Fascicula
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IMPLICATIONS OF CAUSAL ATTRIBUTION FOR PATIENTS DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER

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Abstract

Causal-attributions focuses on the human need to understand, give meaning to, and ascribe causation to unexpected and unfortunate life events. Cancer is a stressful event that affects not only interpersonal relationships, but the ways to explain and experience life. The aim of this study was to evaluate the causal attributions for different type of cancer and their implications in the subsequent psychological and psychopathological manifestations related to cancer. At this study participate a sample of 120 patients with different type of cancer, aged between 36 to 70 years old. The following instruments were used: Beck Depression Inventory, Attributional Style Questionnaire, Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support, Current Thoughts Scale, Satisfaction With Life Scale. The study contributes to the expansion and application of learned helplesness theory in psycho-oncology and, in addition, underline psychopathological mechanisms that occurs during the disease.

Keywords: *cancer, causal atribution, depression, social support*

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