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NOTE PREVIEW ARTICLE

BREAST CANCER AND ITS TREATMENTS: REPERCUSSIONS IN SEXUALITY LIVED BY WOMEN

CÂNCER DE MAMA E SEUS TRATAMENTOS: REPERCUSSÕES NA SEXUALIDADE VIVENCIADA POR MULHERES

CÁNCER DE MAMA Y SUS TRATAMIENTOS: REPERCUSIONES EN LA SEXUALIDAD VIVENCIADA POR MUJERES

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ABSTRACT

Objective: to describe the repercussions that involve the sexuality during the treatments of neoplasias of the breast. ***Method:*** qualitative, descriptive, exploratory study to be performed with women in the treatment of breast neoplasms at the Center of High Complexity in Oncology, located in Maceió-AL. The collection of data will be done through the individual application of a semi-structured interview that will be recorded and, later, transcribed. The data will be submitted to the Thematic Analysis technique and discussed according to Callista Roy's Theory of Nursing (Adaptation Theory). The research project was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the Federal University of Alagoas, CAAE 57322316.5.1001.5013. ***Expected results:*** to identify the repercussions related to sexuality and its adaptations during the treatment for breast neoplasms, and, from them, to provide knowledge to health professionals, in order to subsidize their actions in the care of these women. ***Descritores*:** Breast Neoplasms; Sexuality; Women; Nursing.

RESUMO

***Objetivo*:** descrever as repercussões que envolvem a sexualidade durante os tratamentos de neoplasias da mama. ***Método*:** estudo qualitativo, descritivo, exploratório, a ser realizado com mulheres em tratamento de neoplasias da mama no Centro de Alta Complexidade em Oncologia, localizado em Maceió-AL. A coleta de dados se realizará por meio da aplicação individual de uma entrevista semiestruturada que será gravada e, posteriormente, transcrita. Os dados serão submetidos à técnica de Análise Temática e discutidos de acordo com a Teoria de Enfermagem de Callista Roy (Teoria da Adaptação). O projeto de pesquisa foi aprovado pelo Comitê de Ética em Pesquisa da Universidade Federal de Alagoas, CAAE 57322316.5.1001.5013. ***Resultados esperados*:** identificar as repercussões relacionadas à sexualidade e suas adaptações durante o tratamento para neoplasias da mama e, a partir delas, proporcionar conhecimento aos profissionais de saúde, a fim de subsidiar suas ações no cuidado a essas mulheres. ***Descritores*:** Neoplasias da Mama; Sexualidade; Mulheres; Enfermagem.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: describir las repercusiones que involucran la sexualidad durante los tratamientos de neoplasias de mama. ***Método:*** estudio cualitativo, descriptivo, exploratorio, a realizarse con mujeres en tratamiento de neoplasias de mama en el Centro de Alta Complejidad en Oncología, ubicado en Maceió-AL. La recolección de datos se realizará a través de la aplicación individual de una entrevista semiestructurada que será grabada, y posteriormente, transcrita. Los datos serán sometidos a técnica de Análisis Temática y discutidos de acuerdo con la Teoría de Enfermería de Callista Roy (Teoría de la Adaptación). El proyecto de investigación fue aprobado por el Comité de Ética en Investigación de la Universidad Federal de Alagoas, CAAE 57322316.5.1001.5013. ***Resultados esperados:*** identificar las repercusiones relacionadas a la sexualidad y sus adaptaciones durante el tratamiento para neoplasias de mama, y partir de ellas, proporcionar conocimiento a los profesionales de salud, a fin de subsidiar sus acciones en el cuidado a esas mujeres. ***Descritores*:** Neoplasias De Mama; La Sexualidad; Las Mujeres; Enfermería.

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INTRODUCTION

Cancer is the definition given to a group of more than 100 diseases, characterized by disordered cellular growth, that invade tissues and organs and which can spread to various parts of the body. The causes of cancer may be internal, with regard to the genetic factors of each individual, and external, when related to the habits of life and the environment.[1]

According to the National Cancer Institute, breast cancer is the most incident cancer among the female population in the world. According to the mortality information system in the year 2013, 14,388 people died from this neoplasia;181 of these were men and 14,206, were women. It is estimated that, in the year 2016, 57,960 new cases will be diagnosed in Brazil, making, mamary neoplasia, the second most frequent neoplasm in Brazilian women, being considered a public health problem.[1]

For women, the breast means more than just a part of the body, it is closely associated with femininity, motherhood and sexuality.[2] Because of this, any alteration, disorder or abnormality in the breasts tends to have an impact on life emotional state of the woman. Sexuality, in particular, is one of the main factors that form part of a conjugal relationship, as well as being an important aspect of quality of life.[3-4]

