

**PERCEPTION OF FAMILY NEEDS IN THE EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT: A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN NURSES
AND FAMILY MEMBERS HAVING CANCER PATIENT IN
JORDAN**

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ABSTRACT

Background: assessment of family needs in the emergency department (ED) is an important aspect of care. Anticipating family needs by ED nurses can reduce family members stress during ED visiting. Families of oncology patients attending ED may experience special needs according to the disease and the frequency of ED admissions.

Aim: The aims of this study were: to assess the family needs of oncology patients admitted to the ED from the perception of Jordanian family members and ED nurses, to identify the differences between family members and ED nurses in respect to the perception of these needs and its ranking, and to identify the relationship between demographical variables and the perception of these needs.

Method: A descriptive, comparative design was used. Data were collected using CCFNI-ED from study groups in two hospitals.

Results: A total of 266 participants joined the study with 88.7% response rate. Family members perceiving needs higher than ED nurses ($p < 0.001$). The most important need was "Meaning" while "support" ranked the lowest by both groups. ED nurses from

KHCC perceived all family needs domains higher ($p < 0.001$) than Al-Bashir hospital ED nurses. Nurses' age and length of experience as general nurses have negative relationship with domains "meaning" and "proximity, as nurses less perceived these two needs as important with increasing age or general nursing experience.

Conclusion: there was a gap in perceiving family needs of oncology patients in the ED between ED nurses and family members. Increasing the awareness of ED nurses towards these needs should be considered.