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**The Factors influence Patient's Education on the Care of Oral Mucositis in
Oncology: A Critical Literature Review**

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Introduction

Oral mucositis is one of the very common side effects of chemotherapy or radiotherapy of head and neck cancer and high dose myeloablative chemotherapy in haematopoietic stem cell transplant. Basic oral care, oral care protocol and patient education, and palliative care like pain management are three key components of care in the patients undergoing cancer treatment. However, the patient compliance with oral care protocol can't be achieved. Nurses needed to use update information in oral care protocol. Due to many reasons like the awareness, access, understanding and usefulness of the updated information, they can't provide update education to patient

Objectives

- 1) To critical appraise the identified literatures on the oral mucositis care
- 2) To identify the factors influence of effective patient's education on the care of oral mucositis in oncology patients
- 3) To discuss the implications of the emerged themes on general practice and recommendations from the findings, and the need of future research

Methodology

Critical literature review was done and eight studies were selected during 2000 to 2015 with the use of inclusion and exclusion criteria. Literature searches were conducted in electronic knowledge gateway (eKG) of Hospital Authority of Hong Kong. Thematic analysis was used to identify the relationship between the reviews.

Result

Three themes was emerged through thematic analysis. It stated that patient education is important in the prevention of oral mucositis. However, patient's education needed

support from nurses and other health professionals. Insufficient oral care plan to patients was identified as main theme. It also related to the education of nurses as they are the main sources of knowledge to patients and carers. In addition, lack of support from other health care professionals was identified.

As patient education is a crucial factor influencing the care of oral mucositis. Clinical governance and continuous quality improvement program such as preceptorship program to nurses becomes the key strategies to implement the regular and update oral care protocol. Continue education on oral care is not enough and insufficient support from other health discipline likes doctors and dentists. Moreover, there is a need for nurses to change their practice after equipped with knowledge. Ongoing research is needed to explore the effect after increasing knowledge of patients and nurses in oncology patients.