



AMERICAN NEPHROLOGY NURSES' ASSOCIATION

ANNA'S 46TH NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 19-22, 2015

DISNEY'S CORONADO SPRINGS RESORT, LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA

Access to Renal Transplantation

Kandace Landreneau, PhD, RN, CCTC, Northwestern State University, Shreveport, Louisiana

Renal replacement therapy options include renal transplant, hemodialysis, and peritoneal dialysis to most patients who must have renal replacement therapy. Of those therapies, only approximately 25% of patients, who need renal replacement therapy, are listed as candidates for renal transplant. Because of this, the access to renal transplantation became an area of investigation. Access to renal transplantation has not been studied, in depth, especially when related to the patient's perception of their access to renal transplantation.

This phenomenological study explored what patients on hemodialysis (HD) perceived concerning their access to a renal transplant. The phenomenon of interest was 'access to renal transplantation'. This exploratory, descriptive study used the phenomenological approach which provided the means to grasp and sense the lived experience of patients on HD and their access to a transplant. The research question was refined to an open-ended guide. This open-ended guide was used for the individual participant's interview and was as follows: "I am interested in knowing more about how you can get a kidney transplant. Usually the kidney failure choices of treatment are transplantation, hemodialysis, or peritoneal dialysis. Please tell me, in as much detail as possible, what perceptions you have concerning your being able to have access to a kidney transplant. Please share all your thoughts, feelings, and perceptions concerning how to go about getting a kidney transplant. The data analysis revealed three themes: 1) Getting to Transplant Candidacy, 2) Information, and 3) Impact on Life. These rich narratives revealed information about these patients and their perceptions of access to a renal transplant, education about current renal transplantation, and other dynamics that impact the patient's life.

Further study is needed and inquiry needs to remain treatment specific and include all current and accurate education, about renal transplantation, and be provided in an appropriate manner to the patient who is on hemodialysis.

Abstract selected for presentation at ANNA's 46th National Symposium, Lake Buena Vista, FL, 2015