

CV

PD Dr. Sigrun Vehling

Research focus: Existential distress in life-threatening illness

Current position and experience: Junior Research Group Leader

German Cancer Aid (DKH) Max-Eder-Excellence Programme, University Cancer Center Hamburg (UCCH), Department of Medical Psychology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf
DFG-Fellowship, Princess Margaret Cancer Center, University of Toronto

Selected Publications:

Existential distress in advanced cancer: A cohort study. Philipp R, Walbaum C, Koch U, Oechsle K, Daniels T, Helmich F, Horn M, Junghans J, Kissane D, Lock G, Lo C, Mruk-Kahl A, Müller V, Reck M, Schilling G, Schulze K, von Felden J, Bokemeyer C, Härter M, Vehling S; GEN HOSP PSYCHIAT. 2025;94:184-191.

Psychodynamic psychotherapy in serious physical illness: A systematic literature review of approaches and techniques for the treatment of existential distress and mental disorders. Philipp R, Walbaum C, Vehling S; DEATH STUD. 2025; 49(5); 676-697.

Death anxiety in patients with advanced cancer and their family caregivers

Walbaum C, Philipp R, Bokemeyer C, Härter M, Junghans J, Koch-Gromus U, Oechsle K, Schilling G, Vehling S. J PAIN SYMPTOM MANAG. 2024;68(6):622-631.

Existential distress among family caregivers of patients with advanced cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis; Walbaum C, Philipp R, Oechsle K, Ullrich A, Vehling S. PSYCHO-ONCOLOGY. 2024;33(1):e6239.

Understanding avoidant attachment in a patient with terminal cancer: a psychoanalytic perspective. Philipp R, Krüger A, Lindner R, Mehnert-Theuerkauf A, Vehling S; PSYCHOANAL PSYCHOTHE. 2022;36(2):105-123.

Prevalence of mental disorders in patients with cancer compared to matched controls - secondary analysis of two nationally representative surveys; Vehling S, Mehnert-Theuerkauf A, Philipp R, Härter M, Kraywinkel K, Kuhnert R, Koch U. ACTA ONCOL. 2022;61(1):7-13.

Thoughts of death and suicidality among patients with cancer: examining subtypes and their association with mental disorders; Vehling S, Mehnert-Theuerkauf A, Glaesmer H, Bokemeyer C, Oechsle K, Härter M, Koch-Gromus U. PSYCHO-ONCOLOGY. 2021;30(12):2023-2031.