Patients' education through scientifically-popular material

KEYWORDS: Patient Education; Medical Oncology

Serbian Society for Fight against Cancer, among other activities, is publishing the popular publications in the field of oncology. The patients, being treated and followed-up at the Institute of Oncology and Radiology of Serbia cannot easily obtain the necessary information. Our aim is to make them better informed through posters. The publication "It is better to prevent than to treat" issued quarterly, provides information on the current knowledge and achievement in all fields of oncology, from prevention to the most contemporary therapeutic approaches. The posters with thematic contents in the field of nutrition, prevention and diagnostics, are intended to be exposed in the waiting rooms of oncology institutions. In conclusion, by informing the patients in acceptable way on the scientifically based treatment, we are confronting to the spreading of sensational lies and dishonest tales about disease treating with "miraculous" methods and drugs.

Importance of nursing interventions in patients' education during breast cancer radiotherapy

KEYWORDS: Patient Education; Nurse's Role; Radiotherapy; Breast Neoplasms

The breast cancer radiotherapy is conducted as an individual treatment, or in combination with the surgical, or the chemotherapy approach. Side effects may occur during radiotherapy and their prevention and eventual treatment is important for delivering the radiotherapy in the planned period. The aim of this study was to investigate the incidence of the nursing intervention, and to estimate patients' knowledge on side effects of radiotherapy and their prevention, before and after nursing interventions during the radiotherapy. In the period between January and March 2002, the sample of 40 patients, treated at the Institute of Oncology and Radiology of Serbia, were included in the study, using the following instruments: nursing anamnesis, nursing care list, disease history, test of patients' knowledge. The knowledge deficiency on the treatment method and its side effects was the most common nursing diagnosis before radiotherapy. The high percentage of included patients showed the satisfying knowledge during and after the radiotherapy, as well as the understanding of the need for changing the life style after treatment completion. In conclusion, the initial deficiency of specific knowledge on the radiotherapy and its side effects, as the most common nursing diagnoses, indicates the importance of patients' education. The acceptance of nursing interventions could influence the conducting of treatment in the optimal period of time.