

Abstract

Project title: Hemodialysis and spirituality: Exploring the spiritual expectations of dialysis patients and the responses of caregivers and other professionals at the CHUV Dialysis Centre.

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Type of research: exploratory. **Risk category:** A. **Method:** qualitative.

Background: In Switzerland, the understanding of hemodialysis patients' spiritual expectations is limited, which hampers our ability to formulate appropriate spiritual care recommendations for health professionals in this field. This study proposes to fill this gap by exploring the spiritual expectations of patients at the CHUV Nephrology dialysis centre.

Purpose: We hope to uncover key knowledge to determine which type of spiritual care would be best suited to a nephrology dialysis centre.

Inclusion criteria: Hemodialysis patients. **Exclusion criteria:** Refusal to participate; somatic and psychological instability; inability to give free and informed consent; language barriers (patients must be able to express themselves in and understand French).

Data collection procedure: Semi-structured interviews of hemodialysis patients, based on the SPIR and HOPE instruments. Patients will be interviewed after their dialysis session in an office provided by the CHUV Dialysis Centre.

Data analysis: Content analysis using NVivo software to analyze and understand data related to patients' spiritual expectations.

Number of participants: Reasoned sample of 50 participants.

Project duration: 14 months. **Project location:** Dialysis Centre, Nephrology Department, CHUV (Lausanne).

Risk-benefit statement: If a participant experiences unease or any unpleasant / negative reaction during interview, the research collaborator, a clinical psychologist, will offer psychological support or refer the participant to a resource person. Some patients may also benefit from renewed care as a result of the project implementation.