

# Psychosocial training and research needs in oncology health care: a finger on the pulse

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## Purpose

Exploratory research to gain insight in the needs and bottlenecks experienced by oncology health care professionals concerning education and research in psychosocial oncology.

**Methods** ○ 1045 e-mails  
○ n=201

 @ all members of the online CHI-community working in hospitals.



**Respondents:**  
32% oncology nurses  
28% psychologists  
11% oncocoaches  
10% others  
8% social workers  
4% medical doctors  
4% pastoral workers  
3% dietitians

## Most important results

### Education wanted

Side effects of the treatment Self care  
Grief and bereavement Communication  
End of life care with important others  
Fear of recurrence Intimacy and sexuality  
Communication Elderly and cancer Coping  
with patients Social aftercare Medical aspects

### Experiential learning preferred



### Awareness of scientific research in psychosocial oncology



### Thresholds for applying scientific research in daily practice

61,1% indicates that it is not easy to translate scientific research results into daily practice.  
38,9% indicates that guidelines are not specific enough for daily practice.  
22,2% indicates that scientific research is not sufficiently in line with daily practice.

## Conclusions

### Oncology health care professionals need:

- more practice-oriented education and research;
- self-care tools in order to prevent stress and burn-out;
- a good translation of scientific research into clear guidelines for daily practice;
- more focus on bridging the gap between research and clinical practice.