

Understanding Research Articles/ Cleveland Clinic WOC Nursing Education

Name of student: _____ **Mindy Wong** _____

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.

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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.

The research article, *Perceptions and Life Experiences of Patients with Wound Healing by Secondary Intention After the Removal of Thoracic Drainage Tubing*, caught my attention as I felt the study pertained to my current work environment. I currently work in a post-surgical complex unit, which we take care of patients that have/had complicated surgical procedures/surgeries and need to be hospitalized for longer admission. The patient population typically entails multiple surgical drains post-surgery, especially chest tubes and drains. As much as we would like to think that patients discharge home with minimal complications and proper patient education on wound care, we don't consider the psychological consequences or potential complications it can impede after discharge, "experience an emotional stress reaction, increased psychological and economic burden, and impaired social function." (Chen et al, 2020). Patients are often taught at bedside about proper dressing changes, hygiene, and how to manage the wound once they are home. At times, depending on the severity of the wound, home health services are assigned to help assist with wound care. And upon discharge, nurses provide one last patient education session regarding wound care instructions, and for signs/symptoms of infection. It was informative to discover that despite efforts in proper education while in the hospital setting, patients still encounter and experience difficulties in their recovery period, "Research on physician-nurse collaboration models to enhance education is needed to address these emotionally burdensome patient experiences during the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative periods to prevent poor wound healing after drainage tube removal." (Chen et al, 2020).

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

In order to determine whether the research article is considered qualitative or quantitative, an article needs to be able to satisfy the conditions that would identify which category the research falls into. Qualitative research, "...gathers participants' experiences, perceptions, and behavior. It answers the hows and whys instead of how many or how much." (Tenney et al, 2022). Looking for certain patterns and similarities amongst data, the research further investigates and expands the data collected, explaining the processes and behaviors. In this article, the research study explains their "goals to explore psychological changes during the wound healing process after drainage tube removal and to provide new ideas and methods for health education for our patients." (Chen et al, 2020). The data collected shows that the interviews focused on the emotional aspect of the patients, "reading and reflecting until comprehensive understanding was achieved, identifying significant statements and emerging meanings/themes, and arriving at consistent and coherent interpretations by resolving differences..." (Chen et al, 2020). The study continues to

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explain the process in categorizing and identifying certain themes that were obtained by analyzing the patient's responses to open-ended questions. However, with that being said, the research study also indicated throughout the article in which the authors identify the research as a qualitative study..

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.

Informed consent would be considered a very important component of the research because it acknowledges that the participants involved were not coerced or deceived in any way. The results would be considered genuine in nature, "The purpose of informed consent is intended to protect the subject's well-being throughout the trial/research by ensuring that a person understands the nature, purpose and risks involved in giving a biological sample or undergoing a medical intervention." (Mandal, J., Parija, S. C., 2014). For the consent to be valid, the participating subject/patient must be voluntary, and be able to have the intellectual and emotional capabilities to make complex decisions. In addition, information needs to be provided and full disclosure in terms of the nature and purpose or reason for the study. Lastly, "For a subject to be considered being capable of making healthcare decision, he/she must be able to appreciate his/her situation realistically." (Mandal, J., Parija, S.C., 2014) . As for the research, "The Chinese national policy and law provide exclusion of interview studies since these do not involve biological material.....our study procedures were reviewed by the Ethical Committee of The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University and found to comply with ethical guidelines for biomedical research ethics...."(Chen et al, 2020). Because the research occurred outside of the United States, it was reviewed by a different entity under their country's ethics committee.

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 statement of the research, "to explore the perceptions and experiences of patients with wound healing by secondary intention after the removal of a thoracic drainage tube." (Chen et al, 2020). Because few studies are found to show what impacts on patients have from drainage tube wounds by secondary intention, the purpose of this study is to look and explore for new ideas and methods that would help aid in

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better patient care and education. This would assist in providing some guidance and help when patients are discharged home to monitor for any complications or signs/symptoms during wound healing.

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

The research design of the study was a qualitative phenomenological study, intended to learn about the impact on the patients' perceptions and life experiences of wound healing by secondary intention. Even though there are several reports on the patient's experience and living conditions with chronic wounds, little is known about the effects from drainage tube wounds post surgery, and how it impacts their emotional and social wellbeing. By conducting interviews using an open and reflective approach, the patients are encouraged to describe to obtain a deeper understanding of their perspective and what they were going through. The questions utilized were open-ended questions meant to help further explore the patient's responses and the changes they experienced.

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

The article was an exploration of emotional and psychological impacts patients experienced after a surgical drain tube was removed. Little is known about the types of experiences encountered when patients are discharged home with a wound. In order to obtain substantial information and data, a group of individuals ranging from 18 years of age to 90 years of age, who had a chest wound after the removal of a thoracic surgical drain tube, were interviewed by the same interviewer. They were asked to explain the impacts they encountered about how they felt about the wound, and the effects taken in their lives during the delayed wound healing process. The data obtained by the interviews showed a common theme, "emotional stress response(perceptions), increased disease burden (perceptions), and impaired social function (life experiences)." (Chen et al, 2020). Each theme went into detail, expressing surprise and anxiety about the wound, and the economic and social burdens experienced. In addition, many indicated feeling isolated and frustrated socially because of having to remain at home, or the inability to work due to limiting physical abilities. The stress and uncertainty about the wound were found to even delay the healing process, "disrupts immune functions, alters early wound repair, and prolongs the inflammatory phase of healing, resulting in impaired wound healing." (Chen et al, 2020). Thus, the study was one of the first studies to explore the perceptions and experiences of the patients, and instrumental in addressing the need for more patient education to promote better wound healing.

