

**QUALITY OF LIFE OF CANCER PATIENTS WITH MALIGNANT FUNGATING WOUND**

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**Aim:** The aim of the study was to investigate the quality of life and related factors among cancer patients who are in malignant fungating wound (MFW)

**Methods:** Descriptive cross-sectional study of patient's diagnosis cancer combined MFW. Data were collection in three special units (palliative, hospice, outpatient) of four medical centers or teaching hospital in Taiwan. A structure questionnaire designed to obtain sociodemographic information, medical details, modified Schulz Malignant Wound Assessment Tool and health-related quality of life (MQOL-TW) was administered by personal interview.

**Results:** The total of MQOL-TW scores indicated that the cancer patients with MFW had worse HRQOL. Higher albumin level showed a statically significant positive correlation with health related quality of life ( $p < 0.05$ ). The participant's subjective perceptions anxiety, depression and objective bleeding level showed a statically significant negative correlation with health –related quality of life ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusions:** Malignant fungating wound (MFW) has a negative impact on HRQOL. The results of this study contribution to our understanding of the impact of comprehensive malignant fungating wound, and to its assessment and management. Research need to developed well-structured MFW management guideline. In the meantime, a longitudinal study is necessary to understand and compare changes in QOL of patients having various locations of MFW.