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**Enhancing supportive care for cancer patients****Santosh Kumar Mishra***S. N. D. T. Women's University, India*

**Statement of the Problem:** Supportive care is about increasing quality of life of cancer patients, while oncology is treating their cancer. Treating doctors are of the view that people diagnosed with cancer symptoms face significant challenges. Challenges are evident in the form of physical, emotional, and functional problems (e. g, ability to perform day-to-day work/activities). Importantly, some cancer patients also experience side effects ("short-term", "long-term", and/or "life-long") from the cancer treatment. In the absence of adequate supportive care, anti-cancer treatment may be delayed or stopped altogether, all of which can lead to worse outcomes. It aims to improve the quality of rehabilitation This is the reason why excellent cancer treatment requires supportive care, ingredients of which are three-fold: (a) improved communication between people with cancer and caregivers about disease, (b) reducing the emotional burden, and (c) psycho-social support for cancer survivors. In terms of principles, supportive care: (a) aims to improve quality of life, (b) is relevant throughout the cancer treatment experience, (c) involves a person-centric and holistic approach, and (d) is a basic right for all people with cancer. Support care interventions make excellent care possible.

**Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:** The prime objective of this paper is to present narrative on need for supportive care for cancer patients. Also, it outlines principles of supportive care. Secondary data been used in this work.

**Findings:** Major finding of this paper is that supportive care makes excellent cancer care possible; it facilitates prevention and management of the adverse effects of cancer and its treatment. Supportive care includes management of physical and psychological symptoms and side effects during the cancer journey (from diagnosis and treatment to post-treatment care). Supportive care aims to improve the quality of rehabilitation, secondary cancer prevention, survivorship, and end-of-life care.

**Biography**

Dr. Santosh Kumar Mishra is an Independent Researcher (Scholar), retired as Technical Assistant from the Population Education Resource Centre, S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai, India, on June 30, 2020. He received a Government of India Fellowship for demography training at IIPS, Mumbai, in 1986-1987 and earned a Ph.D. from the University of Patna in 1999. He holds additional qualifications in Adult & Continuing Education, Hospital and Health Care Management, and Human Resource Development. Dr. Mishra has authored/co-authored 5 booklets, 4 books, 97 journal articles, 56 conference papers, and received multiple awards, including the Excellence in Research Award in 2021.