

ABSTRACT

SYMPTOMATOLOGY AND SELF-CARE PRACTICES RELATED TO QUALITY OF LIFE IN PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS

The purpose of this study, via secondary analysis, was to determine the relationships among reported symptoms (i.e., anxiety, depression, and fatigue), the use of self-care practices (i.e., complementary and alternative medicine, activities/thoughts, exercise, and medications), and health-related quality of life (HRQOL) in persons with HIV/AIDS. A descriptive design was used to obtain information from 372 HIV-infected subjects in an outpatient clinic in southeast Texas. Participants completed a sociodemographic data form, Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale (CES-D), Living With HIV/AIDS Scale (LIV), Revised Sign and Symptom Check-List for HIV (SSC-HIV rev), and Self-Care Symptom Management for People Living With HIV/AIDS (SSM). There was a positive relationship between gender with both anxiety and depression although ethnicity was negatively correlated with these variables. There was also a significant positive relationship between depression and HRQOL and a negative correlation between fatigue and HRQOL.

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