

Student Name: Opal CaldwellResearch Topic: Sense making of diagnosis

Annotation Form for (each) Journal Article

Citation Information

Author(s)	Senada Hajdarevic, Birgit. H. Rasmussen, and Asa Hornsten
Year [month, day] of publication:	August 2014
Title of article:	You never know when your last day will come and your trip will be over: Existential expressions from a melanoma diagnosis
Name of Journal:	European Journal of Oncology Nursing
Issue # (Volume #):	18(4)
Doi # [if present]:	10.1016/j.ejon.2014.03.015

Answer the following questions about the article.

Write in complete (thought-out) sentences. **This should be graduate-level work!**

What did the researchers set out to find? In other words, what was their overall purpose? Why did they conduct this study?	This study was conducted to examine patient's expressions towards being diagnosed with malignant melanoma. The researchers set out to discuss patient's existential experiences in this study to aid healthcare workers in understanding what patients experience after being diagnosed with a potentially deadly illness. If healthcare workers understand what patients think and feel, than they will be able to address patient's needs appropriately.
What theory or concept was applied? What framework (or lens) did the authors use to build an argument/ justification for their research?	The concept or theory applied in this study was Jaspers philosophical assumption of existence. Jasper indicated that it is better to teach people to cope with life situations, such as death, pain, and suffering than to act as if those concepts do not exist. Knowing how people respond and feel during a devastating experience in their life, will aid healthcare workers in addressing their needs in order to obtain better outcomes.

List any and all research questions or hypotheses.	What thoughts and feelings patient experience when being diagnosed with malignant melanoma. What their initial reaction is, how life progresses once they have dealt with the shock of the diagnosis, and what the future holds for these patients living with cancer.
What methods were used to test their RQ/hypotheses?	The researchers used semi-structured interviews. The interviews were conducted based around Gadamer's hermeneutic philosophy.
Who were the participants? Include # of participants & all demographic info.	Thirty participants were chosen for this study. The participants were diagnosed with malignant melanoma. The participants ranged from 18-80 years of age and were all Swedish-speaking. They were diagnosed between January 2008 to December 2010. Participants were chosen through a computerized electronic record system at a dermatology clinic. The clinic chosen was in northern Sweden. Participants had been diagnosed with in 2 years of the interview being conducted.
What were the key findings of the study? List any/all important conclusions.	The key findings in the study suggest that people diagnosed with malignant melanoma have experienced feelings of loss and life coming to halt when receiving a diagnosis of cancer, searching for stability after the diagnosis and where they go after a diagnosis to living with cancer. Patients experienced a new outlook on life after being diagnosed with cancer.
How does this article relate to your specific area of cancer/communication research? I.e., how does this article connect to spirituality or humor or whatever your emphasis is?	This article is excellent in explaining how patients deal with and adjust after being diagnosed with cancer. There were patient examples listed in the article of how patients felt when being told they had cancer, how they dealt with the diagnosis, and what life would mean to them after diagnosis.

FOR PROFESSOR USE:

Annotation is...

Choose One:	Sub-standard	Satisfactory	Exceeds Expectations
Comment(s):			

--	--	--	--