

## CLINICAL NURSING IN ONCOLOGY CARE

**Year/semester:** 2nd year/2nd semester

**ECTS:** 3

**Course coordinator:** Vargas Jazmin

MODULE	SSD	ECTS	HOURS
Onco-Hematology	MED/06	1	15
Clinical Psychology	M-PSI/08	1	15
Clinical and Paediatric General Nursing Sciences	MED/45	1	15

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The Integrated Course of Clinical Nursing in Oncology Care aims to teach the biological bases, epidemiology and risk factors, diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of oncological diseases. By the end of the course, students will have acquired the knowledge and skills necessary to approach cancer patients according to their pathology, while also considering the psychological aspects. They will know how to adjust their care interventions based on the patient's treatment and manage any side effects.

In order to guarantee personalised care, it is important to be aware of predispositions, whether genetic, environmental or linked to lifestyle, in order to support the choice of correct behaviour and adherence to primary, secondary and tertiary prevention programmes.

It is also essential to know the scope of current treatment options and the possible side effects, and to differentiate between preoperative, complementary and advanced disease treatment.

The student will acquire knowledge and competencies in the management of palliative care and end-of-life care.

The student will acquire basic knowledge of clinical research.

**TEACHING METHODS:** Lectures, watching video-clips, plenary discussions, group work, simulations.

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**ASSESSMENT METHOD:** Written examination with multiple-choice answer

## **MODULE: ONCO-HAEMATOLOGY MED/06**

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

By the end of the course the student:

- will know the biological basis of tumours;
- will be familiar with the epidemiology of cancer in general and specific to the diseases addressed during the course;
- will know the process of diagnosis and staging;
- will know the therapeutic principles of the main cancer treatments;
  - o Surgery
  - o Radiotherapy
  - o Medication
    - Hormone therapy
    - Chemotherapy
    - Molecularly targeted therapy
    - Immunotherapy
- will be familiar with the clinical and therapeutic aspects of the pathologies covered during the course;
- will be familiar with the aspects of palliative care necessary for the management of the terminal stage of disease.

### **SUGGESTED READING:**

- Massini, Izzi, Marchetti, Passeretti, Pelosio, Recine, *Medicina Interna*. Mc Graw Hill, 2013 (Capitolo 15)
- AIOM-AIRTUM I Numeri del Cancro in Italia 2018. [www.aiom.it](http://www.aiom.it)

### **ADVANCED READING:**

- AIOM Guidelines 2018 [www.aiom.it](http://www.aiom.it)
- Roberto Labianca, Stefano Cascinu, *Medicina oncologica*, Edra 2013

### **CONTENT:**

#### **1- LESSON**

- Introduction to the course and description of the programme.

- Principles of tumour biology.
- Principles of epidemiology.
- Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.

## 2- LESSON

- Principles of diagnosis and staging.
- Introduction to therapy.
- Principles of therapy.

## 3- LESSON

- Side effects of oncology medication and their management. Principles of clinical research.
- Haematological neoplasms. Epidemiology, diagnosis, staging, treatment, management of complications and side effects.

## 4- LESSON

- Neoplasms of the gastrointestinal tract: colon, stomach, pancreas, liver, biliary tract. Epidemiology, diagnosis, staging, treatment, management of complications and side effects.
- Neoplasms of the thorax region: lung, mesothelioma.
- Neoplasms of the urogenital system region (kidney, bladder, prostate). Epidemiology, diagnosis, staging, treatment, management of complications and side effects.

## 5- LESSON

- Neoplasms of the female genital apparatus (breast, ovary, uterus and cervix). Epidemiology, diagnosis, staging, treatment, management of complications and side effects.
- Palliative care and management of the terminal stage.

## MODULE: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY M-PSI/08

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- The student will understand the theories explaining grief and its characteristics;
- The student will understand the dimensions that characterise pain and the mechanisms that regulate the experience of pain, with particular reference to psycho-oncology;
- The student will learn specific skills related to their role as a health professional in the field of psycho-oncology.

