



Gelclair

Literary Review



September 2015 to November 2015

Title	Publication	Date	Overview
Integrating oral health throughout cancer care	Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing, Vol. 19, No. 5, pages 615-619.	October	Article focuses on the importance of oral health care before, during and after cancer treatment. It states that about 80% of patients receiving high-dose chemotherapy and nearly all patients receiving head and neck radiation therapy experience mucositis. It recommends strategies to adopt to decrease pain, prevent bleeding and infection, and to prevent mucositis developing.
Distress, concerns and unmet needs in survivors of head and neck cancer: a cross-sectional survey	European Journal of Cancer Care, Vol. 24, No. 5, pages 748-760.	September	A study of 280 head and neck cancer survivors showed that many continue to experience high levels of distress and multiple concerns in the first 5 years after treatment is finished. The most common concerns included oral and eating problems, fear of recurrence and fatigue. Nearly half of the survivors in the study reported sore mouth as a cause of distress.
A national survey of healthcare professionals' views on models of follow-up, holistic needs assessment and survivorship care for patients with head and neck cancer	European Journal of Cancer Care, Vol. 24, No. 6, pages 873-883.	November	Results from a survey of head and neck cancer (HNC) nurses and health professionals revealed a diverse range of existing models of follow-up, rehabilitation and support for patients with HNC in the UK. The results show support for new models of care, which make greater use of HNC nurses expertise and give them more responsibility for follow up care.
Further analysis of the emotional consequences of head and neck cancer as reflected by the Patients' Concerns Inventory	British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Vol. 53, No. 8, pages 711-718.	October	Analysis of data from 1,482 head and neck cancer Patients' Concerns Inventories shows that fear of recurrence was the most commonly selected item, followed by anxiety, depression and mood. Other significant problems identified included swallowing, chewing, taste and saliva.
Head and neck cancers	Nursing Standard Vol. 30, No. 7, page 17.	14 October	A clinical update giving signs and symptoms of head and neck cancers, causes and risk factors, together with advice on promoting a healthy lifestyle and where to find out more information.

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Acute oncology: a developing sub-speciality	British Journal of Nursing, Vol. 24, No. 16 pages s18-s25.	10 September	Article explores the benefits of an Acute Oncology Service (AOS), developed to improve care of cancer patients presenting to hospital as emergency admissions. It includes a discussion about the need for prompt, specialist support for patients suffering significant chemotherapy adverse effects such as vomiting, diarrhoea or oral/gastrointestinal tract ulceration.
Treatment-related problems experienced by cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy: a scoping review	European Journal of Cancer Care, Vol. 24, No. 6, pages 605-617.	November	A scoping review has identified problems experienced by patients undergoing chemotherapy treatment, including symptoms such as nausea and problems with mouth, throat and swallowing, together with psychosocial issues. The authors believe these findings will help inform development of a patient-reported outcome measure (PROM) to facilitate targeted supportive care.
Effect of chemotherapy-induced nausea on patients' quality of life	Cancer Nursing Practice, Vol. 14, No. 9, pages 34-39.	November	A review of studies into the side effects of chemotherapy shows that chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting (CINV) continues to have a negative effect on the quality of life of patients, despite the introduction of new antiemetics. Patients experiencing CINV and the associated side effects were found to be less productive and suffer emotionally, socially and financially.
Call for action to reverse downward trend in use of stop smoking services	The BMJ, No. 8023, page 2.	5 September	Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) report that the number of people using NHS stop smoking services has fallen for the past three years, and by 23% last year. They call for mass media campaigns to promote these services, reporting that smokers who use them are four times more likely to quit than those who go 'cold turkey'.
E-cigarettes can cause nicotine addiction	The BMJ, No. 8031, page 2.	31 October	The American Academy of Pediatrics calls for tougher regulations on e-cigarettes, claiming that the aerosols inside these devices contain potentially harmful 'intoxicants and carcinogens'.

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European levels of obesity, alcohol and tobacco use are worryingly high	Gastrointestinal Nursing, Vol. 13, No. 8, page 6.	October	The World Health Organisation (WHO) has reported that the average European adult consumes 11 litres of pure alcohol a year, 59% are overweight or obese, and 30% use tobacco. It is thought that this poor lifestyle may put gains previously made in life expectancy at risk.
E-cigarette use in young adults is linked to smoking	The BMJ, No. 8024, page 5.	12 September	A US study found that young people who used e-cigarettes were eight times more likely to progress to smoking than those who did not.
Role of specialist liaison nurses in caring for young adults	Cancer Nursing Practice, Vol. 14, No.9, pages 14-19.	November	Article discusses the importance of having specialist liaison nurses for dealing with the unique needs of teenagers and young adults with cancer. It suggests that a key role is to help them manage the side effects of chemotherapy, as young people often feel invincible and do not realise the implications of treatment, including life-threatening events.
Validated questionnaires on intimacy in patients who have had cancer	British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Vol. 53, No. 7, pages 584-593.	September	Researchers call for the development of a questionnaire on intimacy that is specific to patients with cancer of the head and neck, after results of a review indicated that problems, such as swallowing, oral sensation and dry mouth can impact on intimacy and sexual enjoyment.
Preventing chemotherapy errors with comprehensive medication assessment	Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing, Vol. 19, No. 5, pages 532-534.	October	Article presents a case study detailing a chemotherapy error that occurred because of inadequate assessment by the patient's nurse. The authors discuss the complexities of chemotherapy administration and the implications for oncology nurses.
Alcohol consumption and cardiovascular disease, cancer, injury, admission to hospital, and mortality: a prospective cohort study	The Lancet, Vol. 386, No. 10,007, pages 1945-1954.	14 November	Results from a world-wide study of 114,970 adults, showed that current drinking (which was reported by 31% of individuals) was associated with increased risk of mortality, cancer and injury. Researchers say these results support global strategies to reduce harmful alcohol use.
Attitudes to smoking and smoking cessation among nurses	Nursing Standard Vol. 30, No. 9, pages 36-40.	28 October	Results of a review indicate that while it is agreed nurses are ideally placed to promote smoking cessation among patients, the high prevalence of smoking among nurses in some countries is likely to undermine this.

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References: 1. Innocenti M *et al.* *J Pain Symptom Manage* 2002; 24(5): 456-457. 2. McLean M. Poster presented at the British Association of Head and Neck Oncology Nurses National Study Day on Sharing Good Practice in Head and Neck Cancer Nursing, 12 June 2009. 3. Gibson *et al.* Presented at SIOP 2010. 4. Data on file: Patient online feedback. Correct as of August 2015.