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CUSTOMERS OR PATIENTS? HEALTH PROVIDERS OR CAREGIVERS? ABOUT AUTONOMY, DOING GOOD, PATERNALISM AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS.

Tal Granot, RN, MA, Breast cancer oncology unit, Davidoff Cancer Center, Beilinson Medical Center.

Patients or consumers? Health care providers or health care takers? The aim of this article is to shed light on these basic definitions which are derived from health ethics and to look at the theoretical issue of “doing good”, “paternalism” and “autonomy”. This paper will discuss the difficult questions regarding the relationship between the “caregivers” and the “cared”, as well as show the lack of symmetry between the two. As a summary of this discussion, it will be claimed that changing the term from “caregivers” and “cared” to “consumer” and “provider”, is not changing only definitions, but may also change the essence of their relationship and not necessarily means good for the patient.

THE USE OF MEDICAL CANNABIS

Leeat Benny, Chairman of The Israeli Voluntary association to promote medical cannabis.

This article describes the experience of the writer in using Medical cannabis for an immunological condition, who after a few years became the director of the organization in Israel for patients using medical cannabis. The organization helps and advocates for the use of this important drug for patients and their families throughout the medical system.

The article will focus on medical cannabis for oncology patients in helping to treat many of the side effects of the treatment, as well as increasing patient’s quality of life. At the end’ and most important of all, it will discuss the importance of the ongoing knowledge of Oncology nurses that treat these patients frequently.

RAISING DOUBTS CONCERNING THE GUIDELINES FOR THE PREVENTION OF LYMPHEDEMA AFTER BREAST CANCER SURGERY – A STORM IN A GLASS OF WATER?

Ruthi Peleg, MScPT, Head lymphatic physiotherapist in the Oncology-Plastic Surgery Unit, Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center.

Dafna Politi-Sofrin, BPT, lymphatic physiotherapist.

One of the major side effects of the treatment of Breast cancer is lymphedema of the arm of the breast that was treated. In the past years, it was advised to patients, by physiotherapists to follow the guidelines for the reduction of this side effect. These guidelines were based on much clinical experience of patients who had lymphedema as well as regarding anatomical and physiological knowledge. Lately a few research articles found evidence that doubted these guidelines.

This article will present the new data for guiding the patients to maintain lymphedema risk reduction behavior, although there is lower risk to develop lymphedema since the common use of sentinel lymph node biopsy.



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