

A PSZICHOSZOCIÁLIS TÉNYEZŐK SZEREPE

A RÁKOS MEGBETEGEDÉSEKBEN

- vizsgálati eredmények áttekintése -

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The paper contains an overview of research in some of psycho-oncology's most important, and from a psychologist's point of view, most interesting areas. After presenting the main trends of psycho-oncology in the last couple decades, the author insists on the methodological difficulties and limitations faced by the psychologist or psychiatrist who approaches the field of oncology. Research data that sustain the involvement of psychosocial factors in the carcinogenesis are reviewed in the next paragraph of the paper. Ample evidence from the more classical investigations performed by pioneers of psycho-oncology such as Bedell-Thomas or Le Shan, to more recent prospective surveys are presented, the emphasis being put on those elements that were supported by the majority of controlled studies. The final part focuses on the presentation of psychosocial factors presumed to play a role in survival with cancer. Among these factors those shaped by psychotherapy and those connected to social support are reviewed, along with empirical work that put them into evidence. Therapeutical interventions that brought their contribution to longer survival with cancer through their influence on the immune system are also taken into account.

Keywords: psycho-oncology, psychosocial factors, survival with cancer