

CareSearch Project		0067
Research Studies Register: Registration Proforma		
Study Title: Life threatening cancer across the lifespan: Examining the relevance of music to patients and their companions.		
<p>Brief description of the study: Two grounded theory informed studies on adults touched by cancer, including those living with a diagnosis, and those caring for someone with a diagnosis.</p> <p>Background: The emergence of biomedical treatment models in industrialized Western societies arguably displaced music's significance in health care over the past two centuries. Their limitations, however, are especially apparent in palliative care, prompting music therapists to develop methods to help those encountering life-threatening conditions over the past 30 years. Curiously, while evidence from a limited number of randomized controlled trials and interpretive studies support music therapy in palliative care for patients, families, visitors, and staff (Cassileth, Vickers, & Magill, 2003; Dileo & Loewy, 2005; Hilliard, 2005, Horne-Thompson & Grocke, 2008, O'Callaghan & Magill, in press), the discipline emerged even though no one had investigated how music (without therapists) was already being used by palliative care patients and their families. Canadian research examining 292 adult cancer outpatients' coping strategies found that music was the second most common self care strategy used (Zaza, Sellick & Hillier, 2005). Further understanding of how cancer patients and their companions (families and carers) find music helpful (or not) is needed.</p> <p>Methodology: People, aged over 25 years, who are diagnosed with life threatening cancer, and their companions, are being invited to complete a short structured Music Demographic Questionnaire and experience an audio-recorded open ended interview. Relevant media and electronic sources (print, audio, film, internet) will also be included as data. The interviews will inquire about the relevance of music in participants' lives. Relevant data will be analysed according to the comparative analysis method (Corbin & Strauss, 2008) to identify representative themes, and qualitative inter-rater reliability will be included.</p> <p>Further understandings of music's role in cancer experiences should inform: (a) health carers' knowledge of the intuitive ways that patients and companions support and sustain themselves through advanced cancer treatment, palliative care, and bereavement; (b) patients and companions' knowledge about how others affected by cancer use music, which may inspire their own music usage; and (c) recommendations for providing sensitive and appropriate music based support services in relevant clinical settings.</p>		
Study Methodology: (Please mark with an x which type of study methodology)		
	Epidemiology	
	Health Services / Health Economics / Quality Improvement	
X	Qualitative, Observational or Descriptive	
	Mixed Method	
	Systematic Review	
	Intervention: RCT	

	Intervention: Comparative or cohort study					
	Intervention: Case series					
Project details:						
Funding source (Optional): NHMRC Palliative Care Post Doctoral Fellowship						
Has the study received ethics approval?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable
Project starting date: early 2008						
Project completion date: end 2009						
Multi site:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable
RESEARCHERS						
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Investigator B (Name)	Prof John Zalcborg					
Investigator C (Name)	Dr Fiona McDermott					
Investigator D (Name)	A/Prof Peter Hudson					
Investigator E (Name)						
Associated publications / reports:						
O'Callaghan, C., & McDermott, F. (2007). Discourse analysis reframes oncology music therapy research findings. <i>Arts in Psychotherapy</i> , 34, 398-408.						
O'Callaghan, C., & Hiscock, R. (2007). Interpretative subgroup analysis extends modified grounded theory research findings in oncologic music therapy. <i>Journal of Music Therapy</i> , 44(3), 256-81.						
O'Callaghan, C. (2005). Qualitative data-mining through reflexive journal analysis: Implications for music therapy practice development. <i>Journal of Social Work Research and Evaluation</i> , 6(2), 219-231.						
O'Callaghan, C., & McDermott, F. (2004). Music therapy's relevance in a cancer hospital researched through a constructivist lens. <i>Journal of Music Therapy</i> , 41(2), 151-185.						
O'Callaghan, C. (2001). Bringing music to life: A study of music therapy and palliative care experiences in a cancer hospital. <i>Journal of Palliative Care</i> , 17(3), 155-160.						
Topics (Admin only) Complementary Therapists						