

# MASTER COURSE IN PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT FOR ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULT PATIENTS WITH CANCER

## A Course Evaluation

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### BACKGROUND

Oslo University Hospital and Oslo Metropolitan University identified a need to increase the clinicians knowledge and skills to ensure a structured follow-up of adolescent and young adults (AYA) with cancer.

In order to educate health professionals to hold a coordinating role in ensuring a good transition between service levels and limiting the patient's mental burdens, promoting normal identity development and preventing social isolation, the Oslo University Hospital and Oslo Metropolitan University entered into a collaboration to develop a 10 ECT new master course:

«Psychosocial support for adolescents and young adults with cancer», based on a clinical practice guideline.

The course consisted of two-weeks of lectures, including theory and practical skills. Different learning activities (i.e., interaction, individual and group assignments) were used with a final individual exam.

### AIM

The aim of this study was to examine how the students evaluated the course according to the learning outcomes.

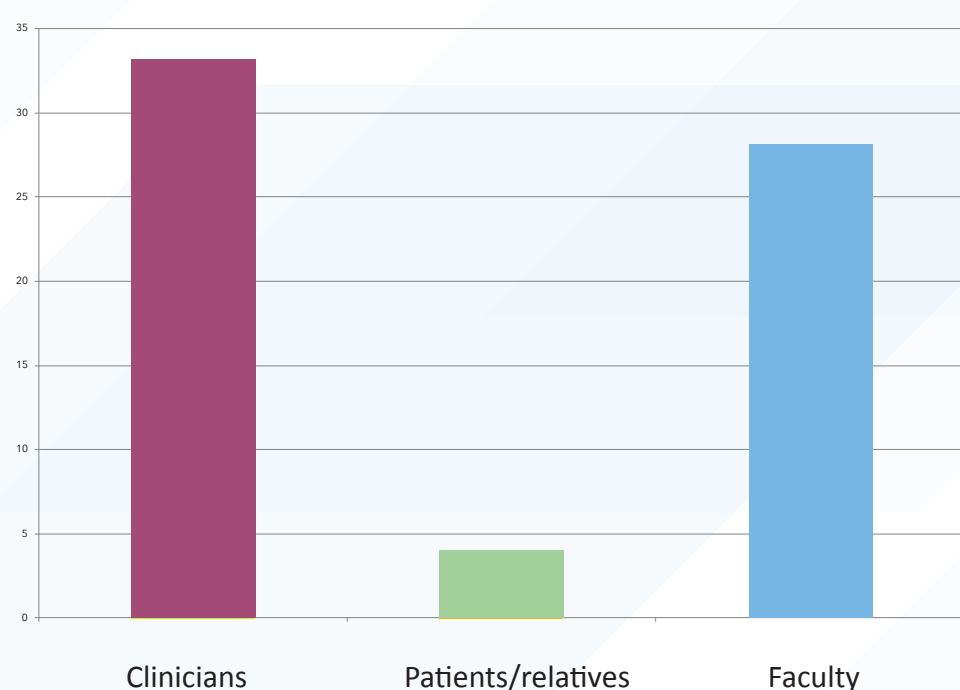
### METHODS

All students (N=16) answered an individual questionnaire which assessed the relevance, content and the presentation of each lecture. At the end of the course, the students first answered questions related to the learning outcomes in groups, and thereafter orally all together. Data were analyzed using content analysis.



Foto: iStock/Katarzyna Bialasiewicz

Number of lessons divided by clinicians, patients/relatives and faculty



### RESULTS

The results from the individual questionnaire showed that the lectures were relevant and well performed. The combination of clinicians, faculty, former patients and family members made a very good contribution to the course. The students highlighted positively the extensive use of interactive activities and the training of practical skills. Students reported that the content of the course was relevant for the learning outcomes. However, there were too many lectures about how to conduct a network meeting. In addition, the students wanted more focus on AYA's development, particularly their neuropsychology. Multicultural aspects should also be more emphasized.

### CONCLUSION

Overall, the students evaluated the course very well. The course content will be revised according to the students' evaluation. In future studies, it is desirable to evaluate the students' contribution in clinical practice.

