

Understanding Health-Related Quality of Life (HRQoL) in People with Schizophrenia: What an Integrative Review of the Literature, Qualitative Analysis, and Computerized Lexical Analysis can tell us

Carlos Janela, BSN, RN, BA, MA, Kyle S. Minor, PhD, Claire B. Draucker, RN, PhD, FAAN

### Background

- People with schizophrenia experience:
  - Hallucinations, emotional withdrawal, and cognitive impairment
  - Stigma
  - Limited access to housing and employment
  - Low HROoL
- HRQoL refers to ways in which

# **Initial Results**

Theractions

wated decision making

Disposition

**Integrative Review of the Literature: Factors that Influence HRQoL in Persons with** 

- 25 studies identifying measureable factors that contribute to or detract from HRQoL.
- Mostly cross sectional studies in stable outpatient adults.

Impact

Nedical comorbidities

Physical

on ical deterioration

health, illness, and treatment influence a person's perception of functioning and well-being.

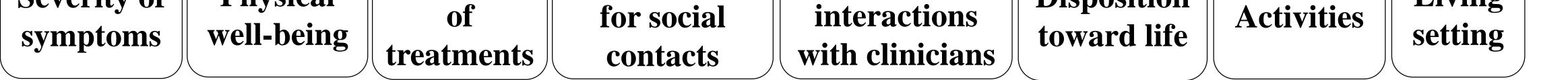
• Optimizing HRQoL is a goal set by national and international health organizations.

• Gaining more information about HRQoL in groups of people with low perceived health could lead to improved treatments/strategies.

• Understanding and measuring HRQoL in schizophrenia represents a challenge for researchers and clinicians.

### Purpose

• Using a mixed methods design, describe the primary HRQoL concerns of people with schizophrenia



Quality

• No study investigated what concerns people with schizophrenia have related to their HRQoL.

perceived social supt

**Opportunities** 

**Qualitative Descriptive Analysis: Three Common HRQoL Concerns** 

"I had no romantic life ... I feel lesser of a human being and a woman wouldn't want". "I've dated a couple of girls that were mental cases like me, but it never worked out".

**Severity of** 

Romantic relationships Family Finances

"My daughter; I gave her up to adoption to my niece when she was a little girl because I had drug problem and my mental illness was kicking in. I don't think she likes me. "I live with my mom... she's 83 years old. And she takes care of me, you know....of course she does most of the work".

Living

Quantified qualitative themes



### Methods

• Findings derived from three methodological approaches were merged using a mixed methods convergent design:

of poverty level income bracket, you know. But how that happens is beyond my control. I'm on disability and I will be for the rest of my life".

#### **Computerized Lexical Analysis: Two Categories and Word Counts**

- Integrative Review of Literature.
  - Research on factors that influence HRQoL in persons with schizophrenia.
  - Procedures outlined by Ganong (1987).
  - Articles published between 2003 and 2016.
- Qualitative Descriptive Analysis (Sandelowski, 2001).
  - 20 interview transcripts of interviews of persons with schizophrenia • Categories related to HRQoL were determined with content analysis • Qualitative results were quantified.

• The words a person uses when he/she speaks reflect his/her internal state.



#### Merging results in a joint display

Table 1. Correlations between qualitative quantified scores and lexical scores.

**Correlation coefficient** Matching Lexical category Qualitative theme

- Computerized Lexical Analysis (LIWC, 2015).
  - Counts words in text data and sorts words into pre-defined word categories.

Family	Family	0.658
Romantic relationships	No matching category	_
Finances	Money	0.359

### Discussion

- Many factors influence quality of life in people with schizophrenia, but family concerns and financial concerns especially important.
- Better understanding HRQoL concerns from the people with schizophrenia themselves could add valuable information to the traditional clinical assessment, help optimize clinical practice, and lead to improved treatments/strategies to improve their lives.
- Nurse researchers are well placed to integrate traditional qualitative methods and innovative technologies such as computerized lexical analysis to advance science and practice.
- Computerized lexical analysis could potentially help identify in real time some of the concerns reported by people with schizophrenia.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

INDIANA UNIVERSITY Indianapolis

IUPUI

Research reported in this poster was supported by the National Institute of Nursing Research of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number T32NR007066. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.

