severity of the cancer by 1.12 times. The quality of life differs among statuses. The respondents who are married have better quality of life compared with the others, while separated ones have poorer life quality. Lastly, the study proved that the better the quality of life, the less likely for the patients to commit suicide.

Biography

Junjie Neri Caber is the Radiation Safety Officer and the Chief Nuclear Medicine Technologist at Perpetual Succour Hospital, Cebu City, Philippines. She was the President of the Philippine Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist Cebu Chapter. She is a Licensed Medical Technologist by the Philippine Board and licensed by the American Society of Clinical Pathology International. She has obtained her Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology at South-western University Cebu City, Philippines in 2006. She finished her Postgraduate course with a degree Master of Public Health. Furthermore, she obtained her Distance Assisted Online Training course to all Nuclear Medicine Technologist through International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) in 2015. Currently, she is working on her PhD in Education major in Research and Evaluation at Cebu Normal University, Cebu City, Philippines.

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