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Vol.9, No.4, 379-389, 2003.

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<Table 1> Q-statements

- 1. I feel unusually empty.
- 2. I have lost confidence in daily lives.
- 3. I feel anxious of recurrence of cancer.
- 4. I get more easily tired than before.
- 5. My libido has significantly decreased compared to before surgery.
- 6. I dislike the way people look at my outlook in the public bath.
- 7. I feel sad that my spouse doesn't know about the sufferings I have.
- 8. I don't like to let others know that I am a patient.
- 9. The frequency of sexual intercourse in our couple has decreased compared to before surgery.
- 10. I feel always sorry for my husband.
- 11. I feel discomfort for wearing artificial breast because it makes me feel heavy and hot.
- 12. I always put on extra outwear when going out.
- 13. I feel uncomfortable with in-laws' or others' consideration of me as a patient.
- 14. I don't like to meet people who don't know I am a patient.
- 15. I feel sad that others are not considerate enough for me even though I am a patient.
- 16. I feel sad that my outlook doesn't seem attractive enough compared to before surgery when I dress.
- 17. I am afraid that breast cancer is a genetic disease for my children.
- 18. I feel concerned that my children experience emotional shock from my disease.
- 19. I feel miserable when I look at myself.
- 20. I feel much difficult with performing household affairs.
- 21. I am reluctant to go to places where I have to undress myself such as public bath or swimming pool.
- 22. I feel burdened that artificial breast or brassiere is expensive.
- 23. I sometimes wish I even got rid of the breast in the other side either.
- 24. I got more anxious after receiving education for management of breast cancer.
- 25. My religion helped me adjust to daily lives following mastectomy.
- 26. My personality has been more deviated than before.
- 27. I feel burdened with medical costs for treatment and reconstruction surgery.
- 28. Sometimes, I feel difficult to participate in self-help group.
- 29. My trust for husband has decreased after surgery.
- 30. I feel more depressed than before.

(-1) 3 ,	(0) 4 ,	(+1) 5 ,		1	23.9%,	2	14.6%,	3
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Eigen Value 1.0

<Table 2> Eigen value and variance by type

	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
Eigen value	5.2541	3.2022	2.3587
Variance	.2388	.1456	.1072
Cumulative variance	.2388	.3844	.4916

4 1 2
.103 , 1 3
.205 , 1 4
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3 4 .386

<Table 3>.

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<Table 3> Correlation between types

	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4
Type 1	1.000			
Type 2	.103	1.000		
Type 3	.205	385	1.000	
Type 4	130	.088	.386	1.000

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< Table 4> Demographic characteristics and factor weights of P-samples

Type	ID	Factor weights	Age	Post op. duration (months)	Spouse (Y/N)	Religion	Reconstructio (Y/N)
Type 1	1	2.3478	59	5	Y	P	N
(N=7)	3	1.8773	50	7	Y	C	N
	4	.7775	56	5	Y	C	N
	15	.4921	54	27	Y	N	N
	12	.3976	38	24	Y	N	N
	11	.2461	40	13	Y	N	N
	6	.1987	53	15	Y	C	N
Type 2	17	1.6167	53	113	Y	С	Y
(N=7)	8	1.3525	30	22	Y	C	N
	7	1.2768	48	5	Y	C	N
	5	.6881	50	7	Y	C	N
	9	.3412	29	23	Y	N	N
	16	.3017	47	105	Y	C	N
	18	.2242	46	104	Y	C	N
Type 3	21	.7211	50	78	Y	С	Y
(N=4)	20	.4912	60	86	Y	C	N
	22	.2776	50	82	Y	C	Y
	19	.1924	53	104	Y	C	N
Type 4	10	.7349	58	97	Y	В	N
(N=4)	2	.6321	53	69	Y	C	N
	14	.1098	48	96	Y	C	N
	13	.0913	50	91	Y	В	N

Y; yes P; protestant C; catholic B; buddhism N; no or none

<Table 5> Type 1

Q statements	Z- score
3. I feel anxious of recurrence of cancer.	2.08
21. I am reluctant to go to places where I have to undress myself such as public bath or swimming pool	1.54
23. I sometimes wish I even got rid of the breast in the other side either	1.30
2. I have lost confidence in daily lives	1.20
6. I dislike the way people look at my outlook in the public bath	1.17
1. I feel unusually empty	1.09
4. I get more easily tired than before	1.03
19. I feel miserable when I look at myself	1.01
11. I feel discomfort for wearing artificial breast because it makes me feel heavy and hot	- 1.01
13. I feel uncomfortable with in-law's or others consideration of me as a patient	- 1.28
9. The frequency of sexual intercourse in our couple has decreased compared to before surgery	- 1.39
25. My religion helped me adjust to daily lives following mastectomy	- 1.67
28. Sometimes, I feel difficult to participate in self- help group	- 1.71

