New learning resource: The psychosexual care of women affected by gynaecological cancers

The National Centre for Gynaecological Cancers aims to increase gynaecological cancer awareness and education among medical and allied health professionals to improve the diagnosis, treatment and care of women affected by these cancers.

The psychosexual care of women affected by gynaecological cancers is a new comprehensive, evidence-based learning resource that has been released through the Cancer Learning website. Developed for Cancer Australia by Queensland University of Technology, in consultation with a working group, this resource assists health professionals address the psychosexual care of women affected by gynaecological cancers and their partners, including: endometrial, uterine, ovarian, cervical and vulval cancers.

Resource objectives

- To develop the skills of primary, secondary and tertiary health professionals in providing effective psychosexual care to women and their partners affected by a gynaecological cancer; and
- To improve quality of life for women who have been affected by a gynaecological cancer and their partners.

Module contents

The resource comprises six learning modules:

1. Understanding sexuality
2. Understanding the experience of the psychosexual effects of gynaecological cancers for women and their partners
3. Enquiring and responding to the psychosexual sequelae of gynaecological cancers
4. Understanding psychosexual sequelae: pathophysiological, psychosocial and cultural aspects
5. Sexual health assessment
6. Treatment

Supporting resources

Supporting resources are available throughout the learning modules and will continue to be released in both electronic and print ready format, including:

- Workshop packages and power point presentations
- Psychosexual assessment and referral tools
- Psychosexual support and information for consumers
- References for further reading

Project Team

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Working Group

Working group members provided advice and guidance throughout the development of the resource. Members included nominees from professional organisations and colleges and individuals working in the area of gynaecological cancers:

- A/Professor Margaret Davy (Chair) - Gynaecological oncologist, Royal Adelaide Hospital
- Dr Jane Barker - General Practitioner, Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine
- Dr David Bernshaw - Radiation oncologist, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Gynaecology stream
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