

Positive Outlook in Cancer Care among Parents of Children Diagnosed with Cancer: Establishing Hope for the Future

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Abstract—Cancer in adults and children is one of the major causes of deaths by disease across the globe. Despite of high cure rates in developed countries, the low and middle income countries are still lagging behind to catch the positive aspects of the childhood cancer survival rates. Cancer as a disease has been viewed as a dangerous death ghost and has many myths and stigmas attached to it. The care and service delivery systems of the care-giving teams have been viewed and examined by their respective roles. Families as the primary care givers remain at the threshold of crises. There is a sudden change in the roles performed by families once the child is diagnosed with cancer. Parents as the immediate primary care givers face the major burnt of crises arising out of child’s cancer diagnosis. The crises among parents as a result of child’s cancer diagnosis will give birth to many psycho-social problems. These psycho- social problems among parents can affect the parent’s normal functioning, the treatment and care of a child. Maintaining a positive outlook among parents can reduce the crises and will establish a hope for the future. This paper will look into the positive coping experiences of parents of children diagnosed with cancer living in Kashmir (J&K).

Keywords: Childhood cancer, Crises, Positive outlook, Parents, Hope.