ONCODAILY MEDICAL JOURNAL

abstract

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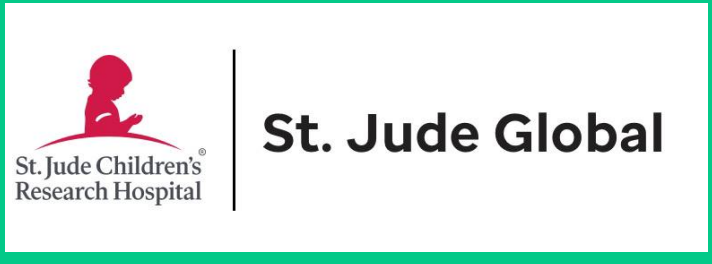
doi.org/10.69690/ODMJ-018-0425-3948



St. Jude Global Alliance, Euro Regional Meeting 2025, Poland

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SIOP ASIA 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

Communicating with Adolescents with Cancer and Their Parents About Oncofertility – Implementing a Local Procedure

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Introduction: Oncological therapy is currently effective in over 80% of patients. However, patients recovering from the disease often struggle with long-term complications, including fertility problems. Currently, fertility preservation methods are available and recommended by health authorities.

Methodology: At our hospital, we have introduced an oncofertility procedure for adolescents with cancer and their parents, providing comprehensive information on fertility preservation in accordance with national law. The procedure was developed by a team of specialists, including a pediatric oncologist, a gynecologist/andrologist, and a psychologist. This team also developed an algorithm outlining when and how children and their parents should be informed about the available fertility preservation options.

Results: Since September 2024, interviews have been conducted with five oncological patients, including one teenager who chose to preserve sperm and was referred to an adult center for the procedure.

Conclusion: Routine implementation of this procedure will increase the number of patients who choose to preserve fertility and improve awareness among teenagers with cancer and their parents about the long- term risks of fertility impairment. This study is supported by the JANE 2 project.