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Table 1: socio-demographic, clinical and social support characteristics of head and neck cancer survivors

	No.	col %
total	583	100%
<i>socio-demographic</i>		
sex		
female	191	33%
male	392	67%
marital status		
married/living with partner	413	71%
not living with partner	165	28%
unknown	5	1%
medical card		
no	293	50%
yes	272	47%
unknown	18	3%
private health insurance		
no	309	53%
yes	246	42%
unknown	28	5%
have children		
no	136	23%
yes	427	73%
unknown	20	3%
live alone		
no	468	80%
yes	93	16%
unknown	22	4%
education		
primary school	190	33%
secondary school	254	44%
3rd/4th level	121	21%
unknown	18	3%
employment		
paid employment	285	49%
not paid employment	281	48%
unknown	17	3%
urban/rural		
high-urban	214	37%
intermediate-urban	146	25%
rural	223	38%
age at survey		
< 60 years	204	35%
60 – 69 years	217	37%
70+ years	160	27%
Unknown	2	<1%
<i>social support</i>		
number of close friends		
1 or 2	122	21%
3 to 5	206	35%
more than 5	237	41%
unknown	18	3%
friendly interest from others		
some/lot	450	77%
none/little/uncertain	123	21%
unknown	10	2%
obtaining neighbour help		
easy/very easy	362	62%
possible	153	26%
difficult	56	10%
unknown	12	2%
<i>financial burden</i>		
financial stress at diagnosis		
easy	372	64%
difficult	174	30%

unknown	37	6%
financial stress due to cancer		
same/less difficult	262	45%
more difficult	272	47%
unknown	49	8%
financial strain due to cancer		
same or less concerned	258	44%
more concerned	286	49%
unknown	39	7%
<i>clinical</i>		
stage		
early	279	48%
late	214	37%
unknown	90	15%
head and neck cancer recurrence		
no	516	89%
yes	34	6%
unknown	33	6%
chemotherapy^a		
no	453	78%
yes	130	22%
radiotherapy^a		
no	207	36%
yes	376	64%
surgery^a		
no	182	31%
yes	401	69%
cancer type		
mouth/salivary	276	47%
pharynx	109	19%
larynx	173	30%
unknown	25	4%
time since diagnosis		
Less than 5 years	289	50%
5 + years	291	50%
unknown	3	<1%

^aReceipt of treatment within eight months of diagnosis.

Table 2: Top ten unmet needs

Domain	Item	Unmet needs	Percentage of total with unmet needs
physical and daily living	lack of energy/tiredness	119	20%
physical and daily living	not being able to do the things you used to do	119	20%
psychological	fears about cancer spreading	113	19%
psychological	feeling down or depressed	111	19%
psychological	uncertainty about future	110	19%
psychological	concern about the worries of those close to you	103	18%
psychological	anxiety	97	17%
psychological	feelings of sadness	97	17%
psychological	worry that the results of treatment are beyond your control	78	13%
physical and daily living	pain	71	12%

Table 3: Chi-squared tests, testing association between unmet needs in the five domains and demographic and clinical variables.

	No.	physical and daily		psychological		sexuality		care and support		health system information	
		No.	% with 1+ unmet needs	No.	% with 1+ unmet needs	No.	% with 1+ unmet needs	No.	% with 1+ unmet needs	No.	% with 1+ unmet needs
total	583	184	32%	193	33%	83	14%	82	14%	125	21%
sex		b									
female	191	74	40%	71	39%	25	15%	29	17%	48	27%
male	392	110	30%	122	34%	58	16%	53	15%	77	21%
marital status											
married/living with partner	413	126	31%	131	32%	64	16%	59	14%	83	20%
not living with partner	165	57	35%	61	37%	18	11%	23	14%	42	26%
unknown	5										
medical card								b			
no	293	89	30%	91	31%	44	15%	33	11%	56	19%
yes	272	90	33%	95	35%	36	13%	47	17%	66	24%
unknown	18										
private health insurance		b		b							
no	309	108	35%	117	38%	50	16%	47	15%	72	23%
yes	246	66	27%	66	27%	28	11%	30	12%	47	19%
unknown	28										
have children											
no	136	40	29%	39	29%	17	13%	13	10%	29	21%
yes	427	139	33%	150	35%	64	15%	66	16%	94	22%
unknown	20										
live alone				b						b	
no	468	142	30%	147	31%	68	15%	64	14%	96	21%
yes	93	36	39%	41	44%	12	13%	15	16%	27	29%
unknown	22										
education											
primary school	190	54	28%	60	32%	26	14%	27	14%	40	21%
secondary school	254	90	35%	92	36%	36	14%	40	16%	55	22%
3rd/4th level	121	34	28%	35	29%	15	12%	11	9%	26	22%
unknown	18										
employment											
paid employment	285	87	31%	92	32%	42	15%	38	13%	57	20%
not paid employment	281	96	34%	99	35%	40	14%	43	15%	66	24%
unknown	17										
area of residence											
high-urban	214	68	32%	72	34%	32	15%	28	13%	45	21%
intermediate-urban	146	50	34%	51	35%	20	14%	24	16%	33	23%
rural	223	66	30%	70	31%	31	14%	30	14%	47	21%
age at survey		b		b		b		b		b	
<60 years	204	84	41%	85	42%	35	17%	31	15%	57	28%
60 – 69 years	217	60	28%	75	35%	40	18%	37	17%	45	21%
70+ years	160	39	24%	31	20%	7	4%	13	8%	21	13%
unknown	2										
number of close friends		b								b	
1 or 2	122	46	38%	45	37%	19	16%	21	17%	33	27%
3 to 5	206	71	35%	76	37%	32	16%	32	16%	51	25%
more than 5	237	61	26%	67	28%	30	13%	28	12%	36	15%
unknown	18										
friendly interest from others								b		b	
some/lot	450	135	30%	144	32%	60	13%	55	12%	85	19%
none/little/uncertain	123	46	37%	46	37%	21	17%	26	21%	38	31%
unknown	10	3	30%	3	30%	2		1		2	
obtaining neighbour help		b		b		b		b		b	
easy/very easy	362	92	25%	100	28%	41	11%	38	11%	53	15%
possible	153	62	41%	60	39%	27	18%	28	18%	47	31%
difficult	56	29	52%	32	57%	15	27%	16	29%	23	41%

