Title: sexual life of cancer and palliative women

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Abstract

During and after receiving treatment for cancer and palliative care treatments women of all ages, with early and advanced diseases or no more treatment for the diseases, will have concerns and questions about sexuality and sexual activity (even most of women in many culture fell shy to ask or talk about sexual issues). Cancer can affect sexuality either direct by affecting sexual organs or indirect by affecting psychological health, disturbing moods.

It is common for some women with different types of cancer to struggle with their body image, some of them have less desire for sexual intimacy, and/or find that penetration during sexual activity has become painful. The worth things that many health care providers do not ask patients about this normal and important aspect of health, on the other side patients should not hesitate to discuss their feelings or ask questions about the impact of cancer treatments on their sexual health. Providers should proactively discuss sexual health with their patients or consider consultation with a sexual health provider. Clinicians should be encouraged to address these issues early on in the treatment pathway and to encourage patients to discuss them. Although there is no one therapeutic strategy for sexual concerns for female cancer survivors, clinicians should be aware of the multiple modalities present, particularly as they pertain to pharmaceuticals, vaginal moisturizers, and vaginal lubricants. This presentation attempts to answer common questions that arise.

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