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Pediatric Brain Tumors Core Role of Nursery Improving Quality of Life

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ABSTRACT

Pediatric brain tumors present a significant challenge not only in terms of medical treatment but also in ensuring the quality of life (QoL) for affected children. These tumors can lead to various physical, cognitive, and emotional issues that require comprehensive care. Nurses play a pivotal role in managing these aspects, providing both clinical and emotional support to patients and their families. This review examines the impact of pediatric brain tumors on QoL, the importance of palliative care, and the crucial role of nurses in delivering holistic care. The integration of nursing care in improving QoL and offering palliative treatment is essential for addressing the multifaceted needs of pediatric patients with brain tumors.

Keywords: Pediatric Brain Tumors Core, Nursery, quality of life.

INTRODUCTION

Pediatric brain tumors are the most common solid tumors in children, accounting for approximately 20% of all childhood cancers(1). These tumors can have profound effects on the QoL of affected children, impacting their physical abilities, cognitive function, and emotional well-being (2). The role of nurses in managing pediatric brain tumors encompasses a wide range of responsibilities, from direct clinical care to

providing emotional and psychological support to both patients and their families (3).

1. Impact on Quality of Life

The diagnosis and treatment of pediatric brain tumors can significantly impair QoL due to:

- **Physical Challenges:** Symptoms such as headaches, seizures, and motor deficits can hinder daily activities and overall physical health(4) .
- **Cognitive Impairments:** Treatments like surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy can lead to cognitive deficits, affecting learning and development(5) .
- **Emotional Strain:** The emotional toll on children and their families is substantial, with increased risks of anxiety, depression, and social isolation (6).

2. Importance of Palliative Care

Palliative care is essential in managing the symptoms and enhancing the QoL of pediatric brain tumor patients. It focuses on:

- **Symptom Management:** Alleviating pain, nausea, fatigue, and other distressing symptoms (7).
- **Psychosocial Support:** Providing emotional and psychological support to help children and families cope with the illness (8).

- **End-of-Life Care:** Ensuring comfort and dignity for children in their final stages of life (9).

3. THE ROLE OF NURSES

Nurses are integral to the care of children with brain tumors, performing a variety of roles:

- **Clinical Care:** Administering medications, managing side effects, and monitoring the child's condition(10).
- **Education:** Educating families about the disease, treatment options, and symptom management (11).
- **Advocacy:** Advocating for the child's needs within the healthcare system to ensure comprehensive care (12).
- **Emotional Support:** Providing comfort, listening to concerns, and offering counseling to both patients and their families(13).

CONCLUSION

The management of pediatric brain tumors requires a multidisciplinary approach where nurses play a critical role in improving QoL and providing palliative care. Through their clinical expertise, compassionate care, and ongoing support, nurses help mitigate the physical, cognitive, and emotional impacts of brain tumors on children. Future research and practice should continue to emphasize

the integration of nursing care in pediatric oncology to enhance patient outcomes and QoL.

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