



## Factors Predicting Quality of Life in Breast Cancer Patients after Treatment in University Hospital

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### Abstract

Purposes of this descriptive research were to study 1) level of sense of coherence, social support, and quality of life, and 2) factors predicting the quality of life in women with breast cancer after treatment in university hospital by using Symptom Management Model by Dodd and colleague. Samples included 132 women who visited at university hospital. The instruments were 1) the personal data, disease, treatment, side effects, and distress from side effects 2) sense of coherence -13 (short form questionnaires) developed by Antonovsky translated to Thai by Hanucharunkul et. al., 3) social support questionnaires developed by Toljamo and Hentinen translated to Thai by Leelacharas, and 4) quality of life for breast cancer questionnaires (FACT-B) Thai version developed by Cella permitted to use by FACIT.org. Data were analyzed using descriptive and multiple regression.

Results found that: The average age of participants was 56.5 years (SD = 9.9, range = 25-82). Ninety one women had financial problem (68.9%). The median of side effects distress was 1 ( $\bar{X}$  = 2.5, SD = 2.9, range 0-10) and median of period after treatment was 5 years ( $\bar{X}$  = 6.3, SD = 4.6, range 1-25). Results also found that the average of sense of coherence ( $\bar{X}$  = 65.0, SD = 10.7); social support ( $\bar{X}$  = 50.6, SD = 8.3); overall quality of life ( $\bar{X}$  = 114.2, SD = 19.6) were high level. In addition, results also found that sense of coherence ( $\beta$  = 0.8,  $p < 0.001$ ), social support ( $\beta$  = 0.7,  $p < 0.001$ ), age ( $\beta$  = -7.1,  $p = 0.03$ ), and financial status ( $\beta$  = 5.8,  $p = 0.04$ ) could predict quality of life 44%. Whereas side effects distress, and time after treatment could not predict quality of life in women with breast cancer after treatment. Results from the study can be used as an evidence to provide the sense of coherence and social support especially in women age less than or equal to 50 years and had financial problems for further improving quality of life in women with breast cancer after treatment.

**Keywords:** factors predicting quality of life, sense of coherence/social support, breast cancer patients after treatment

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