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Transculturality and Cancer an integrated approach

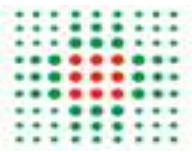
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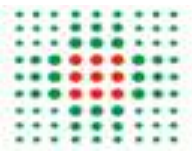
Introduction

- ✓ Recent increase of patients from extra-EU Countries(Pakistan,India,Ukraine,China) admitted to the Oncology Day Hospital
- ✓ A new healthcare setting which has required an integrated approach with the introduction of Linguistic & Cultural Mediators(LCM) acting
- ✓ Target: Migrants and their families who are facing cancer and for whose it is necessary to work out a clinical and healthcare plan that takes into account the importance of language and cultural differences



Methods

- ✓ LCM-Service translation of our DH procedures and information material in various languages to facilitate communication
- ✓ First meeting between Care-Team and Cultural Mediator
- ✓ Appointment to meet with the migrant patient and even his family
- ✓ Neutral approach facing the world of experiences and interpretation of meanings of the sick person



Critical points & Concluding Remarks

- ✓ Seeking the allocation of a common meaning to the illness (which, however, can be perceived and lived according to traditional meanings typical of the culture of origin)
 - ✓ Difficulties in obtaining consent to disclose diagnosis clearly and to share treatment options (male dominated management of information and related choices)
→ ethical problems
- When LCM-service is introduced at the early stages there is a better level of compliance with the treatment and healthcare plan
 - Role of support and relief for migrants suffering from an illness like *cancer*, in conditions of privation such as the one resulting from being culturally uprooted
- This approach helps operators to throw aside rigid and prejudiced ways of thinking and fosters attitudes of openness and sharing (to improve staff intercultural competence)

