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Mental Distress, Quality of Life and Social Support in Recurrent Ovarian

Cancer Patients during Active Chemotherapy

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**Abstract** 

Background: Anxiety and depression are common sources of mental distress experienced by ovarian

cancer patients. The purpose of this study was to identify changes in levels of mental distress during

active chemotherapy, to characterize the impact of these changes on quality of life (QOL), and to study

the potential buffering effect of social support in recurrent ovarian cancer patients.

Methods: Anxiety and depression were assessed at baseline and three months after initiation of active

chemotherapy using HADS. QOL was evaluated at the same time points using EORTC QLQ-C30 and

QLQ-OV28. Social support was evaluated by perceived social support scale (PSSS) at baseline.

1

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