

Understanding Research Articles/ Cleveland Clinic WOC Nursing Education

Name of student: _____ JULIA HURST _____

Points criteria:

Criteria	Under performance <3 points per criteria	Basic 3 - 3.9 points per criteria	Proficient 4.0 - 4.4 points per criteria	Distinguished 4.5 - 5 points per criteria
Required content objectives	Content objectives are missing or sparsely covered.	Content objectives are not consistently addressed. Demonstrates minimal understanding of content.	Content objectives consistently addressed. Demonstrates understanding of content.	Content objectives consistently addressed. Demonstrates mastery of content.
Academic writing standards	Writing lacks scholarly tone & focus. Sparse content. Multiple grammatical, spelling, & factual errors. Reliance on bullet points rather than effective writing in speaker notes. 4 or more direct quotes per project.	Writing is unclear and/or disorganized. Inconsistent scholarly tone. Inadequate depth of content. Grammatical and spelling errors. No more than 3 direct quote of less than 40 words per project.	Writing demonstrates general exploration of content. Responses are clearly written using scholarly tone. Few grammatical and/or spelling errors. No more than 2 direct quote of less than 40 words per project.	Writing demonstrates comprehensive exploration of content. Responses are clearly written using scholarly tone. Rare grammatical and/or spelling errors. No more than 1 direct quote of less than 40 words per project.
APA formatting	References and citations have multiple errors or are missing.	References and citations have errors.	References and citations have few errors.	References and citations have rare errors.

Carefully review the above rubric and the directions for each of the following pages. Select from **one** of the two articles provided in the course discussions area. Based on the type of research selected, respond to the questions on the following pages.

References: See the course syllabus for specific requirements on references for all assignments.

Part A: Select just one (not both) of the articles from the week two DQ assignment thread. Determine whether the article is qualitative or quantitative research, then, using an academic voice & APA formatted citations/references, formulate a 150-300 word response to each of the following sections and enter your responses into the textboxes below.

1. Using APA format, enter the reference for the article you reviewed. Explain the rationale for selecting this research article and how it relates to your own practice.

Chen, Y., Wang, X., Ding, W., Wu, L., & Zhao, X. (2020). Perceptions and life experiences of patients with wound healing by secondary intention after the removal of thoracic drainage tube: A qualitative study. *Journal of Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing*, 47(2), 124–127. <https://doi.org/10.1097/WON.0000000000000617>

I chose this article because I was intrigued by the title and wanted to learn more about the psychological and social aspect of wound healing. This article has a specific focus on wounds that resulted from thoracic tube placement and removal, however, I believe that other people can relate to the participants' experiences and feelings regarding their wounds. The overall quality of life and mental well-being of these patients were impacted. I can relate this to my own practice, as I have witnessed many of my patients with acute and chronic wounds or new ostomies experience psychological distress. In my opinion, this is often incidentally overlooked as the focus is put on the physiological need. Also, it is difficult to address it all aspects in the hospital setting especially, as there is often time constraints and patients can be overwhelmed and confused as they are processing their situation. By addressing the present emotional needs as well as recognizing the potential psychological and social factors a patient might face in the future, we can hopefully improve patient outcomes.

2. Describe how you determined whether the selected research article is qualitative or quantitative.

Qualitative research uses interviews or observation for improved understanding of the human experience for a phenomenon; these research methods use an interactive and subjective approach, gathering and interpreting non-numerical data (R. B. Turnbull, Jr. MD School of WOC Nursing Education, 2023). Conversely, quantitative research is objective and seeks to answer research questions and examine relationships between variables by collecting and analyzing numerical data (R. B. Turnbull, Jr. MD School of WOC Nursing Education, 2023). This research article is an example of a qualitative phenomenological study, as it studies the experience of a phenomenon from the perspective of the patient. Chen et al. (2020) explores the perceptions and life experience of patients with delayed wound healing following removal of a thoracic drainage tube. Non-numerical data was collected via semistructured interviews with open-ended questions. This allowed for participants to freely discuss their feelings and experiences. By being immersed in the dialogue of the interviews, the researchers found common themes among this group of people.

Part B: Based on the selected research, formulate a response to each of the following 8 questions associated with the selected research type (qualitative or quantitative). Enter your thoughtful responses to the textboxes below. Each response should be 150 - 300 words and cited using APA style from your reference list.

1. Why is IRB/informed consent an important part of research? Determine if Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval/informed consent obtained. If the research was done outside of the United States, the review body may go under a different name.

Intuitional Review Board (IRB) approval and informed consent are needed for both quantitative and qualitative studies. IRBs, or research ethics committees, provide protection for human subjects participating in research in the United States and more than 80 countries globally (Grady, 2015). There are certain regulatory requirements for IRBs in the United States which can also be applied to studies in other countries that are funded by the US government (Grady, 2015). The process and procedure may look differently depending on the country, however, for research studies involving human participants, review and approval by an IRB is non-negotiable. The history of IRBs is extensive. The World Medical Association (WMA) developed the Declaration of Helsinki in 1964 which details ethical standards for research involving human subjects, with the goal of protecting their rights and ensuring their welfare (World Medical Association, 2022). The research study by Chen et al. (2020) was conducted in China and did not require approval from the Chinese Ethics Committee, as it was an interview study. It did, however, get reviewed by the ethical committee of the hospital titled the “Ethical Committee of The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University”, and the procedures were found to be in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki (Chen et al., 2020).

