Quality Improvement for Support Needs of Women with Gestational Breast Cancer

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Healthcare providers must understand what women endure because of gestational breast cancer and address the quality improvement support measures they may need. "Quality Improvement is the use of data to monitor the outcomes of care processes and use improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care systems" (QSEN Institute, 2020, Table 4). Quality Improvement is essential for nurses and medical personnel to continuously improve and give patients the best care possible. To gain knowledge on better care and emotional support for these women, the researcher uses qualitative research with purposive sampling of face-to-face, individual, and audio-recorded interviews to recruit seven Asian women following up at the breast center of a tertiary women's hospital in Singapore (Liow et al., 2020). The researcher discovered three main topics using thematic analysis that these women endured: juggling between being a mother and a patient, being a sick woman, and seeking normalcy (Liow et al., 2020). The women's experiences of having gestational breast cancer varied on the women having existing support and their encounter perceptions. However, it was evident that GBS interfered with motherhood experiences because they had dual roles to play, which reduced bonding opportunities with their babies (Liow et al., 2020). Future qualitative and quantitative research should explore and evaluate the psychosocial and long-term effects of gestational breast cancer to provide women with better care and emotional support (Liow et al., 2020).

Article Summary

Introduction

This article's primary purpose is to research what support (physical and mental) methods women of the Asian culture need when diagnosed with gestational breast cancer. The effects of gestational breast cancer can take a toll on one's well-being (Liow et al., 2020). The women in this research share their personal experiences and hardships that they endured with gestational diabetes. This research can help nurses and medical personnel better care for women with gestational breast cancer.

Overview

Gestational breast cancer (GBS) is a stressful life event for women. As a guide, the researcher uses the Transactional Model of Stress and Coping by Lazarus and Folkman to discover new ways to improve the quality of care for women with GBS (Liow et al., 2020). The coping process is mediated by how the patient perceives the threat of the event and their perceived ability to cope with it using existing resources (Liow et al., 2020). "Quality Improvement is the use of data to monitor the outcomes of care processes and use improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care systems" (QSEN Institute, 2020, Table 4). Quality Improvement is essential for nurses and medical personnel to continuously improve and give patients the best care possible.

Quality Improvement

This article uses qualitative research to improve care and find better solutions for women with gestational breast cancer. There needs to be additional research conducted on women of all cultures to analyze their support needs and improve the quality of care for women with GBS (Liow et al., 2020). After completion of research, educational classes need to be implemented for

all healthcare workers to make changes to accommodate these women. With knowledge of stressors women with GBS endure and medical personnel gaining knowledge through training, there can be an ongoing improvement in the quality of care. More research and training courses can cause financial increases for the institution. These changes will improve the quality of care, which will increase patient and nursing safety and allow for patient and nursing satisfaction.

Application to Nursing

Practice

The best nursing practice while caring for a patient with gestational breast cancer is providing psychological and emotional support throughout diagnostic procedures, treatment, and follow-up care. When a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer during pregnancy, she faces treatment that may make her not feel well, alter her body shape, and may not carry a certainty of cure which can lead to stress and anxiety (Ricci et al., 2020). The nurse should address the woman's need for information about treatment and diagnosis, physical care while undergoing treatments, contact for support groups, education, options, and preventative measures about the disease (Ricci et al., 2020). It is critical to allow clients the time to ask questions and to discuss any necessary preparations for treatment; as our understanding of breast disorders keeps improving, treatments continue to change (Ricci et al., 2020).

Education

Current guidelines for educating staff about patient care or nursing practice on improving support needs for women with gestational diabetes depend on the establishment's requirements for training. Online education and training resources with up-to-date information are available

through the American Cancer Society for healthcare professionals on cancer-related topics. Nurses should be educated and follow the American Nurses Association (ANA) guidelines to provide patients with emotional support and the best quality of care (Ricci et al., 2020). The ANA guidelines should be for all patient care, regardless of diagnosis. Women with gestational breast cancer should be treated according to guidelines for nonpregnant patients with breast cancer, with some modifications to protect the neonate from harm (National Cancer Institute, 2019). To lessen disruptions of the motherhood experience, hospitals should include support strategies in antenatal classes and postnatal workshops (Liow et al., 2020).

Research

Even though gestational breast cancer (GBS) is uncommon, there should be further studies on providing better care and emotional support for women with GBS. Future qualitative and quantitative research should evaluate and explore the various aspects of the psychosocial and long-term effects of having gestational breast cancer (Liow et al., 2020). Additional research allows healthcare professionals to have a better understanding and knowledge about the effects of GBS on women, which can result in a higher quality of patient care.

Conclusion

Quality Improvement is essential for nurses and medical personnel to continuously improve and give patients the best care possible. "Quality Improvement is the use of data to monitor the outcomes of care processes and use improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care systems" (QSEN Institute, 2020, Table 4). In this research study, seeking normalcy was shared amongst the women with GBS,

who sought support through various resources to cope (Liow et al., 2020). The women expressed their struggle from being a mother, a happy time in their life, to being a cancer patient, a terrifying time that brought uncertainty and interfered with motherhood experiences and bonding opportunities with their babies (Liow et al., 2020). To improve the quality of care and to have a better understanding of the support needs of women with gestational breast cancer, training courses should be available for staff members to gain knowledge to improve their skills, attitudes, and behaviors.

References

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