

QUALITY_OF_LIFE.edited.docx

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Nursing Research

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Question 1

Quality of life for lung cancer patients has been defined based on individuals' physical health, psychological functioning, level of independence or dependency on people, the ability to engage in social roles, religion and personal beliefs. When gathering data on an intervention that affects lung cancer patients' quality of life, the nature of the research and the target population are the significant determinants of the method used (Grove & Gray, 2018). The nature of this research may require a patient's assessment of how the medication is working for them. Besides, close monitoring by the doctor to determine the progress of physical health and mental health; therefore, a method that captures the feelings and changes in the patient's life might be appropriate. Consequently, if the nurse aims to gather the information directly from the patients, they might consider choosing a method that allows for observations due to non-verbal indicators involved and some patient's inability to express themselves fully. Qualitative method of gathering data best suits the research due to its ability to capture rich and in-depth information (Waltz et al., 2010). The nature of the research and target population may disqualify the quantitative method of data collection. Therefore, numbers are a significant concern and become spurious when abstract constructs such as feelings are involved.

The recommended methods for the research are the use of interviews, questionnaires and observations. Interviews whether interpersonal or through telephone, provide a way to access more detailed information, especially when open-ended questions are involved (Grove & Gray, 2018). The nurse may consider interviewing her patients if she has enough time to do so or opt to use a questionnaire, saving time. The interview or the questionnaire will help her capture the

patients' response to how the medication is working for them, financial changes, how the patient is involved in society, and the support system's nature, among other information. Notably, observation will help the nurse capture the patient's physical progress or the functioning of the body or the brain, especially when responding to questions.

Question 2

In a past encounter with a cancer patient, I focused on getting her perception of how she was progressing physically, the current health situation. I questioned her about lifestyle and health measures. According to Moser & Korstjens, 2018 quality of life of patients with long-term illnesses is mainly impacted by their lifestyle as they go through their medication. Hence, I based my questions on Nutrition, Relationship and Stress Levels. From the questions asked, my patient admitted to feeling better from the previous chemotherapy session, but she did not like the mention of another session. On the question on nutrition habits, I gathered that the patient took enough fluids and fruits as recommended and she had a supportive daughter who made sure she took meals and medication on time. However, the patient expressed feeling pain from time to time that distressed her and her sleeping patterns were not admirable. Despite the patient's positive response feeling better, I was able to observe weight loss that I later confirmed with the weighing machine. Consequently, through observation, I could tell the patient's distress when she talked about the constant pains.

The open-ended questions used in the assessment of my patient were:

How are you feeling today based on the past chemotherapy session?

How do you feel about the next session?

What would you say about your sleeping patterns?

I also asked the following close-ended questions:

Do you take enough fruits and water as recommended?

Who prepares your meals and medication?

Are your meals and medication given to you as advised?

References

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