

See me, talk to me and listen to me

- Children as relatives at an
oncological outpatient department



Marie Golsäter,
Paediatric nurse, PhD
Region Jönköping County
and
Jönköping
University
Marie.golsater@rjl.se



See me, talk to me and listen to me.

The aim of the study was to explore parents and childrens experience of the clinical practice at an oncological outpatient department.



Majblomman
Alla barns blomma

Stiftelsen Klinisk Cancerforskning
Jönköping



Futurum

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 Region
Jönköpings län

Background

- Parents with cancer described their wish to protect their children and to maintain normality, while at the same time trying to take the child's need for information into account (Asbury et.al, 2014).
- In contrast to the parents' wish to protect their children, the children themselves describe the need for knowledge in order to feel safe and secure (Davey et al., 2011; Finch and Gibson, 2009; Maynard et.al, 2013).
- An addition to the healthcare regulations was implemented in Sweden on January 1st. 2010, pointing out the healthcare professionals' responsibilities to take the child's need for information, advice and support into account when her/his parent has a serious illness.



Golsäter et al. "Are children as relatives our responsibility? How nurses perceive their role in caring for children as relatives of seriously ill patients" European Journal of Oncology Nursing(2016) 25 33-39.

- At the oncological outpatient department there is an ongoing process to develop the work to meet the needs of children as relatives according to the Health and Medical Services Act



As early as possible after the parent has been enrolled to the department

The nurse ask if the patient has children.

Start the family questionnaire

The nurse talk to the parent about children's situation when a parent has an illness.

Invite the child to the hospital.

When the child comes to the department

Welcome the child

A meeting/conversation with the child together with the parents for information about the parents disease and situation.

Eventually a follow up conversation with the child and/or the parent.

If needed

Referral for further support

Data collection

- ❖ 17 Patients (15 mothers och 2 fathers)
- ❖ 14 Partners (2 mothers och 12 fathers)
- ❖ 9 Children 7-12 years (5/4)
- ❖ 9 Adolescents 13- 18 years (6/3)

Ongoing qualitative content analyses according to Elo & Kyngäs (2008).

Preliminary results parents

- Nurses pay attention to children as relatives
- Nurses have a caring approach towards the children
- Parents have a need for more tailored information and knowledge

Preliminary results children and adolescents

- I feel welcomed when accompanying my parent to the hospital
- I think it's good to be at the hospital and understand what's going on
- I need guidance to understand my parents situation
- I do not always get the support I need

Conclusion and further development

- The children feel welcomed at the department, they receive information but argue for more opportunities to interact with the nurses.
- Provide the families with prearranged meeting to better tailor the information, advice and support based on each family's situation.



Thanks for your attention

For more information

marie.golsater@rjl.se

