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A Needs Assessment of Cancer Survivors at Fox Chase Cancer Center

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This preliminary study aims to evaluate the needs of breast, lung, prostate, or colorectal cancer survivors treated at Fox Chase Cancer Center (FCCC). Cross-sectional, confidential, and voluntary surveys that assessed topics of concern for cancer survivorship were administered at FCCC to (a) cancer survivors with a diagnosis of lung, breast, prostate, or colorectal cancer; and (b) health care professionals treating lung, breast, prostate, or colorectal cancer survivors. To obtain sample characteristics, health history sheets were administered to cancer survivors, whereas, professional assessment sheets were administered to health care professionals. Focus group discussions were conducted with cancer survivors and health care professionals; however, one-on-one interviews were conducted with participants who were unable to attend the focus groups. The majority of the health care professionals ($n = 10$) were White (90%), female (70.0%), and working in their field for at least 5 years (100%), whereas the majority of the cancer survivors ($n = 25$) were White (59.1%), female (54.5%), married (84.2%), and holding a college/graduate education/degree (36%). Recurrence of metastasis, genetic issues, long-term effects of chemotherapy, and pain management were similar top concerns shared between both groups. Cancer survivors expressed a strong concern for financial issues, whereas health care professionals expressed a strong concern for insurance issues. Physical and occupational therapies, as well as complementary and alternative medicine were services that were desired from both groups. Additional topics of concern were expressed between cancer survivors and health care professionals. Results extracted from this assessment will be used to guide clinical care for cancer survivors at FCCC.

Pictures of Connection and Autonomy Through the Lens of Adolescent Girls With Disordered Eating

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The spoken word represents only one avenue in which to capture the meanings and lived experiences of adolescent girls with disordered eating. This research used photo voice as one of several modalities to elicit what the meanings of connection and autonomy meant to girls aged 11 to 14 identified as at risk for the development of an eating disorder by family physicians. Disposable cameras captured the complex, contradictory, and multiple meanings woven into the concepts of connection and autonomy as experienced by these girls over a 4-month time frame. In several instances, the camera became the voice of the participant, suggesting the fragility of the spoken word. Connection was experienced as tenuous and embedded with food. Another research outcome was the degree of empowerment the camera offered to these girls. The camera assigned ownership to the otherwise silenced voice. In this way, images spoke the unspoken. Ongoing member check ensured trustworthiness. It also revealed spaces that verbal questions had failed to reach. The girls' increased sense of agency over the course of the research resulted in a photo exhibition that the girls organized. Employing photovoice supported these girls to pictorially speak of their experiences of connection and autonomy in a safe and nonjudgmental way and how these concepts relate to disordered eating. Had only verbal methods been used, important stories may have remained marginalized, perhaps lost in translation. Thinking outside of traditional methodologies extends the possibilities of understanding populations where language may have failed to convey important messages.