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Evaluating Chemotherapy in Palliative Cancer Care: Does It Generate Concordant Hope?

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Background: Patients with advanced cancer frequently receive chemotherapy near the end of life. Prognostic awareness is a key component of informed decision making, but little is known about patients' perceptions of chemotherapy.

Objective: To examine patients' perceptions of chemotherapy and their relationship to prognostic awareness.

Design: Cross-sectional survey.

Setting: Outpatient oncology clinics at 3 academic medical centers.

Patients: 151 patients with advanced cancer receiving chemotherapy.

Measurements: Patients' perceptions of chemotherapy, prognostic awareness, and quality of life.

Results: Most patients (70%) believed that chemotherapy would help them live as long as possible, and 69% believed that chemotherapy would help them live longer than 1 year. Patients who believed that chemotherapy would help them live longer than 1 year were more likely to have inaccurate prognostic awareness (odds ratio, 3.2 [95% CI, 1.3 to 7.8]; $P = 0.01$) and lower quality of life (mean difference, −0.5 [CI, −0.9 to −0.1]; $P = 0.02$) than patients who believed that chemotherapy would help them live less than 1 year.

Limitations: Patients were recruited from academic medical centers, and the survey was cross-sectional.

Conclusions: Patients' perceptions of chemotherapy are not concordant with the goals of palliative care. Patients who believe that chemotherapy will help them live longer than 1 year have inaccurate prognostic awareness and lower quality of life than patients who believe that chemotherapy will help them live less than 1 year.

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Cérémonie de remise de décorations et de prise de commandement du 1er régiment de transmissions à Metz-Frescaty

Le colonel Jean-Christophe Bonnet, commandant le 1er régiment de transmissions, remet la croix de la valeur militaire au sergent-chef Jérémy Lefebvre, en présence du général de brigade Jean-Pierre Vacher, commandant la brigade de transmissions et de cyberdéfense.

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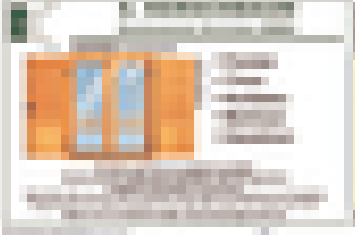

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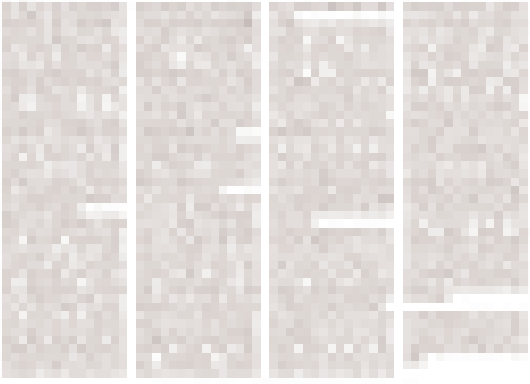

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Schwäbisch – Kulturerbe und Auftrag

Kurzbericht: Kurse in der Ausgabe 2019

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