

Influence of Perceived Control on Health Outcomes in Chronic Disease Patients

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Introduction Clarity and Context: In the introduction, the authors state, "Perceived control defined as an individual's belief in their ability to influence events and outcomes in their lives has been extensively studied in the context of health psychology." It would be beneficial to provide a more detailed overview of the historical context and the evolution of the concept of perceived control in health psychology to set a clearer foundation for the study.

Theoretical Saturation: The concept of theoretical saturation is crucial in qualitative research. In the Methods section, it states, "Data collection continued until theoretical saturation was achieved." Please provide more information on how saturation was determined, including specific indicators used to ascertain that saturation had been reached.

Behavioral Impact of Perceived Control: Under the theme "Health-Related Behaviors," it states, "When I feel on top of things I stick to my medication and diet better." Clarify the types of medication adherence and diet management strategies participants used and how these strategies were linked to their perceived control.

Health Monitoring Practices: The study mentions, "Regular check-ups, self-monitoring practices, and tracking symptoms were common among those with a strong sense of control." Please provide more detailed descriptions of these health monitoring practices and any specific tools or methods participants used to track their health.

Decision-Making in Health Management: The theme of decision-making includes "Involvement in treatment choices, seeking information, evaluating options." It would be useful to provide specific examples of how participants engaged in these decision-making processes and the types of information they sought.

Social Impact of Perceived Control: In the findings, under "Support Networks," it is mentioned, "Family support, friends' involvement, and community resources were essential." More detailed descriptions of the types of support participants received and how these supports were perceived to enhance their control would be valuable. Include more direct quotes from participants to illustrate these points.

Communication with Healthcare Providers: The study states, "Open dialogue, trust in healthcare providers, and satisfaction with care were significant factors." Please provide specific examples of how participants communicated with their healthcare providers and how this communication influenced their perceived control.

Role of Caregivers: The role of caregivers is mentioned, but there is little detail on how caregivers' involvement specifically influenced participants' perceived control. Include more detailed accounts of caregiver-patient interactions and how these interactions impacted the participants' health management.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Sample Representation: The Methods section mentions, "Participants were selected through purposive sampling to ensure a diverse representation of individuals with various chronic diseases." However, there is no detailed explanation of the demographic criteria used for selection. Please provide specific inclusion and exclusion criteria and demographic characteristics that were considered to ensure diversity.

Use of NVivo Software: While NVivo software is mentioned for data analysis, there is no detailed explanation of the specific functions and coding procedures used. Please elaborate on how NVivo was utilized in the thematic analysis process, including any specific coding frameworks or tools within NVivo that were employed.

Psychological Impact of Perceived Control: In the findings, the theme of emotional well-being is discussed, with a quote: "When I feel like I have control over my health my stress levels drop significantly. I don't feel as overwhelmed." It would enhance the credibility of the findings to provide more context on how participants described their emotional well-being and to include additional direct quotes to support this theme.

Self-Efficacy and Goal Setting: The theme of self-efficacy includes concepts such as "Belief in abilities" and "Goal setting." The authors should provide more detailed descriptions of how these concepts were operationalized and measured in the study. Additionally, include examples of specific goals participants set and how these goals influenced their health behaviors.

Coping Mechanisms: In discussing coping mechanisms, it is stated, "I find talking to friends and using relaxation techniques helps me manage better." It would be beneficial to provide a more comprehensive overview of the types of coping strategies participants employed and how these strategies were developed and maintained over time.

Quality of Life: The theme of quality of life mentions "daily functioning, life satisfaction, and social interactions." Please provide specific examples of how perceived control influenced these aspects of quality of life and include additional participant quotes to support these findings.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.