

Abstract Form

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Title of abstract: Cancer and palliative care nurses experiences of caring for Chinese migrants with cancer pain

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Background: Chinese migrant cancer patients living in Australia experienced persistent pain. Cancer and palliative care nurses play an important role in cancer pain management. Exploring their experiences of caring for Chinese migrants with cancer pain may provide helpful insights into strengthening culturally appropriate strategies to improve pain management for this population.

Aims: To explore cancer and palliative care nurses' experiences of caring for Chinese migrants with cancer pain.

Method: A cross-sectional survey was undertaken over 12 months (May 2017 - 2018). Convenience sampling and snowball technique were used to recruit cancer and palliative care nurses from seven study sites in Sydney. Participants were also recruited via three Australian cancer-palliative care peak bodies and a series of national cancer-palliative care conferences, seminars, and institutional research or education meetings. A data analysis plan and codebook was developed to ensure rigorous data analysis. Quantitative items were analyzed using descriptive statistics; while free text responses were coded in NVivo 11 and subjected to thematic content analysis.

Results: 133 RNs from 47 cancer/palliative care services completed the survey. Nearly all (92%) perceived that culture shaped Chinese cancer patients' pain management needs. Following cultural differences were highlighted: preference

for Chinese medicine; dependence on family in decision-making; focus on active treatment even when dying; difficulties describing pain and accessing interpreter services.

Implications that impact on your project: The suggested strategies to improve quality of cancer pain management for Chinese migrant cancer patients included: culturally-appropriate education delivered in Mandarin or Cantonese that encourages help-seeking for pain; greater access to interpreters; and strengthening health professionals' understanding of Chinese cultural beliefs and medicine and how these impact on pain management.