

pathway the patient has to endure. The patient gives the BCN her trust and the challenge is to manage this relation in all her meanings. The supporting activities of the BCN must be clear for the patient and not only problem based. Taking spontaneous contact with the patient is a comforting thought, because patients often wait to call for help from the BCN.

**Conclusions:** This project shows differences and similarities between the two perspectives. Beside her role toward the patient, the BCN has an important task in taking action when the care fails. Education, coaching and recognition of the BCN is essential for a patient centered and qualitative care. The guidelines must provide information and support for the BCN and her team how to organize a nurse consultation at each important phase in the total clinical pathway.

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POSTER

#### Patients' Perception of Nurse-led Telephone Follow-up After Radiotherapy for Prostate Cancer

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**Background:** Implementation of nurse-led clinics and follow-up by mail or telephone for selected patient groups is a way to meet the challenge with an increasing number of patients in follow-up within the department of oncology. Surveys of patient satisfaction can give information on patient views on e.g. changed routines for follow-up. The aim of this study was to describe patients' perception of getting test results by phone from an oncology nurse.

**Material and Methods:** All patients (n = 578) during 8 weeks that got their test results and follow-up by phone of a nurse were sent a questionnaire, an information letter and a pre-paid envelope one week after the phone call. The questionnaire consisted of six multiple-choice questions about satisfaction with getting the result by phone, information, search for further information, time since treatment ended, age and previous experiences of getting the follow-up by phone. The three last questions are open-ended and concerns pros and cons and suggestions for improvements with getting the test result by telephone.

**Results:** A total of 511 patients responded to the questionnaire, 8 patients were excluded as they responded they got the answer by mail, resulting in a response rate of 88% (n = 503). Most patients (56%) were 65–74 years old. For 342 (68%) patients this was the first time they received their test results (PSA) by telephone. Most patients 431 (86%) stated they thought that it was "very good" or "good" to get the test results by phone. Of the remaining patients, 54 (11%) thought it was "neither nor" and 14 (3%) thought it was "bad" or "very bad" to get the results by phone. Regarding the information during the telephone follow-up, 433 patients (86%) reported that it "completely" fulfilled their needs, 41 patients (8%) stated that their information needs were "partly" met and 10 patients (2%) thought it "hardly" or "not at all" met their needs. A total of 12 patients reported they "didn't need any information". A small number of patients (n = 31, 6%) reported they had searched for further information after the telephone follow-up; from "internet", "nurse", "physician", "other health care establishment" or "patient association". Analysis is on-going and data will be presented from the open-ended items.

**Conclusions:** Most patients were content with getting their test results by phone and also with the information from the nurse. However, a small number reported they rather wished to visit the clinic.

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POSTER

#### A Central Contact Unit at a Big Oncological Department

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**Background:** When patients and relatives contacted the department of oncology at Herlev Hospital, telephone calls were often switched over several times to various professionals unrelated to the raised question. The emergency doctor was contacted about many problems not related to his job and the treating nurses and secretaries were often disturbed. The problems raised were often not addressed to a person with the relevant competence qualifications. Consequently daily work was dominated by many disturbing interruptions with increased stress and impatient and frustrated patients.

**Method:** A central contact unit was established as a 1-year project from 2008 to 2009 in an oncological department with 4000 new patients and 90.000 ambulatory visits per year. All telephone call not related to transport or time reservations was answered by four nurses specialised in four major cancer groups (GI, HN +lung, breast, urogenital). Opening hours on working days were 8 to 15. All calls were registered in a database. After ending the project it was evaluated by 100 questionnaires to the staff (response 76%). One year after the project 55 questionnaires was addressed to the patients and 20 to the relatives (response 70% and 60%).

**Results:** In the project period 8.714 calls were registered, 46.3% from patients in treatment and 20.1% from relatives and 34% from other collaborators or patients not in treatment. Of the problems raised 52.7% was solved by the contact nurses and only 13.5% were handed over to a physician. From the staff 72% answers that they experienced a positive improvement in the working environment with increased peace of work (36.2%), fewer interruptions (40.2%) and increased improvement in the contact to patients and relatives (23.5%). For the patients and the relatives 97.5% experienced qualified and 95.7% quick help solving the problems they had raised. In later calls 69.2% wanted to talk to the same specialised nurse.

**Conclusion:** The contact unit had a very positive impact on the working environment. Physicians, nurses and secretaries were less stressed and were primarily presented to relevant problems, and gained possibility of increased focus on individual patient therapy and care. Patients and relatives experience increased safety and satisfaction with a fast and qualified help. Surprisingly the expectation from many patients and relatives were to talk to a competent person.

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POSTER

#### Using the Flush-out Technique for Managing Vesicant Chemotherapy Extravasations

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**Background:** Extravasation is a complication of Chemotherapy where there is accidental administration of a vesicant drug into the tissue surrounding an intravenous device (RCN 2010; INS 2011). Many treatments exist for the management of extravasation although the evidence base for their use is weak. The flush out technique has been used successfully to manage extravasation by plastics surgeons in the UK. This technique involves making a number of stab incisions and administering large volumes of 0.9% sodium chloride subcutaneously to flush out the extravasated drugs. It has been suggested that is a less traumatic and cheaper than surgery and prevents under treatment of patients (Gault & Chellands 1997).

The aim of this poster is to describe the flush out technique and describe how a programme for training nurses has been developed in order to provide a more timely intervention.

**Results:** The South West London Cancer Network Chemotherapy Nurses Group worked with the plastic surgery team at St George's hospital to set up policies, procedures and training on the flush out technique. This has now been disseminated to other Cancer Networks and where it has been used has been shown to have successful outcomes for patients.

**Conclusion:** Nurses working as advanced practitioners in chemotherapy are well placed to develop expertise in flush out technique for managing small peripheral vesicant extravasation. Nurse appreciated the ability to incorporate this new skill to enhance autonomous practice, provide prompt and effective treatment of extravasation and minimise the risk of injury and patient distress.

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POSTER

#### Impact of Preoperative Visits on Anxiety Levels in Patients With Breast Cancer Undergoing Surgery: Reporting a French Nursing Project in Progress

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**Introduction:** Surgery is a source of anxiety and is a stressful event for patients with cancer. 1. A nurse led, pre-operative visit (POV) system was instigated at Paul Strauss Cancer Centre, Strasbourg taking place the day before surgical intervention. POV consists of an operating room nurse explaining to the patient the main experiences they can expect, by using verbal information and photographs as illustration. She/he then welcomes the next day at the entrance of the theatre and conducts the patient to the operation room.

A first evaluation was carried out in 2008. 466 pre-operative were performed in 2007, 467 during the first three trimester in 2008. Satisfaction levels at this stage were rated at 88% by patients.

Since 2010 a prospective randomized study to analyze the impact of the POV on the anxiety of the patient with breast cancer undergoing surgery with or without breast reconstruction has been running.

**Aim:** The aim of this study was to establish whether, and to what extent, the preoperative nurse-led visit reduced anxiety in patients with breast cancer undergoing surgery.

**Method:** 140 women  $\geq$  18 years old with breast cancer treated with radical surgery (mastectomy and/or mastectomy with lymphadenectomy) or conservative surgery (with or without lymphadenectomy, with or without