

Evaluation of the effect of chemotherapy on functional scales of quality of life of patient with breast cancer

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Abstract

Background: Today breast cancer is the most common malignancy among women and chemotherapy for breast cancer can have the main effect on patient's quality of life. The goal of this study was the evaluation of the impact of chemotherapy on functional scales of quality of life of patient with breast cancer.

Methods: In this descriptive-analytic study, 53 women with breast cancer candidate of chemotherapy referred to Omid and Imam Khomeini department of Oncology were studied. The questionnaire measuring the quality of life was proved by the European Organization for Research and Treatment of cancer Quality of life Questionnaire (EROTC QLQ_C30) and its breast cancer supplementary (QLQ-BR 23) was used at two points in the time, namely: baseline (pre chemotherapy) and 12 weeks after chemotherapy (within four cycle of chemotherapy).

Results: After four cycle of chemotherapy average of functional scales of quality of life was reduced significantly respect to before chemotherapy period ($p=0.0001$). The results of pair t Test revealed significant difference between global quality of life pre- and post in comparison to the all four chemotherapeutic cycles ($p=0.0001$).

Conclusion: Since the chemotherapy reduces functional scales of quality of life, thence it is recommended that authorities take note of this period of treatment to improve quality of life of patients. Oncology nurses can play important role to decrease side effects of chemotherapy agents and improve quality of life of this group of patients.

Keywords: Breast cancer, Chemotherapy, Quality of life.