The treatment of this neoplasia covers local interventions, which are surgeries and radiotherapy, or systemic, which is chemotherapy. Such interventions can be used individually or together and affect women in various areas of life. Moreover, only confirmation of the diagnosis can cause great suffering, since this pathology, is often, associated with pain, suffering, weakness and death.[5-6]

Surgical treatment, since it is a total or partial withdrawal of one of the main sexual symbols of the woman, can provoke several effects that directly interfere in the woman's self-image and sexuality, such as the reduction of self-esteem, fear of non-acceptance and depression. Treatment with antineoplastic drugs also causes some effects that may affect such processes as hair loss, induction of menopause, dryness, pruritus, pain and vaginal irritation.[7-8]

Sexuality is considered as an aspect of woman's life that may be affected during the treatment of this neoplasia. Because of this research seeks to answer the following guiding question: What are the repercussions on the sexuality for the woman in the treatment of breast neoplasms?

This study is justified by the need to understand how this pathology and its treatment affect sexuality and, consequently, the quality of life of women, in order to subsidize the development of adequate Nursing care.

This study has relevance to health practices and contributes to the scientific community in health, since it helps in the construction of knowledge about the subject, reinforcing the importance of health professionals to know and understand that sexuality is one of the aspects of the woman who can be impaired during the treatment of the disease, and that, they should therefore be able to assist in guiding patients in this regard, so that there is acceptance and understanding, on their part and on society, that the capacities of women are not limited to just one organ.[9-10]

OBJECTIVE

- To describe the repercussions that involve the sexuality during the treatments of neoplasias of the breast.

METHOD

A qualitative, descriptive and exploratory study, using Callista Roy's theoretical framework - the Adaptation Theory, which is based on the understanding of the individual as an open system and able to adapt to environmental stimuli, whether external or internal.[11]

The scenario for conducting the research will be the High Complexity Center in Oncology (HCCO), located in the city of Maceió / Alagoas. Such a choice is justified by the fact that HCCO is a reference for high complexity care in the State, as well as a large number of women in treatment for breast cancer. In this same environment, there are women who have already received chemotherapy, radiotherapy, total mastectomy, partial mastectomy and quadrantectomy. The data will be collected in the second half of 2017, between September and October. Women in treatment of breast neoplasia, will be included, as participants of this study following the inclusion criteria being: all women receiving treatmente for breast cancer from the age of 18 years. And the exclusion criteria: women in treatment of breast cancer who are experiencing some emotional stress and / or weakness that makes it impossible to participate in the research.

Data collection will be carried out in two phases. The first will use the interview technique, through the application of a

semistructured questionnaire composed of three thematic blocks: 1. Identification data (age, schooling, marital status, occupation, race, time of confinement); 2. Personal, gynecological and obstetrical antecedents (smoker, alcoholic, menarche, coital, use of contraceptives, age of first pregnancy, breast examination, current identification of gynecological signs and symptoms and / or sexually transmitted infections) and 3. Cancer treatment (diagnosis, treatment carried out, which repercussions, symptoms that affect sexuality). The second phase will be carried out by consulting the medical records of women interviewed.

The approach phase will be previously agreed with the professionals who provide assistance in the service. The interviews will take place when the women are waiting for the doctor's appointment. They will be invited to a room reserved for them, not to feel exposed. Interviews will be recorded to ensure the most relevant information and speeches can be captured and recorded in the same interview material.

The data will be analyzed in three phases: the pre-analysis, the exploitation of the material and the treatment of the results. Next, they will be categorized by thematic blocks according to Minayo's Thematic Analysis technique, which for the author to do thematic analysis is to discover the nuclei of meaning that are part of a communication whose presence or frequency means something to the analytical objective aimed.[12] Therefore, the presence of some types of themes, during the discourse indicates the values and behavioral models present in the discourse. After analyzing the data, the records will be archived, guaranteeing the participants security and reliability and safeguarding the legal requirements.

The women will be clarified about the purpose of the research. Those who agree to participate in the study will sign the Free and Informed Consent Term (FICT) in two ways, according to Resolution No. 466/12, of the National Health Council. has signed the FICT, the woman may withdraw from her participation at any time in the study, without any loss or damage of any kind. The research project was sent to the Ethics and Research Committee (REC) of the Federal University of Alagoas / UFAL, by the Brazilian Platform, for appreciation. The same was approved under CAAE nº CAAE 57322316.5.1001.5013.

EXPECTED RESULTS

It is hoped that it will be possible to identify the difficulties related to sexuality and adaptations during the treatment of women with breast neoplasias, and, from them, to provide knowledge to the professionals, in order to subsidize their actions in the care of these women, taking into account that assistance in should be comprehensive, considering all aspects of it and including sexuality as a basic human need.

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