The Importance of Preventive Medicine on Cancer Patients

Preventive medicine, or also referred to as “preventive care” is a method that consists of slowing down the production of disease rather than curing or treating their symptoms. Parsons would agree with preventive medicine because he claims that providing medicine is a way of socially controlling patients, and thus generates mode of production. Regardless of this theory, everyone has a right to seek health care. Whether an individual is asymptomatic (producing unnoticeable symptoms of disease) or not, there should still be periods in someone’s lifetime to go and see their doctor for health check ups. In a postmodern society, we are told to be fully responsible for our own bodies and our own health despite mass media consumption influencing our daily activities; however, this does not mean an individual who is still healthy cannot be concerned about their health. There is always the possibility of becoming sick or worse than sick, and providing preventive medicine is the first correct step into treating an individual with or without visible symptoms, especially for prolonging health in cancer patients where there is currently no available cure.

Anybody can develop, or become a “carrier” of cancer, but the risk of getting it increases with age. Cancer is a disease that is characterized by an uncontrollable growth and spread of cells. The quick spread of cells is one reason to forego an early diagnosis at an early stage of cancer. Doing so is easier, simpler, more cost efficient, and knowing

early is the most effective case scenario. In some cases, even an individual with level four breast cancer, for example, might accept preventive medicine such as a pill or drug that could cause the cancer to shrink before undergoing a massive procedure such as chemotherapy or surgery. If successful, the procedure is easier to cope with for the individual, and the chance of survival is higher. By using medicines such as drugs to reduce the risk of cancer, the emotional level of distress and anxiety is reduced and it reassures the individual of a healthier procedure, which should be the rationale of providing preventive.

Furthermore, preventive medicine is also a good method to make cancer cells stay dormant. Interestingly enough, researchers do not completely understand the dormancy in a cancer cell, which means in this case, the cells do not proliferate or divide. This is important to note because if researchers put enough time and money into preventive medicine research, they can find a way to use preventive medicine to create a dormant environment in the cancer cells in the body so that they can remain dormant, and therefore, will slow down the rate of multiplying cells.

In conclusion, preventive medicine should be the first option to consider for asymptomatic individuals who are viewing the initial signs of cancer. Medical systems should enforce money into finding new research on preventive medicine so that we can modify treatments for cancer. Noticing anything unusual about your body, or having one of the warning signs or symptoms, is a good reason to go and consult your doctor about it. It may not be anything to worry about, in which case you’ll have nothing to lose, but if it’s something serious, you could have everything to gain.