



**A STUDY ON ATTITUDES OF CANCER PATIENTS ABOUT BAD NEWS  
AWARENESS METHODS**

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**ABSTRACT**

Giving bad news is an inevitable part of medical profession. There are different opinions about telling the truth and giving bad news to patients in different cultures and societies. Thus, purpose of this study was investigating attitudes of cancer patients about methods of awareness of bad news .The study was cross-sectional and descriptive-analytical research that has been done on a sample of 160 people of cancer patients . This study used questionnaire that its validity was confirmed by communication sciences professors and medical experts. The reliability of questionnaire and Cronbach's alpha for all items of the questionnaire was 95 percent in estimating validity of questionnaire was determined that all questions were significantly correlated. SPSS software, regression analysis and Fisher test were used. More than half of patients (57.7%) were agree with historical informing indicator,78.8% were agree with direct source indicator and 94.4% were agree with informal informing indicator. People with incomes below 1000\$ in Taleghani hospital were less agree with Inverted Pyramid style than Tajrish hospital.

**Keywords: Bad news, cancer, physician-patient relationship, giving bad news**

**INTRODUCTION**

Communication skills are necessary for physicians when there are fundamental differences between perspectives of patient and physician. Patient goes to visit physicians to hear good news. Physicians have to attract her/his attention towards

disturbing facts gradually, and this is the fundamental problem of most physicians. Giving bad news suddenly or without considering existing standard will have very damaging psychological and long-term effects. Despite awareness of this important