



THE IMPACT OF FERTILITY PRESERVATION PROGRAMS ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ONCOLOGY PATIENTS: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESEARCH RESULTS

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Introduction:

Recent advancements in oncology, including new diagnostic and treatment methods, have significantly increased the survival rates of patients with cancer. However, the loss of fertility caused by aggressive treatment methods poses serious issues impacting the physical, emotional, and social well-being of women of reproductive age. Fertility preservation programs have become important tools that enable patients to enhance their quality of life and maintain the possibility of family planning. This study aims to assess the impact of these programs on various aspects of quality of life in oncology patients.

Materials and Methods:

The study was conducted using comparative and descriptive methods involving 140 patients with malignant tumors, divided into two groups: the main group (n=75) consisting of women participating in fertility preservation programs, and the control group (n=65) made up of patients who did not undergo such procedures. To assess quality of life, an adapted FACT-G questionnaire was utilized, covering physical condition, social/family relationships, emotional well-being, and well-being in daily life. Statistical analysis was performed using StatTech software, with statistical significance set at $p < 0.05$.

Results:

The analysis revealed significant differences between the groups ($p < 0.001$) across all quality of life aspects. The median physical condition in the main group was 18.00 (IQR [14.00; 22.00]), while in the control group, it was 12.00 (IQR [11.00; 13.00]). The social/family relationship scores were 19.00 (IQR [14.50; 21.50]) for the main group compared to 10.00 (IQR [10.00; 12.00]) in the control group.



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Emotional well-being was 18.00 (IQR [14.50; 20.00]) in the main group and 10.00 (IQR [9.00; 11.00]) in the control group. The overall quality of life score was 73.00 (IQR [65.50; 83.50]) compared to 49.00 (IQR [46.00; 51.00]) in the control group.

Conclusion:

The obtained results confirm that fertility preservation programs have a significant positive impact on the quality of life of oncology patients. All measured parameters, including physical condition, social and family relationships, emotional well-being, and overall quality of life, underscore the necessity of integrating such programs into standard treatment protocols for cancer patients to enhance their quality of life at both physical and psycho-emotional levels.