

**QUALITY OF LIFE
AMONG CANCER PATIENTS ATTENDING
RADIOTHERAPY OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT
AT YANGON GENERAL HOSPITAL**

**Thesis submitted to
the Postgraduate Academic Board of Studies,
University of Public Health, Yangon
as the partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Degree of Master of Hospital Administration (MHA)**

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M.B.,B.S, Dip.Med.Sc (HA & HM)**

2023

ABSTRACT

Assessing quality of life is important among cancer patients. Patients reported data may reflect their feelings and can apply in giving treatment on provider side as well as patients' physical, mental and social improvement. The cross-sectional descriptive study was designed to assess the quality of life among 161 cancer patients attending Radiotherapy Outpatient Department at Yangon General Hospital from August to December 2023. Face to face interview using semi structured questionnaire adapted from structured and validated English version of (EORTC QLQ-C30) Version 3.0 was used. In this study, 50 year and above cancer patients were mainly involved and mostly female. Majority of patients were married and below university level of education. Most of them were farm owners and had 3 and above of family members. Monthly family income ranges from 100,000 kyats to 4,000,000 kyats. Among cancer patients, breast cancer as type of the cancer, cervical cancer and oral cancer also, stage 2 as current cancer stage and patient suffering one to five year of disease duration were mainly involved. More than 90% were taking combination of chemotherapy and radiotherapy; and nearly half of them had comorbidity. Majority of them had good relationship with health care providers. In this study, the mean score for QOL/Global health status of the cancer patients was (44.98 ± 17.46) . Role functioning was the highest functioning scale among the physical functioning, role functioning, emotional functioning, cognitive functioning and social functioning. Financial difficulty was the most severe among symptom scales. It was concluded that the QOL/Global health status of the cancer patients in current study was lower than the previous studies done in Myanmar and other countries. It was recommended that cancer patients should be encouraged to involve in social activities. Cancer care support groups should give more support to the patients with financial difficulty.