

3. Definitions

Pain is an unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage or is described in terms of such damage (International Association for the Study of Pain Subcommittee on Taxonomy, 1986).

Pain is whatever the experiencing person says it is, existing whenever he says it does (McCaffery, 1968).

Cancer **pain** is believed to have five dimensions, including sensory (pain intensity), affective (unpleasantness), behavioral (pain behaviors), cognitive (pain beliefs), and physiologic (impact on physical and social functioning) (Ahles, Blanchard & Ruckdeschel, 1983).

References for Definitions

Ahles, T.A., Blanchard, E.B., & Ruckdeschel, J.C. (1983). The multidimensional nature of cancer-related pain. *Pain, 17*, 277-288.

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McCaffery, M. (1968). *Nursing practice theories related to cognition, bodily pain, and man-environment*. Los Angeles: UCLA Student Store.