



Introduction

Alopecia is one of the most feared secondary effect of anticancer chemotherapy : It concerned up to 44% of chemotherapy treated patients (1). Up to 8% of patients undergoing endocrine therapy stop their anti-aromatase treatment due to therapy induced alopecia (2).

In addition to the presence of a socio-esthetician, the "Centre Georges François Leclerc (France)" decided to add a socio-hairdresser in the supportive care department.

(1): Ashbury and al, Journal of pain and Symptom Management, 1998

(2): Lacouture and al, Ann. Oncol, 2021

Materials

An auxilliary nurse, already graduated as hairdresser 30 years ago, was graduated socio-hairdresser from the socio-hairdressing academy in Anglet (France) in 2021.

She was posted as halftime socio hairdresser at the Centre Georges François Leclerc (France) from February 2022 .

Methodology

1) Individual support in their hospital room, depending on the patient's problem :

- Explain the different possible phases of alopecia according to oncological treatment
- Personalized advice according to patient's particular problem for the presenting alternatives related to hair loss: hair prosthesis, turban, fringe
- Intermediate haircut before wearing the hair prosthesis
- Scalp massage

2) Setting up 2-hour collective workshops for a 6 patients group :

- Hair prosthesis workshop : how to maintain patients hair prosthesis, how to wash it, dry it, restyle it, use of suitable products for the maintenance of the hair prosthesis.
- How to position your hands to perform a scalp massage yourself and advice on the use of products adapted to your scalp problem.
- Turban, scarf tying and accessories workshops : presentation of different turbans, personalized tips.

Results

592 patients were given councils or hair care for 2023.

The activity is detailed below :

- Accompanying hair loss : 237 patients
- Phone call : 113 patients
- Councils for hair care : 55
- Accompanying hair regrowth : 40
- Wig councils : 40
- Haircut and council during chemotherapy : 33
- Scalp massage : 27
- Shampoo, haircut and drying : 26
- Men haircut : 12
- Miscellaneous : 9



Conclusion

The socio hairdresser work is much appreciated by the patients, as shown by the verbatim received such as :

A very big thank you for all your advices. This workshop taught me a lot of things

A fun workshop and practical advices that I can use on a daily basis

Thank you for this sharing moment and all these good advices. The massage was very pleasant.

A very nice session, lots of professionalism.

A nice moment, relaxed far from the reasons why we usually come to the CGFL center

Socio-hairdressing comes in complement with socio-esthetic. Despite it is totally paid by the CGFL center, free of charge for all our patients, we decided to maintain this practice and to create very soon a socio-hairdressing dedicated room alongside with the socio-esthetician.

