Traditional Versus Telenursing Outpatient Management of Patients With Cancer With New Ostomies

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Patients with new ostomies resulting from treatment for a cancer diagnosis have special needs. Patients must adjust not only to the cancer diagnosis but also to a colostomy or urostomy (Brogna, 1985; Grant, Padilla, Presant, Lipsett, & Runa, 1983; Haas, 1999; Jenks, Morin, & Tomaselli, 1997; Kleinpell-Nowell & Weiner, 1999; Reilly, 1994). Patient education outcomes include the ability to perform self-care, the return to previous activities performed prior to surgery, and support for emotional adjustment. New psychomotor skills also must be learned so that patients are able to care for the ostomy. In addition, patients express anxiety and stress caused by a changed body image perception and are concerned about acceptance by their family, friends, and society.

In the changing healthcare environment, patients with new ostomies are being discharged earlier after their initial surgic-