QUALITY OF LIFE IN CERVICAL CANCER

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Introduction; Cervical cancer is most common cancer in Thai female. Most of the cervical cancer patients have abnormal symptom such as postcoital bleeding or abnormal vaginal bleeding. So many cervical cancer patients have experience of symptom to effect lifestyle, so many patients have emotional distress, anxiety, physical impairment, decreased sexual activity and in family relationship.

Propose; To compare quality of life (QoL) between cervical cancer patients with general healthy women.

Methods; Interview newly cases of cervical cancer patients in Gynecologic Oncology Clinic and healthy women in check up clinic by Quality of life questionnaires of EORTC-C30 in Thai National cancer Institute.

Results; From October 2008 to May 2009, hundred cervical cancer patients and 100 healthy women, mean age and range was 52 (30-75), 45(27-64) years, especially, were enroll in the study. Compare with the healthy women group, cervical cancer patients were older, had a lower education level, more amount of children and history of cancer in family. Most of patient in cancer group had married and divorce in marital status and most occupation were employee and housewife. Most of the cervical cancer women were in early stage that comprise stage I were 21% and stage II were 42%. Most of cell type of malignancy was squamous cell carcinoma and plan of treatment were received radiotherapy. QoL of EORTC-C30 of cervical cancer patients were worse than healthy women in functioning scales, symptom scales, some single item scales and QoL in site specific function in cervical cancer questionnaire EORTC-QLQ-CX24 represented cervical cancer is much effect to sexual function, in statistically significant in difference

Conclusion; This present study was found that QoL in newly cervical cancer patients worsen than healthy women. This problem will effect to management of cervical cancer such as patient not give complete treatment. So, healthcare providers should evaluate QoL in newly cancer patient and take counseling and psychological interventions to patient and family for gain well being and QoL.