

Student Name: Opal Caldwell

Research Topic: Sense making of Diagnosis

Annotation Form for (each) Journal Article

Citation Information

Author(s)	Halbert, Chanita, H., Wrenn, Glenda, Weathers, Benita, Delmoor, Ernestine, Have, Thomas, T., Coyne, James C.
Year [month, day] of publication:	2010
Title of article:	Sociocultural determinants of men's reactions to prostate cancer diagnosis.
Name of Journal:	Psycho-Oncology
Issue # (Volume #):	19
Doi # [if present]:	10.1002/pon.1574

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?	The researchers in this study wanted to determine how men diagnosed with prostate cancer reacted to the diagnosis and if there were any factors that influenced how they responded.
What theory or concept was applied? What framework (or lens) did the authors use to build an argument/ justification for their research?	Researchers used current literature about their concepts to analysis and test their hypothesis. A gap in knowledge about reactions to patients being diagnosed with cancer fueled their research. Many studies were available to determine how health care providers confronted patients about their diagnosis, but less was known about the patient's experience and what concepts determined their outcomes. This study was an observational study.

List any and all research questions or hypotheses.	The researchers in this study predicted that African American males would have more negative reactions to being diagnosed with cancer than their white male counterparts. They also hypothesized that cognitive appraisals would have a profound effect on men and their stress levels. The last question they set out to answer was if cultural differences effected how patients reacted to their diagnosis.
What methods were used to test their RQ/hypotheses?	The researchers in this study used socio-demographics such as race, age, material status, education, income, and employment. These variables, minus age, were restructured into dichotomous variables based on participant's responses. Clinical factors such as PSA, Gleason score, and TNM (tumor, node, and metastasis) were gathered from patient's medical records when patients agreed to participate in the study. Cognitive appraisals were assessed to include patient's experience of being diagnosed with prostate cancer, decisions about treatment, side effects of treatment options, communication with family about their cancer, and the impact on family about the diagnosis. Likard scales were used to assess these factors with Cronbach's alpha showing a good internal consistency. Cultural factors were assessed by using religiosity, collectivism, and temporal orientation scales developed by Lukwago. A five point social constraint scale was used to assess patient's relationship with family and friends about discussing their diagnosis. The IES (Impact of event scale) was used to determine cancer specific distress. IES is a 15 item Likert scale.
Who were the participants? Include # of participants & all demographic info.	70 African American males and 124 white males participated in this study. Participants were chosen from urology and oncology practices in Philadelphia, PA. The men were recently diagnosed with prostate cancer within the last 2-5 months, confirmed by biopsy. Enrollment into the study was 46 percent. 79 % of the participants were married. 63 % had some college education or had graduated from college. 58% of the men in the study made greater than fifty-thousand dollars per year and 52% were unemployed or retired. The mean age of the participants was 63.6 years of age.
What were the key findings of the study? List any/all important conclusions.	According to the study, there were no racial differences in the subject's reactions to being diagnosed with prostate cancer; however researchers determine that men deal with a diagnosis of cancer differently. Feelings of being emotional out of control due to their diagnosis caused patients to avoid their diagnosis. This study indicated that support services are needed in the areas of communication, coping mechanisms and managing treatment side effects.
How does this article relate to your specific area of cancer/ communication research? I.e., how does this article	This study revealed vital information about how men cope with being diagnosed with prostate cancer. Trying to make sense of how patients cope with cancer is my topic this semester and this article gave insight in this subject.

connect to spirituality or humor or whatever your emphasis is?	
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Annotation is...

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