

527 mls. 10 patients had their swollen leg bandaged with a mean loss of 794 mls. 25 patient records with arm lymphoedema wearing sleeves had a mean loss was 309 mls. A questionnaire sent to 50 patients in the lymphoedema clinic, questioned their quality of life. Most patients had no identifiable alteration in their quality of life.

**Conclusion:** Patients who have a course of bandaging, do gain relief from fluid loss. Patients who wear lymphoedema type garments need sleeves for support. The questionnaire proved to be inadequate and it would need an audited tool, to establish quality of life.

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POSTER

#### **The Research Sister's role in the rehabilitation of cancer patients receiving infusional chemotherapy at home**

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Rehabilitation in caring for cancer patients requires a team approach, with the Research Sister playing a pivotal role in enhancing the rehabilitation process and in the preparation and continuing care of patients receiving chemotherapy via a central venous catheter at home. As a Research Sister, education is a primary concern where thorough assessment of the patients individual needs is fundamental in order for them to receive their treatment safely. Consideration of available resources along with effective communication between all members of the multidisciplinary team promotes rehabilitation. Cancer therapy impacts on almost every aspect of a person's well-being, namely physical, psychological and spiritual. Many patients are able to maintain their jobs, family and social life as well as other activities of importance to them, promoting greater control and independence as an out-patient rather than an in-patient (Brown 1985). This poster will demonstrate that the Research Sister is in a prime position to enable

continuity of care in the rehabilitation of patients by providing emotional support and teaching patients about their disease and treatment, thus improving their quality of life.

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POSTER

#### **The influence of massage and kinesitherapy on pulmonary function after a radical treatment of breast cancer**

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**Purpose:** Correct pulmonary function of the patients after a treatment of breast cancer is very important because of the possibilities occurring disadvantageous consequences of radical treatment. Since now massage was used for treating illness of circulation system (lymphatic swelling) and muscular system (reduction of movability shoulder joint). A question was asked in this case it can be used in treating illness of respiratory system (obstruction of ventilation).

**Methods:** For 12 days, 20 patients with breast cancer were radically treated with kinesitherapy and massage. Massage was done for 20 minutes on the muscles of the back. A spirographic testing was done on the first and last day.

**Results:** The spirographic tests showed that in 75% of treated the measurements of the respiratory system have increased. The measurements for the obturation of ventilation illness have especially increased. The importance of statistical growth have showed in  $FEV_1\%/VC$  and PEF.

**Conclusion:** The test results prove that massage and kinesitherapy have a positive influence on the respiratory system. It plays an important role in rehabilitating patients with breast cancer and in bringing comfort in their lives.