

## **Jordanian Colorectal Cancer Patients' Experiences and Perceptions about Quality of Life: A Qualitative Study**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Introduction Colorectal Cancer (CRC) is one of the most common forms of cancer worldwide; its prevalence is also reflected in the Jordanian population. It appears that CRC diagnosis and treatment modalities have a negative impact on patients' physical, social, and emotional well-being and their quality of life (QOL). Purpose: this study was conducted to describe Jordanian CRC patients' experiences and perceptions about QOL during their treatment period. Participants: fifteen participants were selected to be interviewed about their experiences of CRC and their perceptions about QOL during their illness period. Methods: Content analysis approach was conducted. Results numbers of factors were identified including social support (such as emotional support, practical support, and social participation) and professional support (such as Patient-Staff relationships, and Health education). Furthermore, internal coping strategies (such as religious faith and attitudes towards prognosis and life) were identified. Conclusion: several factors were identified and played a vital role in improving or diminishing the patients' QOL during the treatment period. Implications: The results of this study suggest the need to implement education programs to address these distressing experiences and to support those extrinsic and intrinsic factors known to augment Jordanian CRC patients' QOL. Keywords: quality of life, colorectal, religion, social support, communication