

## Analysis Of The Application Of Merle H. Mishel's Theory: Uncertainty In Illness Theory In Patients With Colon Cancer Cases

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**Abstract.** *Introduction: Mishel's Theory of Uncertainty in Illness offers insights into how patients navigate uncertainty in health contexts. This study examines its application in individuals with colon cancer. Methods: Literature review and case study analysis were employed to explore Mishel's theory's relevance in colon cancer care. Results: Mishel's theory provides a framework for understanding and addressing uncertainty among colon cancer patients. Nursing interventions focusing on education, social support, and coping strategies facilitate patient adaptation. Conclusion: Mishel's Theory of Uncertainty in Illness enhances nursing practice by guiding interventions tailored to address uncertainty in colon cancer patients. Integrating this framework fosters patient understanding and coping, ultimately improving quality of care and patient outcomes.*

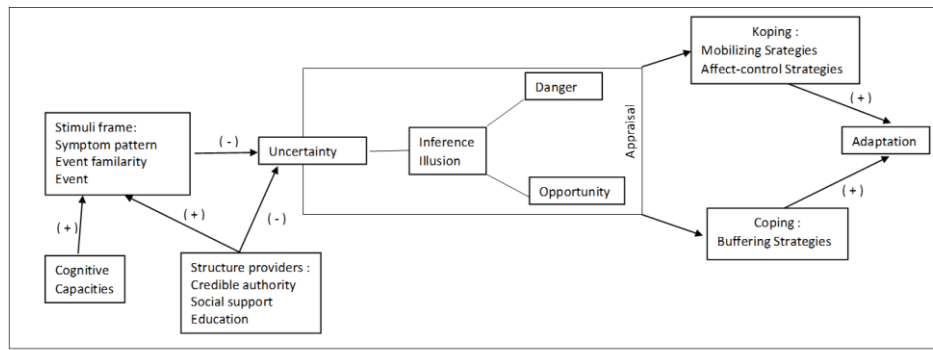
**Keyword:** *Uncertainty, Merle H. Mishel, Colon cancer*

### INTRODUCTION

Merle H. Mishel's Theory of Uncertainty in Illness Theory has been a foundational framework in nursing, particularly in understanding how individuals experience uncertainty related to their health conditions. This theory, initially proposed in 1988 and reconceptualized in 1990, has provided insights into the cognitive and psychosocial aspects of illness uncertainty. In this study, we analyze the application of Mishel's theory in patients with colon cancer, a population often confronted with significant uncertainty regarding diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment outcomes.

Theory of Uncertainty in Illness has been a cornerstone in understanding how individuals perceive and cope with uncertainty related to their health conditions, especially in chronic illnesses like cancer. Colon cancer, being one of the prevalent types of cancer, presents patients with various uncertainties regarding diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis. Understanding and applying Mishel's theory can offer valuable insights into nursing care for patients with colon cancer, helping healthcare professionals provide effective support and interventions. The following image is Merle H. Mishel's theory chart: Uncertainty in Illness (see chart).

**Merle H. Mishel's theory chart: Uncertainty in Illness**



**METHODS**

In this study, we analyzed the application of Merle H. Mishel's Theory of Uncertainty in Illness in patients diagnosed with colon cancer. Through a comprehensive review of literature, case studies, and theoretical foundations, we explored the major concepts and definitions of Mishel's theory and how they relate to nursing care in the context of colon cancer.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Results**

The application of Mishel's theory in nursing care for patients with colon cancer revealed several key insights. The theory emphasizes the cognitive aspects of uncertainty and highlights the importance of social support, credible authority, and adaptation in coping with illness-related uncertainty. Through a case study analysis of a patient with colon cancer, we identified various manifestations of uncertainty and proposed nursing interventions based on Mishel's theoretical framework.

1. Key findings from the application of Mishel's theory in nursing care for colon cancer patients include:
2. Uncertainty Perception: Patients with colon cancer experience uncertainty regarding diagnosis, treatment outcomes, and overall prognosis. This uncertainty stems from a lack of information and clarity about their health condition.
3. Role of Healthcare Providers: Nurses and healthcare professionals play a crucial role in providing credible information, social support, and guidance to help patients navigate uncertainty and make informed decisions about their care.
4. Family Support: Social support from family members is essential in helping patients cope with uncertainty and adapt to the challenges posed by colon cancer. Involving

family members in the patient's care and treatment journey can enhance the patient's sense of security and emotional well-being.

**Nursing Interventions:** Nursing interventions based on Mishel's theory focus on addressing knowledge deficits, promoting adaptive coping strategies, and fostering a supportive environment for patients with colon cancer. These interventions aim to empower patients, enhance their understanding of their health condition, and improve their ability to cope with uncertainty.

## **DISCUSSION**

The analysis underscores the importance of Mishel's theory in guiding nursing practice and patient care in the context of colon cancer. By acknowledging and addressing uncertainty, nurses can facilitate patient understanding, coping, and adaptation to the challenges posed by the illness. However, limitations exist, including the theory's focus primarily within the healthcare context and its inability to predict individual reactions to uncertainty conclusively.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The application of Merle H. Mishel's Theory of Uncertainty in Illness provides valuable insights into nursing care for patients with colon cancer. By understanding the cognitive and emotional aspects of uncertainty and implementing tailored interventions, nurses can support patients in navigating the challenges of colon cancer diagnosis and treatment. Mishel's theory underscores the importance of holistic care, effective communication, and social support in promoting patient well-being and adaptation to illness-related uncertainty. Further research and clinical practice should continue to explore the application of Mishel's theory in diverse healthcare settings and patient populations to optimize care delivery and outcomes.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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### **Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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