Multicultural Care of a Pediatric Surgical Patient Receiving Hyperthermic Intraoperative Peritoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) Surgery

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**Patient History**
- 12 year old girl from a small town in Russia.
- Diagnosis: Mucinous Adenocarcinoma of the large bowel at age 10.
- Treated in Russia with two surgeries and 12 rounds of chemotherapy.
- Carcinoma recurred and was not treatable in Russia.
- Russian sponsor was found to seek treatment at Miami Children’s Hospital (MCH).
- HIPEC surgery has previously been performed successfully at MCH.
- On admission patient was diagnosed with Stage III Adenocarcinoma of the large bowel, retrovesical mass, bilateral ureteral obstruction, nonfunctioning right kidney, left ureteral hydroureter.

**Communications with Interdisciplinary Treatment Team**

**HIPEC: Hyperthermic Intraoperative Peritoneal Chemotherapy Procedure**
- At the time of the debulking surgery, the chemotherapy solution is directly applied into the peritoneal cavity.
- After all visible tumors are removed, cisplatin, a chemotherapy drug, is heated to 103° Fahrenheit and pumped through the abdominal cavity.
- The heat makes the drug more effective in killing cancer cells, and it also increases beneficial blood flow to the area.
- The patient lies on a special cooling blanket to keep their body temperature at safe levels.
- During the treatment, surgeons physically rock the patient back and forth on the operating table for 1½ - 2 hours to ensure that the drug reaches all areas of the abdomen, killing any cancer cells that remain after surgery and reducing the risk for cancer recurrence.

**Obstacles of Treatment**
- Rare cancer in children of this age.
- Patient from Russia who doesn't speak English and who is separated from other family members.
- Mother refusing to let patient know diagnosis of recurrent cancer.
- Newer HIPEC treatment with limited procedures performed on children.

**Benefits of HIPEC Treatment vs Standard Chemotherapy**
- HIPEC is a single treatment performed in the operating room, while standard chemotherapy requires multiple intravenous treatments.
- HIPEC is a more intense dose of chemotherapy.
- 90% of the HIPEC chemotherapy drug stays within the abdominal cavity, making it less toxic for the patient.

**Conclusion**
Having a positive outcome for our patient with a rare cancer from a different culture with a different language is possible through the implementation of:
- HIPEC surgical chemotherapy procedure.
- A multi-disciplinary team using multiple communication tools.
- Use of the Kolcaba comfort theory.