Factors affecting Quality of Life of older people with cancer and their caregivers.

Author: Alexander Purnell Marqués

Tutor: Nuria Esandi Larramendi



INTRODUCTION

- Life expectancy around the world has increased in the past few decades and will continue to do so.
- Currently, 60% of newly diagnosed cancer cases are individuals over the age of 65 and represent 70% of all cancer deaths. (1)
- Geriatric Oncology (GO) is a discipline that focuses on the management of elderly patients with cancer
- According to the SIOG, the rise in these numbers has caused oncology health professionals to shift their focus towards the geriatrics field. (2)
- High-quality nursing care to older patients with cancer requires a considerable amount of understanding of the patient's situation and their relationship with the concept "quality of life".
- Patients and caregivers are both suffering important and vital changes, including physical and psychological consequences that affect Quality of Life (QoL). (3)

OBJECTIVE

Investigate the main factors that affect QoL of older patients with cancer, their caregivers and the methods used to evaluate that QoL.

METHODOLOGY

Research question in PS format: What are the factors affecting QoL of older people with cancer and their caregivers?

Older adults OR Geriatric OR Elderly OR OR Old people OR "aged"	Carers OR Family OR "Caregivers"	Cancer OR Oncology OR Neoplasms" OR "Oncology Nursing"	"Quality of Life" AND AND	Factors OR Indicators OR Determinants
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Narrative literature review





PubMed

CINAHL

LIMITS



Last six years (2017-2022)



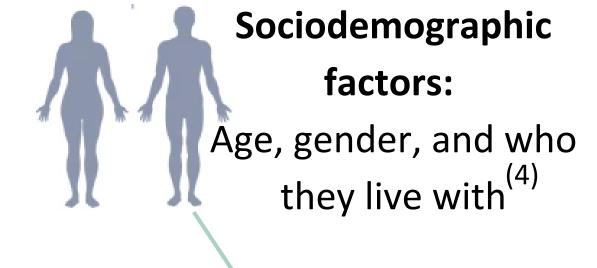


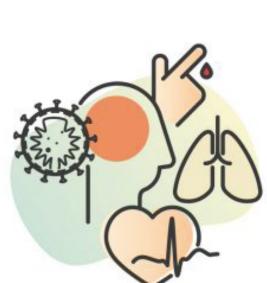
Quality of Life



9 articles selected

RESULTS





Co-morbidities:
Will guide us to know
the risk of death
within the next 4
years

Factors affecting
QoL of older
patients with
cancer.



Nutritional status:

Early diagnosis of malnourishment can be avoided if constant assessment (Mini-Nutritional Assessment Scale).

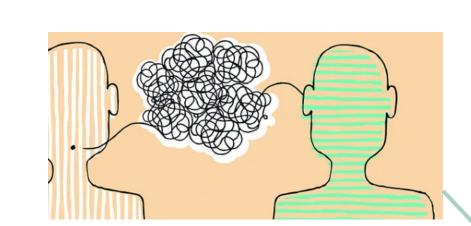


Performance status:

Ability to perform Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) and Instrumental ADL's (IADL).

Cognitive status:

Cognitive evaluations are important as it will contribute on whether patients have a better QoL or not.⁽⁴⁾

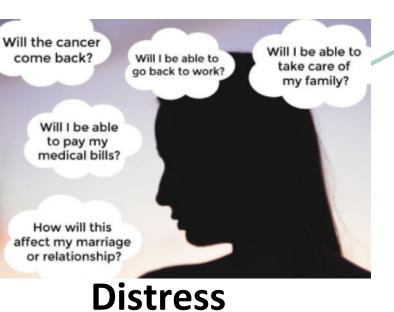


Self-esteem & communication issues



Levels of burden increase

throughout the course of the disease



Anxiety and depression have been highly linked with lower QoL.



Factors affecting

QoL of their

caregivers.

Comorbidities, mental health, and social support.

Sociodemographic factors:

Being older, being a female, having a low income, duration of care, being the spouse of the patient and the education level obtained.⁽⁵⁾

CONCLUSION

- These factors have shown the different ways in which cancer can affect older people and their own caregivers and as a consequence take a holistic care of them both in order to maintain a good quality of life in that stage of life.
- On account of numerous scales, an increase in prevention of all of these factors has resulted.
- Further research is needed to expand our knowledge of usefulness of these scales in different age groups. During clinical practice in the Nursing degree, assessing the patient and the caregiver in a holistic approach will improve the results of this review in the future.