**TEACHING METHODS:** Lectures

### SUGGESTED READING



- Delle Fave, Bassi, *Psicologia della salute. Esperienze e risorse dei protagonisti della cura*, Utet Editore
- E. Moja, E Vegni, *La medicina centrata sul paziente*, Cortina editore

**ASSESSMENT METHOD:** Written (multiple-choice test)

### **KEY TOPIC 1: Pain**

#### **Learning objectives:**

- The student will learn the distinction between acute and chronic pain.
- The student will learn the components that characterise chronic pain
- The student will learn about the learning mechanisms that can regulate the subjective experience of pain.

### **KEY TOPIC 2: Coping with bereavement**

#### **Learning objectives**

- The student will understand grief according to evolutionary theorists and Bowlby's attachment theory.
- The student will understand grief according to stress and trauma theorists.
- The student will understand the factors influencing bereavement
- The student will learn coping models for bereavement

### **KEY TOPIC 3: Psycho-oncology**

- The student will learn the main clinical and psychological aspects of the cancer patient.
- The student will be taught about psycho-oncological intervention patterns.
- The student will understand the learning path necessary for their role with the cancer patient, specifically in the aspect of relationship with the patient.

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### **MODULE: CLINICAL AND PAEDIATRIC GENERAL NURSING SCIENCES MED/45**

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Activate prevention and education strategies for the person and caregivers to enhance adherence to healthy lifestyles and screening programmes;
- Know therapeutic procedures for the management, preparation, administration of drugs and monitoring of relevant related parameters;
- Know the main side effects of antineoplastic drugs and intervention strategies for their management;
- Intervene in the management of operator and environmental exposure to antineoplastic drugs (accidental spillage) and in case of extravasation;
- Recognise and maintain safety conditions for the patient in order to prevent adverse events

- Verify, intervene and monitor the effects of nursing interventions in the patient with frequent onco-haematological problems: nausea/vomiting, constipation, diarrhoea, asthenia, fatigue, altered body image, immunodepression;
- Support patients' learning to self-manage the main side effects of chemotherapy;
- Know of occupational risk related to the handling and manipulation of chemotherapeutic drugs
- Know of nutritional aspects and malnutrition in cancer patients;
- Activate the main palliative care strategies and techniques for the management of patients with advanced cancer problems.

#### **SUGGESTED READING:**

- “Brunner Suddarth. Infermieristica medico-chirurgica”, Janice L. Hinkle, Kerry H. Cheever, CEA, 2017
- In-depth articles provided by the professor

#### **ADVANCED READING:**

- “Oncologia e cure palliative” di Carpanelli, Canepa, Bettini, Viale, McGraw-Hill, 2002
- “Assistenza infermieristica in oncologia” di AIAO Associazione Infermieri di Assistenza Oncologica – Magri, Masson, 2007
- “L’infermiere in oncologia - La gestione dei farmaci antitumorali” di Carpanelli, Mazzufero, Pellachin, Carrocci Faber, 2008

#### **CONTENT:**

- **EDUCATIONAL ROLE OF THE NURSE FOR PREVENTION**
  - Primary prevention: European strategies against cancer
  - Secondary prevention: screening in oncology
- **CANCER TREATMENT: CHEMOTHERAPY**
  - Classification of antitumor drugs
  - Antitumor drug management: handling, administration and management of accidental spillage
  - Drug extravasation: mechanism of action, types and treatment of extravasation injuries
  - Managing the main side effects of antitumor drugs
- **NUTRITION IN CANCER AND CHEMOTHERAPY PATIENTS**
  - Nutritional assessment: symptoms and signs of malnutrition
  - Neoplastic cachexia
  - Nutrition education and information
- **ROLE OF THE PALLIATIVE CARE NURSE**
  - Objectives of palliative care
  - Care contexts
  - Nursing care of the terminal cancer patient