

BELIEFS ABOUT PAIN CONTROL AND PAIN COPING STRATEGIES IN PATIENTS WITH LUNG CANCER - PRELIMINARY REPORT.

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Currently there is a tendency for appreciation of psycho-emotional state of patients and their strategies for coping with disease. **Aim:** The analysis of the strategies of coping with pain according to the pain control in the patients with lung cancer(LC).

Methods:The Beliefs About Pain Control Questionnaire(*BPCQ*), Pain Coping Strategies Questionnaire(*CSQ*) and Visual Analogue Scale(*VAS*) were used in the study.

Results. Patients with LC most often preferred the belief of „through doctors” (16.12±4.19), less often the belief of „internal factors” (14.07±3.85), and least often – the belief of “chance events” (13.54±3.85). The pain intensity correlated with the beliefs about pain control: positively with the belief of „through doctors”: the stronger the pain the stronger the belief; and negatively with the belief of “chance events”: the stronger the pain the weaker the belief($p<0.05$). The correlation analysis between the beliefs about pain control and strategies for coping with pain was performed with the usage of the heat maps. The most often applied belief “through doctors” was positively correlated with the following strategies:“catastrophizing”, “praying” and “coping self-statements”, but it was negatively correlated with “increasing behavioral activity”, “control over pain” and “ability to decrease pain”. The belief of „chance events”, contrary to the „through doctors”, positively correlated with “control over pain” and “ability to decrease pain”.

Conclusions: The stronger the pain, the stronger the belief of „through doctors” in order to decrease the pain. The belief of the doctors’ influence on pain control decrease the positive strategies for coping with pain and increase the negative strategies as well.