

Understanding Research Articles/ Cleveland Clinic WOC Nursing Education

Name of student: _____ Samantha Kowalczyk _____

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.

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 decided to choose the qualitative article by Chen et al., (2020), as I believe in my current role as a home health nurse, it has more application to my current patient population. I often work with many patients who return home with open surgical wounds and require extensive education on proper management of ordered dressing changes, infection control, and signs and symptoms to report to the RN or MD. Too often, I have realized the main focus is on wound management itself, while the mental and emotional distress it can cause the patient is overlooked. This is what turned my attention to this article, as I always try to empathize with my patients and understand other aspects that may be affected in their lives due to the current complication within their disease process. The patient should be viewed in a holistic approach, to ensure the psychological wellbeing is also being addressed. The mental and physical health of the patient is correlated, which may delay the healing process by triggering negative responses within the immune system functionality (Chen et al., 2020). Therefore, education in coping mechanisms, relaxation techniques, and proper referrals to other

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interdisciplinary team members may benefit the patient to develop a more individualized plan of care to manage both physical and psychological needs.

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

I was able to determine this research article is qualitative due to it being stated in the article title. While this may have been an obvious give away, there are many other aspects within the article to determine its' qualitative nature. There is also mention of personal experiences and insights, which is described as a phenomenological research study. This type of study takes thoughts, feelings and experiences of participants to determine generalized conclusions about the research topic (Dovetail Editorial Team, 2023). In the study by Chen et al. (2020), generating themes and subthemes between the participants' responses aided to generate the conclusions. Furthermore, the researchers utilized the Colaizzi's 7-step procedure to decode the research data to ensure accuracy (Chen et al., 2020). This concept describes objectivity within qualitative research, which is important as the researcher is able to correctly describe the participant's thoughts, feelings, and experiences, while limiting the potential of bias and ensure the experiences are being perceived as the participants intend. Learning about the personal experiences of these patients was researched by presenting predetermined open-ended questions, in recorded interviews, conducted by the same person (Chen et al., 2020), which are also characteristic of qualitative research. The information obtained from the participants is subjective, which means the participants in the study state and provide the information directly. In sum, this is how I determined this study to be a qualitative article.

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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.

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) is an important part in research studies. The role of the IRB is to protect the rights of the participants in the study to make sure they are aware any risks that may be present, strictly follow mandated regulations and policies, and comply with ethical standards (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, n.d.). Informed consent is another component of research studies, that inform the participants about the study, any risks that may be involved, and that participation is solely the participants' decision without any type of bribery or persuasion (University of Oxford, 2021). This overall provides the participants with autonomy.

In this research article, the researchers did not have to obtain approval from the Chinese Ethics Committee, as the study did not involve biological products (Chen et al., 2020). This is China's clinical review body name, as ours would be the IRB in the United States. Biological material may include microorganisms, cells, and tissues of humans or animals (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, 2022). Although the research did not require approval from the Chinese Ethics Committee, the researchers still obtained approval on research methods by the Ethical Committee of The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University (Chen et al., 2020). This supports and protects the rights of the participants, as it is in compliance with the Declaration of Helsinki. This declaration provides the objectives of ethical principals that researchers follow, as they keep the participants best interest in mind, with the benefits outweighing the risk of both the participants, as well as the research itself (World Medical Association, 2022).

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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 this research study is to determine the emotional impact and experiences of patients recovering with secondary wound infection, specifically following removal of a thoracic drainage tube, in order to determine supporting education to help patient cope more effectively (Chen et al., 2020). Chen et al, 2020 mentions there is extensive research on psychological impact on chronically healing wounds, but there is not enough data on the psychological affect of an acute wound, which may be complicated by a secondary wound infection. By studying how patients' status-post removal of thoracic drainage tubes experiences their wound recovery, there is the potential to prevent or minimize the psychological distress that patients encounter. With this knowledge, it may lessen the negative physiological responses that may hinder the healing process, which may in turn improve the overall healing process. Also, if researchers are knowledgeable on what the patient is feeling following the drainage tube removal, the patient could be pre-educated on specific topics, which may include but is not limited to, potential complications, physical appearance, financial resources, and estimate on length of recovery period. Not only could this benefit the patient, but also the health care teams, as these are the professionals that will be educating on these areas of concern.

3. Describe (based on selected research type)

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- a. **Qualitative article:** research design – or –
- b. **Quantitative article:** the research questions

The interviewer presented the research questions utilized in this article to the study participants via a phenomenological approach. The research questions presented in Chen et al.'s (2020) study include the following:

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?

(p. 125).

The questions were asked in a way so that the participants were able to respond freely, allowing the researchers to analyze the data to generate themes and subthemes. If the questions were presented as close-ended questions, the participants would not be able to accurately describe and depict their experiences, which would contradict the purpose of the study. These questions are not only asked to each participant, but must be presented in the same way to limit the possibility of confounding variables to alter responses and therefore the data obtained. These questions help formulate data to provide an answer to the purpose statement.

