Interventions to Improve Quality of Life, Well-Being, and Care in Latino Cancer Survivors: A Systematic Literature Review

Julie McNulty, RN, PhD, CPHQ, Wonsun (Sunny) Kim, PhD, Tracy Thurston, MC, LPC, Jiwon Kim, and Linda Larkey, PhD

Cancer survivors are at risk for diminished health and well-being from cancer and cancer treatment. Effects of treatment may endure many years after diagnosis, and new treatment-related problems can present years after treatment is completed (Yabroff, Lawrence, Clauser, Davis, & Brown, 2004). Demands that confront cancer survivors are not simply a continuation of experiences that occur during the cancer treatment phase; they are unique problems along the cancer continuum, as the person treated for cancer progresses into survivorship (Feuerstein, 2007). Persistent effects include physical and psychological symptoms and social and spiritual impact. Cancer survivors are at risk for comorbid illness, functional limitations, difficulties with returning to work and other role transitions, uncertainty, fear of recurrence, and barriers to quality health care, all of which complicate their lives (American Cancer Society, 2012; Ganz, 2006; Haylock, 2006; Hewitt, Greenfield, & Stovall, 2005;