

Abstract

The aim of the study was to compare the health locus of control, altruism and meaning in life among cancer patients and normal people. Survey research design was used to collect data from the participants. A total number of 120 participants were selected for the study through purposive and convenient sampling technique. The participants were divided into two groups 60 normal (male =30, female =30) and 60 cancer patients (male with lung cancer =30, female with breast cancer). Data was collected on the research variables through the administration of Multidimensional Health Locus of Control (MHCL) (Wallston, Wallston, & Devellis, 1978), God's Locus of Health Control (Wallston, Malcarn, Flores, Hansdottir, Smith, & Stein, et al., 1999). Altruistic Personality and Self Reported Altruism Scale (Rushton, Chrisjohn, & Fekken, 1981), and Meaning in life scale (Rasheed, & Kausar, 2013). Data analysis included descriptive statistics, analysis of variance, multivariate analysis of variance, and linear regression. The results of the present study suggested that patients with cancer have more external health locus of control and normal people have more internally oriented health locus of control. Altruism was also different among patients with cancer and normal people as patients with cancer were more altruistic as compare to the normal people. Patients and normal people were also different in term of having meaning in life as normal people have more meaning in life and patients with cancer have low level of meaning in life.

Keywords: Health locus of control, altruism, meaning in life, normal people, lung cancer, breast cancer.