A Nursing Experience of Applying Roy’s Adaptation Model to a Patient with Laryngeal Cancer

Li-Lin Chuang, Hsing-Fang Ko*, Shi-Fang Pai**

ABSTRACT

The article described a nursing experience of a female patient with laryngeal cancer. The patient exhibited negative emotional responses such as depression, sobbing and hopelessness upon receiving a confirmed diagnosis of early-stage laryngeal cancer. The disease was complicated by damage to the throat mucosa post laryngeal microsurgery. The patient was to remain silence to avoid tension and vibration to the vocal cord, resulting in communication conflicts between the patient and the family. From August 10 to September 20, 2010, the author applied attentive listening, written communication and Roy’s adaptation model as a full evaluation of the patient, confirming major issues including hopelessness, body image disturbance and impaired verbal communication. During the caring process, the author assisted the patient psychologically through life review and religious tenet to rebuild her faith in life and accept the scars left from the surgery.

On the physical side, the author suggested written communication during silence period in conjunction with sketchpads and hand gestures for the patient to express her needs and feelings and furthermore improve her social communication skill. These nursing interventions were implemented to ultimately aid the patient to adjust by studying coping techniques.(Tzu Chi Nursing Journal, 2013; 12:2, 91-101)

Keywords: laryngeal cancer, nursing experience, Roy’s adaptation model

RN, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital; Head Nurse, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital*; Assistant Head Nurse, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital**
Accepted: June 12, 2012
Address correspondence to: Hsing-Fang Ko  No.123, Dapi Rd., Niaosong Dist., Kaohsiung, Taiwan 833
Tel: 886-7-7317123  ext.2942; E-mail: fung0803@adm.cgmh.org.tw