2. Describe (based on selected research type)
 - a. **Qualitative article:** the purpose statement - or -
 - b. **Quantitative article:** the problem and purpose of the research

The purpose of this study was to investigate the experience of patients with secondary intention healing wounds as a result of thoracotomy incisions from thoracic drainage tubes (Chen et al., 2020). Secondary intention healing means that the wound is left open to heal versus primary intention healing in which the wound edges are approximated by sutures, staples, adhesive glue, or clips (McCaughan et al., 2018). Most wounds that heal by secondary intention are surgical related, with 39.9% of dehisced wounds after surgery healing this way (Chen et al., 2020). These types of wounds are often more complex to manage as they require dressing changes, resulting in prolonged healing times. It is reported that 11.3% to 22.27% of wounds that are a result of thoracic tube removal heal by secondary intention, yet there is limited research regarding the patient experience in these circumstances (Chen et al., 2020). Chen et al. (2020) explores this phenomenon to better understand the impact that delayed wound healing after the removal of a thoracic tube has on patients’ lives.

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3. Describe (based on selected research type)
 - a. **Qualitative article:** research design – or –
 - b. **Quantitative article:** the research questions

This article is a qualitative phenomenological study. There are several different qualitative research designs approaches. These include phenomenology, grounded theory, ethnography, exploratory-descriptive, and historical study (R. B. Turnbull, Jr. MD School of WOC Nursing Education, 2023). Phenomenology is the study of phenomena by exploration of the perspective of those who have experienced it (Neubauer et al., 2019). It revolves around the “what” and “how” of human experience (Neubauer et al., 2019). It is the study of a person’s lived experience within the world; this information can then be used to inform or change how we perceive and understand that phenomenon (Neubauer et al., 2019). In order to do this properly, the researcher must set aside his or her attitudes and beliefs in order to fully focus on the subjects’ experience. This type of research design is especially useful for health professionals looking to glean new insight about a particular phenomenon. What better way than to learn than from people who have experienced it first-hand? Chen et al. (2020) applies phenomenology to learn from patients living with a surgical wound healing by secondary intention, specifically wounds created after thoracotomy incisions.

4. Explain in your own words a summary of the literature review used in the selected article.

The majority of surgical wounds heal by primary intention (Chen et al., 2020). In some cases, however, such as when there is a risk of infection or if there is too much tissue loss, wounds are left open to heal (Chen et al., 2020). These often include surgical wounds or dehisced wounds. Studies show that 39.9% of dehisced wounds and 19% of abdominal surgical incision wounds following abdominal surgical tube removal heal by secondary intention (Chen et al., 2020). The percentage of wounds healed by secondary intention in patients with thoracotomy incisions from thoracic tube removal is between 11.3 and 22.27% (Chen et al., 2020). A study by Cerfolio et al. (2013) explored optimal techniques for thoracic tube removal after a thoracotomy. Additionally, Fu et al. (2019) confirmed that delayed healing of the wound inhibits overall recovery but is often overlooked. Little is known of the patients’ experience of secondary healing for this specific type of wound, which is slow to heal, and the impact it has on their lives. Chen et al. (2020) sought to focus less on how to heal the wound and more on the patients’ experiences and psychological changes.

5. Identify (based on selected research type)
 - a. **Qualitative:** the data collection method(s) – or –
 - b. **Quantitative:** the study design, including sample, setting, & data collection methods.

In order to be eligible for the study, participants were required to be a Chinese-speaking adult between the ages of 18 and 90 with a chest wound from thoracic drainage tube removal that healed by secondary intention (Chen et al., 2020). All participants were

patients at the same hospital and had their drainage tube removed prior to discharge and remaining sutures removed 14 days postoperatively (Chen et al., 2020). Chen et al. (2020) approached 15 eligible participants with the final sample group consisting of nine adults between the ages of 22 and 67, five of which were females and four males. Data was collected through semistructured interviews and open-ended questions which included: “What were the effects of delayed wound healing on your life? Could you talk about your current thoughts on this wound? What was the most significant impact you have encountered during hospitalization and wound healing process? Why was that?” (Chen et al., 2020, p. 125). Each interview was audio recorded, transcribed verbatim, and lasted between 30 and 45 minutes (Chen et al., 2020). Chen et al. (2020) also took note of the nonverbal behavior of each participant. To ensure the trustworthiness of the study’s findings, each interview was conducted in the same environment by the same researcher who asked the interview questions the same way each time (Chen et al., 2020).

6. Analyze (based on selected research type)
 - a. **Qualitative:** the results of the research study - or -
 - b. **Quantitative:** the data collection tool used; is the tool validated?

