Background

- Increase of survival rate in cancer thanks to early screening and new treatments
- Emergence of a new status first defined of cancer by F. Mullan (1985): the cancer survivor
- “Survivor” identity is potentially a key factor for the psychological well-being of cancer survivors, with a lot of positive issues associated

The “survivor identity” encompasses various characteristics that still remain unclear

Aim

- To systematically map literature available on identity and self-concept in adult cancer survivors using the scoping review methodology to clarify this status by determining:
  1) Their conceptualizations of identity and self-concept in adult cancer survivors
  2) Their associated factors (e.g., quality of life, coping).

Methods

Identifying relevant studies

Subject headings and keywords related to our 3 main concepts (cancer, survivor and identity) were used to retrieve relevant articles (see Table I) within the following databases:

- PsycINFO/Ovid
- MEDLINE/Ovid
- Scopus

Study Selection

Multistep process on covidence

- Review of titles and abstracts
- Review of the full papers
- 2 independent reviewers (CT and MVH)
- Discrepancies resolved by a third reviewer (AME)

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Included if:

- Adult cancer survivors
- Either quantitative or qualitative data
- Study or assess the concepts of identity, self-concept or self

Excluded if:

- Secondary works

Charting the data

- Creation of a specific data extraction chart.
- Several categories: types of conceptualizations, associated factors, study design, type of cancer.

Results

Preliminary results:

- 51 studies were included in the preliminary selection (see Figure 1) highlighting several results in terms of conceptualizations, associated factors, design and disease.

- Types of conceptualizations:

  - Most frequently associated factors:
    - Quality of life (more than 26% of the studies)
    - Social support
    - Resiliency
  - Types of designs: 43% quantitative designs, 47% qualitative designs and 10% mixed-methods studies.
  - Types of cancer:

Discussion

✓ No consistent way to conceptualize identity in cancer survivorship
  ✓ But various clinical and psychosocial factors confirming the lack of clarity for this new status in the literature.
  ✓ Quality of life appeared to be the most frequently associated factor as well as a positive issue related to survivor identity.

✓ Scoping review was a real coherent method for a first step in investigating literature
  ✓ Overview of the type, the extent and quantity research available on a topic in order to identify potential gaps and future research needs
  ✓ Methodological standardization thanks to new PRISMA-ScR guidelines.

Steps forward:

1. Use a refined strategy to complete the review in order to reach our research objectives with the same process to extract and summarize data
2. Setting future directions to conduct a systematic review on interventions for cancer survivors