Reviewer's report

Title: Undergraduate nursing students caring for cancer patients: phenomenological hermeneutic insights of their lived experiences

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Reviewer: Xuan-Yi Huang

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Comments to the Author

This paper is an important topic for clinical nursing education in the area with cancer patients. However, the report does not fully describe the "lived experience" of encountering a cancer patient for the first time. In the research method, the use of phenomenological hermeneutic is superficial and the deeper issues seem to be glossed over. The author should consider reworking the analysis on those themes and subthemes. This manuscript could be strengthened by the following:

1. In my point of view, the title should delete the “lived” to change the title of the paper into “Undergraduate nursing students caring for cancer patients: phenomenological hermeneutic insights of their experiences”

2. The major problem in this paper is focused on the findings. In totally, there were eight themes and twenty three subthemes. However, the findings were shown the fragmented approach to the data presentation. For example, in the theme of being part of center’s life, one subtheme of being a family is from the patients’ and families’ view, the other subtheme of being underestimated is from the nursing students’ view. Moreover, in the theme of being connected to others, one subtheme of being offensive towards patients was observed by students that the staff had behaved offensively towards patients. Based on the phenomenological hermeneutic approach, the researcher should keep in mind the meaning in the situation for the students caring for cancer patients. However, the subject of the study is focused on the undergraduate nursing students caring for cancer patients: phenomenological hermeneutic insights of their experiences. Therefore, the findings should logically fit in the topic of the study.

Level of interest: An exceptional article

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'