

# **Challenges and Barriers Faces Nursing In Providing Oncology Palliative Care in West Bank**

## **Students:**

Mohammed Awwad  
Eman Salloum  
Yousef Dahbour  
Ma'en Abu-Hadi

## **Supervisor :**

Dr. Mariam Al-Tell

## **Abstract :**

**Introduction:** WHO defined palliative care” Improves the quality of life of patients and families who face life-threatening illness,” by providing pain and symptom relief, spiritual and psychosocial support to from diagnosis to the end of life and bereavement”. (WHO, 2013). Cancer is in increasing number, palliative care is a new provision in Palestine, and there is an increasing need for palliative care.

**Aim of study:** the aim of this study is to define the barriers that face nurses in providing care, and to assess knowledge about palliative care among oncology nurses.

**Methods:** for quantitative approach self-administrative questionnaire used to assess knowledge about palliative care, purposive sampling used, sample size 32 oncology nurses. For qualitative approach phenomenology design used, convenient sampling used, semi structured interview conducted through 3 focus groups.

**Results:** from quantitative approach we found that there is poor knowledge regarding palliative care with total mean of 8.9. for qualitative approach many barriers to providing palliative care for oncology patients were found which are (1) communication between nurses and oncology patients; (2) lack of knowledge surrounding palliative care; (3) Environmental factors; (4) improper institution policy related to nursing profession and patient care; (5) shortage of the staff and Financial status.

**Conclusion:** Significant knowledge deficits were highlighted amongst nurses regarding palliative care. Also five salient barriers to providing palliative care were identified overall: Institutional policy, shortage of staff, financial status, environmental factor, sociocultural and communication barriers.