

Pediatric Psycho-oncology

Childhood cancer accounts for less than 2% of all cancers diagnosed each year. about 12-14/000 children will be diagnosed in a given year with any type of cancer

10-20% → 80-85%
cure rates 5 year survival year

Psycho social support is defined as an intervention to help patient cope with stressors at home , during treatment, or in the community.

It can also be defined as the attentiveness to the social , psychological and emotional health of the patient while attending to life threatening medical symptoms and therefore covers a broad range of psychological services.

Pediatric psycho- oncologist and child life
specialists

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There is a risk of mental health disorders in cancer patients, anxieties of Diagnosis , therapy , and disruption of activities of daily living.

Most patients do not meet full Diagnostic
statistical manual criteria for psychiatric dis

In parents and siblings increase stress of
caring for a child with cancer :
increase risk of mild to severe psychological
symptom

In child

Cancer occurs during a period of great physical, cognitive, behavioral and social development.

Cancer treatment :

Difficulties in cognition.

Poor coping skills

Disordered behavior.

Child is affected by cancer and their psychological response varies with their developmental age at Diagnosis.

infants and toddler (age < 3 years)

Making procedures and treatment as painless as possible

Rooming in  Secure attachment

Preschool age: Egocentric → center of everything
magical thinking and use associative logic (pre-operational thinking).

- punishment for being and & procedures and treatment are additional punishment .

prolonged Separation from family can cause anxiety

Transitional object but having a parent nearby

School age 6-13 y/o:

Become more logical appreciate others view points and rule became very important cancer is disruptive and frustrating.

- * Missing school
- * Disrupted friend ships

Adolescence :

- * Identity establishing .
- * Independency .
- * Seeking intimacy .

Treatment:

Many psychiatric symptoms and disorders such as anxiety and depression are under diagnosed and under treated .

Psychosocial care:

Including early cognition and emotional assessments and continuing psychological care concurrent with medical treatment is necessary for Individual child and its well as for the family as a whole.

IQ cognitive assessment:

evaluation of verbal and non verbal Learning
level of anxiety and Diagnostic interview of
Depression and coping difficulties .

Pre school age:

Storytelling fantasy play, games

School age :

medical play and behavioral interventions

Adolescents:

medical decision-making and working with the family.

Social support:

Greater perceived support predicted significantly lower psychological distress and higher self-esteem

classmate support → successful adaptation older age →

↑ Depressive symptom

(male) → ↑ externalizing behavior

female received greater parental and peer support.

Anxiety

Delirium

pediatric Anesthesia emergence Delirium
(PAEDS)

pediatric confusion Assessment method

Delirium Rating scale

olanzapine ,quetiapine , risperidone

Family issues:

The initial family meeting with the psychosocial team should occur as soon as possible after a diagnosis is reached in order to initiate a trusting doctor- pt- family relationship.

There is relationship between child
emotional Distress and parent distress

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SIBLING ISSUE

Survivorship issues :

2/3 of childhood cancer survivors have at least one “Late effects” and one fourth of complication will be sever or life threatening.

Radiation and chemotherapy effects

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Neuro cognitive effects up to (40%) of
childhood cancer survivors

Protective factors :

- * Early returning to school
- * Age

End of life and (Advanced care planning)

Conclusions

Communicating Bad news

Step 1: S

Setting up the interview .

Step 2:

P: Assessing the parents perception

Steps 3:

I: Obtaining the parents invitation.

Steps4:

K:

Giving knowledge and information to patient

Steps 5:

E :Addressing the patients emotions with empathic Responses .

Step 6 :

S: Strategy and summery