Corporate-NGO Collaboration: Can It Contribute to the Healthcare of Young Cancer Survivors?

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Abstract

Over the past few decades, the number of young cancer patients (aged 15-39) has been increasing, with over 80% of these patients expected to survive beyond five years. Young cancer patients are regarded as a distinct group, facing unique challenges in physical health, mental well-being, and employment.

This study aims to examine the impact of a collaborative program between a corporation and a non-governmental organization (NGO) in South Korea, designed to support the quality of life and social reintegration of young cancer survivors. Participants engaged in activities such as exercise, music, and skill development for six months. Data were collected through self-reported surveys before and after program participation.

The findings revealed that quality of life, coping skills, social companionship, social support, and intention to return to society were higher after the program participation than before. Furthermore, quality of life, coping strategies, and social support were identified as significant predictors of the intention to return to society. These results suggest that joint efforts by corporations and NGOs can make a meaningful contribution to the healthcare and social reintegration of young cancer patients.

Keywords

Young cancer patients, quality of life, coping skills, social companionship, social support.