

Information Literacy and illness behavior: A Field Study on a Sample of Patients with Hepatitis (Virus C)

Abstract

This study aims at exploring the relationship between the degree of information literacy of a patient with hepatitis, and illness behavior. The study also aims at measuring the information literacy of a patient with hepatitis and how this information is formed. It also tries to explore the relationship between the degree of information literacy of a patient with hepatitis and how he responds to illness. The sample consisted of 222 patients treated in Interferon Center in the General Hospital in Beni-Suef. The study adopts the social survey method, using the questionnaire as the main tool of data collection. The study depends on four theoretical models to explain illness behavior. The Mechanic model, Shuchman model, Gobb and Kassel model, and finally Biddle and his colleagues' model. The study reveals that patients with hepatitis have a high degree of information literacy, and a diversity of information literacy sources. The study shows that there is a strong relationship between the degree of information literacy of a patient with hepatitis and his response to illness.

Key words:

Information literacy – Illness behavior - Hepatitis C

