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Sexual Health after Mastectomy: Experience of Arabic Women

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Purpose:

Breast cancer (BC) is a major public health threat among women in Arab countries. There is a lack of research that addresses the experiences of Arabic women who have had a mastectomy which is likely related to the cultural and religious beliefs and social mores of Arabic society that consider discussion surrounding sexual health taboo and a prohibited topic. This study explore the sexual health experiences of Arab women who have had a mastectomy due to breast cancer BC.

Method:

A qualitative approach underpinned by social constructivism, feminist perspectives and storytelling is deemed as most appropriate as it enables a researcher to explore how people understand and describe human phenomenon and is used when little is known about the topic to be studied. It is also used when the researcher wishes to explore people's experiences.

Result:

The participant have been recruited from social media: Facebook, Twitter and Whatsapp, 40 Arabic women have been complete the survey and 22 women have been interviewed, the initial result show that the Arabic women who have had a mastectomy due to BC have a problem regard in their relationship with partner and their sexual desire have been decreased after the surgery. Regrading to body image all participant have a body issue led them to using a silicone bra and all of them have had a reconstruction surgery during and after a mastectomy surgery. And there is lack of communication about their newly health status and body image with their partner. Lack of sexual knowledge during and after treatment.

Conclusion:

These initial result extended our understanding of the supportive care needs of Arabic women with BC survival. The findings that Arabic women had a significant sexual health, and body image problems due to mastectomy.

Biography

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