

Poster Session II
#5

Healing Experiences Of Chinese Americans With Cancer Illness In The United States

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Purpose: Grounded in Newman's theory Health as Expanding Consciousness and Heidegger's phenomenology, this phenomenological study aims to understand the phenomenon of healing within cancer illness Chinese Americans experienced.

Background: Chinese are the largest and fastest growing group of Asian Americans. Compared with others, this group still consists mostly of first generation immigrants. Cancer illness for immigrants, considering their mixed cultural backgrounds, may mean that cancer and healing is even more challenging for them. Cancer impacts more than just the individual with cancer. Understanding from health care providers about how cultural backgrounds contribute to self-healing in cancer would be helpful for Chinese immigrants. The goal of health care is not only to prolong life but also to enhance the quality of life. Healing has been considered in relation to quality of life. To understand healing experience within cancer illness could be beneficial for nurses and patients to experience better outcomes. This study examines the meaning of healing and what and how healing is experienced by individuals post-acute cancer treatment. A Chinese term Chuan Yu will be utilized as the translated term of healing. With an appreciation of nursing as healing work, this study adds to the philosophical understanding of the phenomenon of healing in Chinese persons after acute care. 3.

Methods: The methodical features of van Manen for phenomenological inquiry will be applied as guidance. Ten first generation adult Chinese immigrants with cancer experiences and not currently receiving acute care are being recruited for an interview. The technique of drawing will be utilized as a supplemental way of gaining understanding of healing in interviewing. Literature review and the lived experience of the investigator regarding healing both serve as ways of embodying the phenomenon of healing within cancer illness.

Results: Ongoing study 5 Conclusions and Implications: Ongoing study