unknown	12										
financial stress at diagnosis		b		b		b		b		b	
easy	372	94	25%	99	27%	37	10%	43	12%	59	16%
difficult	174	83	48%	84	48%	42	24%	33	19%	58	33%
unknown	37										
financial stress due to cancer		b		b		b		b		b	
same/less difficult	262	50	19%	57	22%	15	6%	24	9%	27	10%
more difficult	272	126	46%	128	47%	64	24%	54	20%	92	34%
unknown	49										
financial strain due to cancer		b		b		b		b		b	
same or less concerned	258	45	17%	43	17%	14	5%	17	7%	24	9%
more concerned	286	133	47%	144	50%	66	23%	61	21%	97	34%
unknown	39										
stage		b									
early	279	76	27%	91	33%	35	13%	38	14%	59	21%
late	214	78	36%	75	35%	39	18%	29	14%	46	22%
unknown	90	30	33%	27	30%	9	10%	15	17%	20	22%
head and neck cancer recurrence											
no	516	153	30%	164	32%	74	14%	72	14%	104	20%
yes	34	21	62%	16	47%	5	15%	5	15%	12	35%
unknown	33	10	30%	13	39%	4	12%	5	15%	9	
chemotherapy^a		b		b				b			
no	453	122	27%	135	30%	57	13%	56	12%	90	20%
yes	130	62	48%	58	45%	26	20%	26	20%	35	27%
radiotherapy^a		b									
no	207	45	22%	61	30%	23	11%	26	13%	38	18%
yes	376	139	37%	132	35%	60	16%	56	15%	87	23%
surgery^a											
no	182	61	34%	62	34%	27	15%	30	17%	42	23%
yes	401	123	31%	131	33%	56	14%	52	13%	83	21%
cancer type		b									
mouth/salivary	276	80	29%	82	30%	33	12%	31	11%	54	20%
pharynx	109	48	44%	45	41%	20	18%	21	19%	26	24%
larynx	173	48	28%	57	33%	26	15%	24	14%	37	21%
unknown	25										
time since diagnosis				b						b	
<5 years	289	97	34%	111	38%	47	16%	43	14%	75	26%
5+ years	291	87	30%	80	27%	36	12%	38	13%	48	16%
	3										

^aReceipt of treatment within eight months of diagnosis.

^bChi-squared test of association between variables is significant at the 5% level.

Table 4: Multiple logistic regression to examine the association between social support and financial burden and the outcomes - unmet needs in each of the five domains, adjusting for socio-demographic and clinical factors.

	physical				psychological				sexual				care support				health system information			
	RR ^a	p-value	95% CI		RR	p-value	95% CI		RR	p-value	95% CI		RR	p-value	95% CI		RR	p-value	95% CI	
practical help from neighbour																				
easy	ref				ref				ref				ref				ref			
possible	1.50	0.001	1.17	1.91	1.3	0.017	0.95	1.6	1.51		0.97	2.36	1.64	0.029	1.05	2.57	1.83	< 0.0001	1.31	2.57
difficult	1.59	0.004	1.15	2.19	1.7	< 0.0001	1.27	2	2.02		1.24	3.29	2.21	0.001	1.35	3.59	2.30	< 0.0001	1.55	3.42
post diagnosis financial strain																				
same/less concerned	ref				ref				ref				ref				ref			
more concerned	2.07	< 0.001	1.51	2.84	1.95 ^b	< 0.0001	2.09	3.76	3.45	< 0.0001	1.95	6.14	2.87	< 0.0001	1.73	4.75	2.01	0.023	1.10	3.67
					1.79 ^c	0.021														
pre-diagnosis financial stress																				
easy	ref				-				-				-							
difficult	1.32	0.016	1.05	1.67	-				-				-							
post-diagnosis financial stress																				
less difficult																	ref			
more difficult																	1.95	0.022	1.10	3.45
head and neck cancer recurrence																				
no	ref				-				-				-				ref			
yes	2.23	< 0.001	1.66	2.99	-				-				-				1.62	0.027	1.07	2.50
chemotherapy																				
no	ref				-				-				-				-			
yes	1.34	0.021	1.04	1.73	-				-				-				-			
radiotherapy																				
no	ref				-				-				-				-			
yes	1.57	0.006	1.14	2.15	-				-				-				-			
time since diagnosis																				
<5 years					ref												ref			
5+ years					0.44	0.006	0.24	0.79									0.69	0.022	0.50	0.95
age at survey																				
<60 years									ref											
60-69 years									1.31		0.87	1.94								
70+ years									0.37		0.16	0.88								
medical card																				
no	-				-				-				ref				-			
yes	-				-				-				1.52	0.037	1.03	2.27	-			
sex																				
male	ref				-				-				-				-			
female	1.41	0.003	1.13	1.77	-				-				-				-			

^aRR: relative risk, ^brisk of unmet needs at < 5 years from diagnosis,

^crisk of psychological unmet needs at 5+ years from diagnosis.