

How Source Credibility Contextualises Self-Directed Learning: The Study of Selected Malaysian Women with Breast Cancer

By

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Abstract

Breast cancer is the most frequent cancer among Malaysian women. Learning and understanding the disease is important for the women in order to deal with this crisis situation. Findings from this qualitative study of ten women with breast cancer showed that the credibility of the source of their information was the key to their self-directed learning. Credibility was important with regard to: (a) verification of newly acquired information, (b) credibility of learning sources, and (c) concern about reliability of information. The findings underscore the role for women with breast cancer, doctors and policymakers to promote learning materials of credible sources.

Keywords: *Source credibility, self directed learning, breast cancer*