

Cancer as a chronic illness: On managing mental disorders

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Abstract

The diagnosis of delirium should be considered in such patients demonstrating an acute onset of agitation or uncooperative behavior, personality change, impaired cognitive functioning, altered attention span, and fluctuating level of consciousness. Many episodes of delirium are reversible, such reversal is consistent with the goals of care; standard management approach is to search for & treat the delirium's reversible precipitants. The drug of choice for the treatment is neuroleptic haloperidol.

Dementia is described as a disorder with memory impairment and at least one symptom from another cognitive domain: aphasia, apraxia, agnosia or disturbances in executive functioning. The dementia's subtypes are Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, dementia with Lewy bodies and fronto-temporal dementia. A definitive diagnosis in physically unwell patients poses challenges and follow-up assessment should be arranged. Among oncological forms of comorbid mental pathology in cancer patients depression predominates. The most common form of depression in cancer patients is an adjustment disorder with depressed mood, sometimes referred to as reactive depression which is under-recognized and undertreated. For the treatment there're psychosocial & pharmacological interventions.

Cognitive impairments in cancer patients are well documented, their prevalence proved to reach 75%; diagnosis is based on clinical evaluation determining cognitive function.



Biography:

Boris M. Zaydiner has completed his PhD at the age of 38 years from National Cancer Research Centre (Sankt-Petersburg, SU) and postdoctoral studies at Advanced Medical Training University (Sankt-Petersburg). He is the member of Expert Council “Palliative therapy” of Russian Health Ministry. He has published 3 monographs on cancer care, course of lectures “Supportive Care in Cancer”, more than 20 papers in reputed journals.

Speaker Publications:

1. “Psychiatric Disorders in Cancer Patients: Descriptive Analysis of 1721 Psychiatric Referrals at Two Japanese Cancer Center Hospitals Tatsuo Akechi, Tomohito Nakano, Hitoshi Okamura Japanese Journal of Clinical Oncology”, Volume 31, Issue 5, May 2001, Pages 188–194,
2. “Management of Depression in Patients With Cancer: A Clinical Practice Guideline Madeline” Li, MD, PhD, Erin B. Kennedy, MHS, Nelson Byrne, PhD et al., Journal of Oncology Practice 12, no. 8 (August 01, 2016) 747-756.
3. “Prevalence of mental disorders, psychosocial distress and need for psychosocial support in cancer patients – study protocol of an epidemiological multi-center study Anja Mehnert”, Uwe Koch, [...], and Martin Härter, BMC Psychiatry 2012; 12; 70
4. “Comorbidity of common mental disorders with cancer and their treatment gap: Findings from the World Mental Health Surveys Ora Nakash, Itzhak Levav, Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola, et al, Psychooncology”. 2014 Jan; 23(1): 40–51
5. “The prevalence of psychiatric disorders among cancer patients”. Derogatis LR, Morrow GR, Fetting J. JAMA. 1983 Feb 11;249(6):751-7.

[World Congress on Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases](#)- February 19-20, 2020; Amsterdam, Netherlands

Abstract Citation: Boris M. Zaydiner, *Cancer as a chronic illness: On managing mental disorders*, World Infectious Disease 2020, World Congress on Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Amsterdam, Netherlands, February 19-20, 2020