

Unique challenges in discussing contraception with adolescent/ young adult cancer patients and survivors

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Adolescents and young adults (AYA) newly diagnosed with and surviving cancer have unique quality of life issues compared to older adults. Reproductive health plays an integral role in their future quality of life and involves interconnected attention to preserving future fertility, addressing sexuality and contraceptives, body image, and romantic relationships. The discomfort of these conversations between AYA and health care providers can be intensified by the presence of parents and lack of communication skills training for all involved. This session will review the current literature on contraceptive needs of AYA along with recommendations of improving communication.