

The role of cancer navigation nurse on pretreatment education for breast cancer patients undergoing radiotherapy

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Aim: The aim of this presentation is to explain the role of the cancer navigation nurse during radiotherapy for breast cancer patients since these patients have high anxiety and therapies have severe side effects.

Method: Recent literature and materials of European Oncology Nurse Society education materials are reviewed.

Discussion: Cancer navigation nurses are patient educators and advocates, care coordinators, system navigators, and community ambassadors on a mission to improve the cancer experience for each patient. Patient education is a dynamic part of medicine. Radiation oncology is a complex treatment discipline. Patient education is a part of quality of care. Radiotherapy, chemotherapy and surgery are effective treatments for malignant cancers, and nearly half of all cancer patients undergo radiotherapy. Anxiety is one of the most common psychological response during cancer therapy for radiotherapy. The use of educational media, internet, applications are effective approaches to pretreatment education. There are existing more information about radiotherapy on the web. Cancer navigation nurse can also perform symptom management during radiation treatment, with applications for pre-treatment education.

Conclusion: Radiotherapy, following chemotherapy or breast surgery, is a complicated process and need to be well managed. The patients with complaints of previous treatments are vulnerable to radiation therapy side effects. Cancer navigation nurse can help for optimization of multiple therapies by close monitoring these patients.

Biography

She is specialist nurse on surgical oncology and breast cancer navigation nurse in her institution and responsible for pretreatment education of the breast cancer patients. Marmara University Pendik Training Hospital is a reference hospital. She had presented many oral talks and attended EONS Masterclass in Berlin.