

A grounded theory study to explore not feeling sick of breast cancer: A framework on health status perceptions transition process

Hébert Maude¹ and Maheu Christine²

¹University of Quebec in Trois-Rivières, Canada

²McGill University, Canada

The studies of women with breast cancer have focused on the transition between health and disease without relating the transition to the steps of a complete process (McCann et al, 2010; McCorry et al, 2013). Hébert, Gallagher and St-Cyr Tribble (2015) identified that women with breast cancer through four iterative steps (react emotionally, face the situation, construct a new identity, react to the social representations of cancer) and five sub-stages from diagnosis until the energy level is back after the end of treatments. However, we do not know where are the women with cancer in their illness trajectory. This causes care and education that are not based on the patient centered care philosophy minimizing their recovery (Hébert, Gallagher & St-Cyr Tribble, 2015; Meleis, 2010). A questionnaire on the stages of the health status perceptions transition process would locate women with cancer in all stages of the illness trajectory and guide nurses with appropriate interventions at each stage. Objectives: This study aims the creation and validation of a questionnaire to locate the women with breast cancer in each of the four stages and the five sub-phases to allow nurses to place their clients in the process of transition and thereby reduce their psychological distress. Method: Metrological Study: Step 1: General description of the measurement tool. Step 2: Planning, operationalization and validation of the questionnaire (pre-test and test-retest). Expected benefits: A questionnaire situating women with breast cancer in stages of the cancer trajectory will a) offer a better understanding of the steps that occur after a breast cancer diagnosis, b) integrate current knowledge on perceptions of health and illness as well as the role of the individual and c) direct clinical interventions and evaluate their effectiveness.

Biography:

Maude Hébert R.N. Ph.D. is Professor at the University of Québec in Trois-Rivières. She did her graduate studies with women diagnosed of breast cancer. She teaches research methodology and therapeutic relationship. Her research interests cover the concept of transition between health and illness and the perceptions of health and illness in the population in oncology.