

Quality of life of children and adolescents undergoing transplantation of hematopoietic stem cells: integrative literature review.

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The HSCT (Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation) consists of a hope of cure and improved survival for cancer patients, however, a number of complications is related to the procedure, including post-transplant period. The physical complications eventually also interfere with emotional and psychological aspects of patients and can bring harm to the quality of life for them. These aspects can be even more evident when patients undergoing transplantation are children or adolescents, being necessary to the changed aspects related to quality of life are identified so that they can be proposed strategies to assist in decision-making about the treatment received by these patients. This study deals with an integrative literature review that aimed to identify and characterize the evidence available in the literature regarding the impact caused by the transplantation of hematopoietic stem cells in the quality of life of patients undergoing this procedure during childhood or adolescence . For search of articles we used the LILACS and MEDLINE databases. The descriptors used were controlled bone marrow transplant, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation and quality of life, and the uncontrolled were impact and quality of life related to health. The sample consisted of eight studies, all classified as level of evidence VI. It was evident that there is a decreased quality of life (QOL) in the months after HSCT and that over time there is a gradual improvement, reaching often levels even better than the pre HSCT. Although the data presented provide an overview on the main affected aspects and to collaborate for the planning of care provided to these patients, due to the low level of evidence and also the small number of participants in each study it is necessary that investigations with other research designs and larger sample sizes are developed.