Relationship between Quality of Life and Sense of Coherence in Parents of Children with Leukemia referred to affiliated hospitals of Tehran University of Medical Sciences, 2012.

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Abstract

**Background & Aim:** Leukemia as the most common childhood cancer, not only for children, has created a serious challenge for the whole family, especially parents. It could change their quality of life and sense of coherence. The SOC is an internal resource that enables people to manage tension, to reflect about their external and internal resources, to identify and mobilize those resources, to promote effective problem solving, and to resolve tension in a health-promoting manner. This study aimed to investigate the relationship between quality of life and sense of coherence in parents of children with leukemia.

**Material & Method:** This was a descriptive, cross-sectional study. Parents of 200 children with leukemia admitted to the hospital affiliated to Tehran University of Medical Sciences were recruited by using convenience sampling. Data were collected using the Caregiver Quality of Life Index Cancer Persian (CQOLC-P) and sense of coherence questionnaires (SOC-13). Outcomes analyzed using descriptive statistics (independent t-test, ANOVA and linear regression) in SPSS-PC version 16.

**Results:** The results showed that there is a significant and positive relationship between quality of life and sense of coherence of parents of children with leukemia (r=0.544, p=0.015). There was a significant relationship between QOL and gender (p<0.04), income (p<0.038) and job status (p<0.027). Gender had the greatest impact on quality of life (β=0.200, p<0.004). There were significant relationships between parental sense of coherence and income of parents (F=3.066, p<0.049) and type of treatment (t=2.562, p<0.012) of child.

**Conclusion:** According to the study, Quality of life and Sense of Coherence in parents of children with leukemia as the most important findings are very low. Then increased support, education of coping strategies, control and monitoring of parents are necessary. They are result of better quality of life and sense of coherence of parents of children with leukemia.

**Key word:** parents, child with leukemia, Quality of life, sense of coherence