

PROMOTING FERTILITY PRESERVATION IN CANCER PATIENTS: 9 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE OF THE ART ITALIAN NATIONAL REGISTER IN "ON SITE" TRAINING COURSES

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Abstract Body

BACKGROUND

Over 60% of cancer patient (CP) of childbearing age will recover. Cancer therapy could generate loss of reproductive function (RF).

It's essential that health care workers (HCW) involved in CP care are prepared to inform them on the risks of a possible reduction RF and about different option for fertility preservation (FP). The study question was to assess characteristics and feedback of HCW involved CP care who attending training course (TC).

METHODS

Between 2011 and 2019 we carried out 17 TC on FP in CP in 9 Italian regions with 492 participant.

HCW completed 2 questionnaires, first anonymous consisting of a Likert-type scale for TC evaluation, second with multiple-choice learning questions. In 2016 and in 2021 we sent a survey to HCW that they passed TC.

RESULTS

407 participants (82.7%), 311 women (76.4%) and 96 men (23.6%), passed TC. Women mean age was 43,6 years and 53,3 for men. 182 (44.7%) they were clinicians of which 101 gynaecologists (24.8%) 65 women and 36 men, 42 oncologists (10.3%), 29 women and 13 men, 6 endocrinologists (1.5%) 1 woman and 5 men, 9 haematologists (2.2%) 6 women and 3 men, 24 other specializations (5.9%) equally divided by sex. 85 were embryologists (20.9%) 70 women and 15 men, 65 psychologists (16%) with 64 women and 1 man. Nurses (13%) and midwives (5.4%) amounted to 64 women and 11 men. Participants rated the quality of the educational program and usefulness of the training respectively 4,4 and 4,5 on a scale 1-5 (poor-excellent). For the post TC survey we enrolled 383 and 110 (28.7%) responded. 88 (80%) of them work with CP.

CONCLUSIONS

This study demonstrates the high need to extend the culture of FP in CP among HCW, particularly oncologists. Women's higher presence suggests their higher responsiveness and involvement in this topic.