



Association for Death Education and Counseling®
The Thanatology Association®

ADEC 36th Annual Conference

Riding the Dragon:

End of Life and Grief as a Path to
Resilience, Transformation
and Compassion

Final Program

April 23–26, 2014

Pre-Conference Institute: April 22–23, 2014

Renaissance Harborplace Hotel
Baltimore, MD USA

www.adec.org

Poster Presentations I – Thursday, April 24, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Poster 6

Preliminary Development of a Bereavement Risk Screening Tool

Category: Assessment and Intervention
Indicator: Resources and Research
Presentation Level: Introductory

Roberts, Kailey, MA¹; Lichtenthal, Wendy, PhD¹; Corner, Geoffrey, BS¹; Schachter, Sherry, PhD²; Craig, Caraline, BA¹; Sweeney, Corinne, MA¹

¹Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, US;

²Calvary Hospital/Calvary Hospice, Bronx, NY, US

This report will focus on findings from the first phase of a multi-phase longitudinal study to develop and preliminarily validate a clinically useful screening measure to identify family members before and shortly after a loss who are at increased risk for poor bereavement outcomes (e.g., major depressive disorder [MDD], post-traumatic stress disorder [PTSD], prolonged grief disorder [PGD], sleep disturbances, and substance abuse). Ratings of the clinical utility of a variety of items assessing risk factors will be described, and the application of these findings to the process of developing a reliable and valid bereavement risk screening tool will be discussed.

Poster 7

Survive to Thrive: Mapping Complex AIDS-Related Grief

Category: Loss, Grief, and Mourning
Indicator: Contemporary Perspectives
Presentation Level: Intermediate

Perreault, Yvette, MS

AIDS Bereavement and Resiliency Program of Ontario, Toronto, ON, Canada

Since 1994, the AIDS Bereavement and Resiliency Program of Ontario (ABRPO) has created accessible and evocative tools to support community dialogue pertaining to surviving and thriving in the face of marginalized and ongoing loss. This poster will present an emerging loss framework: the Multiple Loss Journey. This framework was developed by community members who have directly experienced ongoing AIDS-related multiple loss and community devastation. Distinct aspects of loss and various intervention strategies associated with the Multiple Loss Journey theory are presented graphically through a large visual tool that can be placed on a wall or on the floor.

Poster 8

Facebook: The Manifestation of a Significant Loss

Category: Dying
Indicator: Contemporary Perspectives
Presentation Level: Introductory

Bouso, Regina, PhD¹; Ramos, Daniel, RN in progress²; Frizzo, Heloisa, MSc¹; Santos, Maiara, MSc¹; Carbonari, Karla, MSc³

¹University of São Paulo School of Nursing, São Paulo, Brazil;

²University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; ³University of São Paulo, Itatiba, Brazil

The purpose of this study was to explore the use of Facebook by the bereaved after the death of a loved one. This is a qualitative study and content analysis was used for data treatment. 195 comments posted were analyzed in the deceased user profile during the first month after death. It was possible to identify thematic categories that include comments to the deceased, feelings, emotions, mourning coping strategies indicators, religious beliefs and tributes. Virtual social networks allow the manifestation of feelings, favouring the expression of mourning.

Poster 9

Families' Relationship in the Child's Dying Process

Category: Dying
Indicator: Family and Individual
Presentation Level: Introductory

Rodrigues Santos, Maiara, MSc¹; Szylit Bouso, Regina, PhD²; Deguer Misko, Maira, PhD³; Freire Baliza, Michelle, MSc⁴; Mariano Rossato, Lisabele, PhD²

¹University of São Paulo, Caçapava, Brazil; ²University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; ³Federal University of São Carlos, São Paulo, Brazil; ⁴University of São Paulo. School of Nursing, São Paulo, Brazil

The aim of this study was to understand the experience of families on relationships with professionals during the child's dying process. The research was guided by Gadamer's philosophical hermeneutics. The participants were bereaved families by the death of a child who were hospitalized. The results show that embracement, attentive listening, compassion centered approach to illness suffering and respecting families' beliefs are fundamental to establish a relationship centered care that can help to prevent complicated grief. Investigating the relationship established in end of life situations can help professionals to improve programs and also prevent complicated grief.