가 2 가, 가 가 가 가 가 2 3 가 <Table 5>. 2) 2 2 43.3 54.1 <Table 6>. 가 3) 3 가 가 3 53.3 87.5 3 가 가 가 가 가

<Table 6> Type 2

Q statements	Z- score
4. I get more easily tired than before	1.78
17. I am afraid that breast cancer is a genetic disease for my children	1.45
3. I feel anxious of recurrence of cancer	1.43
20. I feel much difficulty with performing household affairs	1.40
25. My religion helped me adjust to daily lives following mastectomy	1.02
6. I dislike the way people look at my outlook in the public bath	- 1.09
21. I am reluctant to go to places where I have to undress myself such as public bath or swimming pool	- 1.19
16. I feel sad that my outlook doesn't seem attractive enough compared to before surgery when I dress.	- 1.38
22. I feel burdened that artificial breast or brassiere is expensive	- 1.60
11. I feel discomfort for wearing artificial breast because it makes me feel heavy and hot	- 1.76
23. I sometimes wish I even got rid of the breast in the other side either	- 2.15

', ' 가 3 가 가 <Table 7>. 가 4) 4 52.3 88.3 가 가

<Table 7> Type 3

Q statements	Z- score
21. I am reluctant to go to places where I have to undress myself such as public bath or swimming pool	2.55
6. I dislike the way people look at my outlook in the public bath	1.71
11. I feel discomfort for wearing artificial breast because it makes me feel heavy and hot	1.59
8. I don't like to let others know that I am a patient	1.09
23. I sometimes wish I even got rid of the breast in the other side either	1.04
27. I feel burdened with medical costs for treatment and reconstruction surgery	1.02
1. I feel unusually empty	- 1.00
15. I feel sad that others are not considerate enough for me even though I am a patient	- 1.00
30. I feel more depressed than before	- 1.07
28. Sometimes I feel difficulty to participate in self-help group	- 1.15
29. My trust for husband has decreased after surgery	- 1.49
2. I have lost confidence in daily lives	- 1.70

<Table 8> Type 4

Q statements	Z- score
11. I feel discomfort for wearing artificial breast because it makes me feel heavy and hot	1.77
6. I dislike the way people look at my outlook in the public bath	1.56
16. I feel sad that my outlook doesn't seem attractive enough compared to before surgery when I dress.	1.29
18. I feel concerned that my children experience emotional shock from my disease.	1.15
12. I always put on extra outwear when going out	1.09
2. I have lost confidence in daily lives	- 1.23
14. I don't like to meet people who don't know I am a patient	- 1.32
8. I don't like to let others know that I am a patient	- 1.33
28. Sometimes I feel difficulty to participate in self- help group	- 1.67
23. I sometimes wish I even got rid of the breast in the other side either	- 1.95

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- Abstract -

Disease-Related Stress Experienced by Women with Mastectomy: Q Methodology

Kim, Nam Chol) · Kim, Hee Seung I) Yoo, Yang Sook I) · Yong, Jin Sun I) Song, Min Sun 2)

Purpose: To identify the type of disease-related stress experienced by women who received mastectomy for breast cancer using Q methodology. Method: Q sample included 30 statements obtained from literature and interviews with women with mastectomy. P sample consisted of 22 patients with

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mastectomy. The data were collected from November to December 2002 and analyzed using QUANL program. Result: Four types of disease-related stress experienced by women with mastectomy were found. Type 1 was manifested for a short duration following surgery and characterized by lowered self-esteem, feelings of emptiness and depression because of impaired body image. Type 2 was characterized by declined physical strength, resulting in frequent fatigue in the daily life and less intimate relationship with spouse. Type 3 was manifested by perfectionists with strong sense of self-pride who received

considered breast reconstruction surgery. Type 4 was reported by those who had long period of post-surgery. This type reported a strong sense of discomfort for wearing an artificial breast but didn't show any intention of trying breast reconstruction surgery. **Conclusion:** Women with mastectomy were found to experience different type of disease-related distress. Therefore, nurses should assess the type of stress the patient experiences following a mastectomy to provide appropriate nursing care.

Key words: Post mastectomy, Stress, Q-method