Chen et al. (2020) analyzed the data from the interviews using Colaizzi’s seven-step method of data analysis, which is frequently used in qualitative phenomenological research. From that data, they extracted three themes, each with two subthemes. The first major theme was “emotional stress response” with subthemes of “surprised” and “anxiety and uncertainty” (Chen et al., 2020). The second major theme was “increased disease burden” with subthemes of “economic burden” and “self-perceived burden” (Chen et al., 2020). The third and final major theme was “impaired social function” with subthemes of “lonely and frustrated in daily life” and “isolated at work” (Chen et al., 2020). They discovered that participants initially experienced alarm by the poor wound healing, especially those who felt that they had taken extra measures to care for their wound at home (Chen et al., 2020). This was associated with feelings of worry and uncertainty. Having to perform additional dressing changes to heal the wound burdened the patients, as some struggled with the extra transportation costs and hospital expenses (Chen et al., 2020). They also experienced a shattering of their expectations for what wound healing was going to look like, adding personal stress and worry of being a burden to their loved ones (Chen et al., 2020). Finally, delayed wound healing had a negative impact on participants’ social function, as they reported inability to work and being less willing to participate in social engagements (Chen et al., 2020).

7. Summarize (based on selected research type)
 - a. **Qualitative:** conclusions and implications for further research - or -
 - b. **Quantitative:** study results, including strengths & limitations.

The data suggests that psychosocial effects are indeed a consequence of prolonged wound healing after removal of a thoracic chest tube. This also resulted in impaired social function. While it is not a new finding that wounds have an impact on physical

functioning, the psychosocial aspect is one that should be more closely considered. Slow or problematic wound healing can trigger emotional distress. The subsequent psychological stress, however, can have a further negatively impact wound healing by disrupting the immune system and other biological responses (Chen et al., 2020). This results in a vicious circle between poor wound healing and a negative emotional state in the patient. It is important to note that there are sometimes unavoidable factors that may cause delayed wound healing after removal of a thoracic drainage tube such as infection, material of tube, and poor suture technique (Chen et al., 2020). These findings implicate the need to provide better education to patients on what to expect, how to prevent complications, and techniques for managing emotional stress if they do experience a delay in the healing process (Chen et al., 2020). In my opinion, this would be beneficial for all individuals experiencing wound healing by secondary intention.

8. Discuss why is this research important to the body of WOC nursing knowledge

This research is important to the body of WOC nursing knowledge because it explores the relationship between wound healing and psychosocial factors. Patients with wound, ostomy, and continence needs often experience social and psychological stress. I have witnessed this first-hand while caring for patients with newly created ostomies or wounds following a devastating and unexpected event. Patients with chronic conditions may experience similar emotions as well. While every person is different and can experience varying degrees of stress, any amount can be a detriment to his or her healing and functioning. WOC nurses should be cognizant of this. Integrity, leadership, and knowledge are the core values that guide the practice of the WOC nurse (Murphree & Jaszarowski, 2021). They provide clinical expertise for medical phenomena but while doing so, also address psychosocial needs. They should strive to take a holistic approach in the treatment of a patient, being mindful of all aspects of well-being. By considering the whole patient, both body and mind, the WOC nurse can best optimize the healing journey.

9. Use APA format to list your references for this assignment:

- Cerfolio, R. J., Bryant, A. S., Skylizard, L., & Minnich, D. J. (2013). Optimal technique for the removal of chest tubes after pulmonary resection. *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, 145(6), 1535–1539. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtcvs.2013.02.007>
- Chen, Y., Wang, X., Ding, W., Wu, L., & Zhao, X. (2020). Perceptions and life experiences of patients with wound healing by secondary intention after the removal of thoracic drainage tube: A qualitative study. *Journal of Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing*, 47(2), 124–127. <https://doi.org/10.1097/WON.0000000000000617>
- Fu, R., Zhang, J. T., Dong, S., Chen, Y., Zhang, C., Tang, W. F., Xia, J., Nie, Q., & Zhong, W. Z. (2019). Drainage tube hole suture improvement: Removal-free stitches. *Thoracic Cancer*, 10(9), 1827–1833. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1759-7714.13157>
- Grady C. (2015). Institutional review boards: Purpose and challenges. *Chest*, 148(5), 1148–1155. <https://doi.org/10.1378/chest.15-0706>

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McCaughan, D., Sheard, L., Cullum, N., Dumville, J., & Chetter, I. (2018). Patients' perceptions and experiences of living with a surgical wound healing by secondary intention: A qualitative study. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 77, 29–38.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2017.09.015>

Murphree, R.W., & Jaszarowski, K. (2021). Professional practice for wound, ostomy, and continence nursing. In L.L. McNichol, C.R. Ratliff, & S.S. Yates (Eds.), *Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society core curriculum: Wound management* (2nd ed). Wolters Kluwer.

Neubauer, B. E., Witkop, C. T., & Varpio, L. (2019). How phenomenology can help us learn from the experiences of others. *Perspectives on Medical Education*, 8(2), 90–97. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40037-019-0509-2>

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