**Psychology and Nursing**

The aim of healthcare providers is to provide the best quality of life (QOL) for patients and their families. However, little is known about what QOL means for a patient from the patient’s perspective or about QOL as an outcome measure for the quality of care provided to patients with cancer (Jocham et al., 2006). Quality of life can be hard to define, and there are many definitions available in the literature; however, the most widely used definition is provided by the World Health Organization (WHO), which is the “individuals’ perceptions of their position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards, and concerns” (1996). This definition emphasizes the multidimensional and subjective nature of QOL, as well as the breadth of its scope, since it borders on many aspects of one’s life. The aim of this study was to determine which factors were considered to be predictors of QOL in a sample of Lebanese cancer patients attending a tertiary healthcare center. A cross-sectional descriptive survey was used, and 200 oncology patients over 18 years of age were interviewed over a one-year period (from 2009–2010). Two widely-known instruments, the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer Quality of Life Questionnaire (EORTC QLQ-C30) and the Memorial Symptom Assessment Scale (MSAS), were used to assess the QOL of and measure the symptoms in the population group. The reliability coefficients of both instruments were generally satisfactory. The results showed that the significant predictors of a better QOL were being married (p = 0.04), being single (p = 0.04), having the breast (p = 0.01) and gastrointestinal tract (p= 0.02) as primary cancer sites, and emotional functioning (p = 0.00), while the significant predictors of a poorer QOL were the MSAS total symptoms (p = 0.01) and fatigue (p = 0.00). Our findings provide insight into the predictors of the QOL of cancer patients and set the path for future research in order to improve the QOL of cancer patients in Lebanon.