5. Identify (based on selected research type)

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- a. **Qualitative:** the data collection method(s) – or –
- b. **Quantitative:** the study design, including sample, setting, & data collection methods.

The data collection method entailed interviewing the participants with open-ended questions that were digitally recorded and then transcribed. In order to obtain accurate and valid data, the same person was conducting the same questions to the patient. “Measures to ensure trustworthiness included maintaining consistency of interview technique during all interviews, conducting the interviews in the same environment (clinic room), and all interviews were conducted by the same researcher who asked the questions/probes in the same way.” (Chen et al, 2020). Patients were screened for hearing and/or vision impairments, psychological disorders, their willingness to share and participate in the research, and their literacy capabilities. The intention, “to capture the central elements of emotional changes and feelings of this group of patients,”(Chen et al, 2020). The research was performed according to the Colaizzi’s 7-step procedure: read the interview data, extract the significant statements that pertain to the research, create meaning to the information obtained, categorizing the data into common themes, develop a structure to the research, formulating a description of the phenomenon, and validating the findings through feedback from team members.

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?

From the information obtained through the interviews, three major themes with 6 subthemes were composed. The first major theme involved the emotional stress response of the participants. It was discovered that the participants experienced an emotional change and response when it was found that the wound was not healing once the sutures were removed. This caused the participants to experience two emotional states, categorized as subthemes: surprised, and uncertainty/anxiety. Patients were confused and surprised when the wounds they had were not healing as expected despite caring and tending to their wounds meticulously. And because the wounds were not healing as quickly or as well as they expected, patients began questioning ‘why’, leaving them in the world of the unknown. The second major theme involved an increased disease burden, which was further described in two subthemes: economic burden and self-perceived burden. Having to tend to the wound with multiple dressing changes created a financial burden to the patients because of expenses with supplies, and/or transportation costs having to travel to and from their homes to the clinics. And with some patients living in rural areas, the costs would be an additional burden on them and their families. Their self-perceived burden created frustration for the patients as they felt their family members had to sacrifice time and energy to help assist them. The frustration was also found because the patients were not expecting to have a wound to tend to after their sutures were removed, thus creating a new problem for them post-operation. The third major theme left the patients feeling an impaired social function. The patients found the healing process: lonely and frustrated, and isolated at work. Because of the poor healing, the patients felt isolated, having to stay indoors and not socialize with others. Not only did they feel isolated socially, but also at work. The wounds may have been affecting their income by limiting their mobility, having to constantly change wound dressings, or even preventing them from doing their job. “These findings

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suggest the need to both address emotional needs of patients and follow strict infection prevention guidelines prior to and following surgical procedures.” (Chen et al, 2020). With better patient education and infection control protocols could in fact better improve wound healing experience.

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

Based on the findings from the research, providing better patient education would be beneficial to the patients, lessening the burdens perceived when they are at home. This would allow them to be better prepared for any complications they may encounter and what to look out for. “Educating patients to ease their emotional stress prior to tube removal via health education plan is needed to prevent and promote wound healing.” (Chen et al, 2020). Proper education would help lessen the anxiety and the emotional stress of having to take care of their wounds, and guidance on how to properly maintain their healing progress. By promoting wound care education, it would allow for improved healing time with minimal complications, leading to less emotional stress. And by improving wound healing time, this would lessen the need for extra supplies and travel to the clinics for wound dressing treatments. The overall time period for the wound healing would allow for the patients to experience less emotional stress because they would have the knowledge to maintain and care for their wound, having less of an impact on taking time off work, being able to socialize again sooner, and knowing how to care for themselves properly.

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

This research is important to the body of WOC because the study provides feedback on the experiences of patients having to deal with wound healing after a surgical tube is removed. We often do not consider the mental, emotional, and social aspects of a person’s life after they are discharged from a hospital with a wound to maintain. As a health professional, we forget how ‘frightening’ or frustrating wound care can be for those that do not have a medical background, thereby not knowing where to even begin caring for themselves. We assume patients can grasp

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the concepts of wound care because it was done during their admission after the tube is removed. Especially if the patient has limited mobility or dexterity, often this can further hinder the healing process and cause even more burdens and complications to the patient, and even for their family members. It is important to also consider the ability to comprehend wound care when the patients are elderly, with underlying health complications, or mental disabilities. By providing well patient education prior to surgery, and after, we can assist in improving wound healing time, and lighten the burdens experienced by the patients.

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

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. *Journal of Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing*, 47(2), pgs. 124-127

Tenny, S., Brannan, J. M., Brannan, G.D. Qualitative Study. [Updated 2022 Sep 18]. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing, (Jan 2023). <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK470395/>

Mandal J, Parija SC. Informed consent and research. *Trop Parasitol.* (July 2014), 4(2), pgs.78-79. <https://doi.org/10.4103/2229-5070.138533>. PMID: 25250226; PMCID: PMC4166807.