

# Palliative Care & Clinical Trials and Pharmacovigilance

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## Rukhadze T<sup>1,2,3</sup>

### Lekashvili T<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU), Georgia*

<sup>2</sup>*Research Institute of Clinical Medicine, Acad. F. Todua Medical Centre, Georgia*

<sup>3</sup>*Georgian National Association for Palliative Care, Georgia*

### Evaluation of medical needs and available medical services of end-of-life cancer patients – Georgian experience

Goal of the study – Practical guidelines development for palliative care current model improvement in Georgia through evaluation of palliative patients medical needs and provided medical services, based on analysis of patients' incurable status definition in the country.

Questionnaire survey, analysis of medical documentation and histories were applied in the study. Based on duration of medical service provided to the patients, three groups were assigned. Social and psychological problems of patients, problems associated with caregivers and difficulties with respect to clinical groups, problems of opioids prescription, dose selection, availability of tablets were assessed and included in data base along with medical problems.

In accordance with the obtained material, three groups of patients were assigned, comparative analysis of them was performed and study results reliability was evaluated based thereof, wherein p value indicator was considered to be statistically reliable. Considering study tasks and goals, 161 patients were selected. The 119 patients (73.9%) had diagnosis of solid tumors, 27 (16.8%) oncology hematological diseases, 15 (9.3%) diagnosis of primary tumors of central nervous system. Number of patients due to age and sex was as follows: group of patients aged 25-40 included 16 (9,9%)

patients; group of patients aged 41-60 included 35 (21,7%) patients, 60-74 included 66 (40,9%) patients, and 75-80 included 44 (27,3%) patients.

**Conclusions:** Needs of incurable patients and current medical services are based mainly on medical needs and non-medical aspects are often ignored; Provided medical services are mainly based on minimal needs of patient and don't include internationally acknowledged model of palliative care;

It is not fair to request that duration of incurable patients' palliative care shall be some 3 or 6 months, that infringes main concept of palliative care: care till the end of life and improvement/retention of quality of life.

#### Speaker Biography

Rukhadze T is a Medical Oncologist and Professor at Tbilisi State University. Also, she serves as International Expert of Palliative Medicine and completed her Postgraduate Fellowship in Clinical Oncology at Karolinska Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden and PhD at the age of 30 years from TSMU, Georgia. She has completed international Fellowship program at the Institute of Palliative Medicine, San Diego University, San Diego, USA. She has over 50 publications that have been cited over 37 times and her publication H-index is 3,5 and has been serving as an editorial board member of EPMA Journal.

e: tamar.rukhadze@tsu.ge