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

This article used a total of 22 references. The researchers in Chen et al.'s (2020) article used a source from the Cochrane database, which is a highly reputable database with systematic reviews of current evidenced-based practice research (Cochrane Library, n.d.). This is trustworthy research, as systematic reviews are considered level-one evidence, which is known to be the

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strongest type of evidence available (R. B. Turnbull, Jr. MD School of WOC Nursing Education, 2022). The literature used also includes qualitative research articles about secondary wound infection healing processes on different populations with different disease processes, such as surgical wounds and venous ulcers. Although qualitative research is considered level-six evidence (R. B. Turnbull, Jr. MD School of WOC Nursing Education, 2022.), it is important research to include as it provides support to the purpose of the research, which demonstrates there is lack of qualitative studies demonstrating psychological impact of patients following removal of thoracic drainage tubes and secondary wound infections. One reference is a prospective cohort study, which is considered level-two evidence (R. B. Turnbull, Jr. MD School of WOC Nursing Education, 2022). which is also reputable research. Overall, the date of research used dates back to 2007, which demonstrates that most of the research found is within a timely manner, so that research is not outdated when compared to the results found from this study completed in 2020. In sum, the literature used is reliable for supporting evidence for this research article.

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.

The data collection method used by Chen et al., (2020), included patients discharged from the Outpatient Department of Wound, Ostomy, and Incontinence of The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University. The population in which the data was collected from had inclusion and exclusion criteria, which adds validity to the study. The specific data collection method used in this

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study was semi-structured interviews. Semi-structured interviews are commonly used in qualitative studies in order to obtain fully detailed responses in which conclusions can be derived. The questions are known as open-ended questions that were already prepared prior to the interview, which are listed in response to question number three. In addition, semi-structured interviews allow for probing, which can be described as asking questions to receive best information to support the study, while keeping the participants on topic and directed toward the question being asked (Delve, n.d.). The data collection method also included recording the interviews and observation of the participants (Chen et al., 2020). Recording the responses of the interviews helps ensure the wrong information is not documented if it was missed in the initial interview. Observation of the participants' reactions and body language helped provide more detail into the responses provided. Lastly, the data collection was complete once saturation was achieved, which ensures that no further information could be obtained that has not already been stated by the interviewee (Busetto 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?

The results of this research study were summarized by use of three themes, each with two subthemes to further support and describe the major theme. The first theme demonstrated how each participant emotionally responded to the length of recovery and understanding the wound was not yet healed. The emotional responses were generalized by being surprised and experiencing anxiety (Chen et al., 2020). The second theme was in relation to how the participants' wound healing was affecting their own thoughts on their lives overall. The subthemes to support theme two included financial struggles the cost of treatment caused, as well as the physical

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and emotional toll they believed they were causing on their loved ones, who were helping provide care for the wound treatment (Chen et al., 2020). The third theme explained the negative impact the wound healing process had on their social lives. The subthemes demonstrated social isolation the participants felt both with family and friends, as well as within their careers (Chen et al., 2020). Overall, this data collection was able to demonstrate findings to the purpose statement by use of a phenomenological approach. Participants were able to effectively explain their psychological experiences and perceptions, which can be used by future health care team members to holistically improve patients' plan of care and recovery process.

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

The results of this research study demonstrate that although patients were dealing with a physiological complication within their disease process, it also caused a psychological disruption. It seemed as though these patients were burdened with many unanswered questions, which seemed to spiral into negative perceptions about themselves, their social lives, and wondering if life will ever regain normalcy. Not only did the researchers mention the psychological findings of the study in the discussion, but also mentioned the major causes of secondary wound infections, which may be due to faulty infection control techniques intra-operatively by health care professionals (Chen et al., 2020). This is important to note because proper regulations of infection control should be strictly followed to help prevent further psychological damage to patients. Even if regulations are strictly followed, there is still the risk of patients experiencing psychological distress. Therefore, based on the results of this study, future research could include

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qualitative or quantitative research on patients being educated pre-operatively on psychological complications that may arise, how to effectively cope and manage the emotional responses, and get proper referrals onto the plan of care from the beginning, such as a medical social worker, therapist/counselor, or resources to support groups. If these factors are addressed at the beginning, the outcomes could be researched to determine if there was a more positive impact with proper education and support.

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

As a registered nurse, one of my main goals is to always get to know my patient holistically in order to provide the best possible care that I can. Not only should I know my patient from a physical and medical perspective, but also psychologically, spiritually, and culturally. This explains why this research is important to the body of WOC nursing knowledge. If there is research to demonstrate how patients are feeling following a specific procedure and complication, I will be able to apply this knowledge into practice to ensure the patient is receiving adequate treatment from all perspectives within the plan of care. This would be a proactive approach in trying to prevent negative experiences patients may encounter before they arise. This could be achieved by properly educating patients on how they can adequately cope, what to expect, and potential complications that may arise. Overall, the goal of a WOC nurse is always to achieve optimal outcomes with support of evidence-based practices and current research (Lawrence et al., 2018).

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

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Please see next page for reference list

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