

Supplementary Materials 2

Data Preparation and Final Sample Size

Data Preparation

In NAHES 2017, we performed limited item-level imputation to minimize participant exclusion due to occasional missing values on the main questionnaires of interest. In particular, given the high internal consistency found in this population for both the social support (Petrova et al., 2015) and GHQ-12 questionnaire (Bones Rocha et al., 2011), when participants had missing data on any of the items but had answered a minimum of 6 questions for each instrument, the missing items were imputed with the mean of the answered items, and the global scores were calculated accordingly. Imputation was performed for 71 (6%) and 24 (2%) participants on the social support and psychological distress questionnaires, respectively. This procedure is acceptable for multi-item measures when internal consistency is high and missingness is low (Graham, 2009).

In HESUS 2023, item-level responses for mental health instruments are not released due to privacy concerns, and no such imputations could be performed. Consequently, analyses based on HESUS data were restricted to respondents with complete scale scores as provided in the anonymized dataset.

Final Sample Size

From the 1,186 participants who self-reported a previous cancer diagnosis in NAHES 2017, 33 participants were excluded because of missing data on SES, 9 participants because of missing (unimputable) data on psychological distress, and further one person because of missing (unimputable) data on social support, resulting in a final sample size of 1,143 participants.

Supplemental materials for Petrova et al.
“The Stress-Buffering Effect of Social Support on Socio-Economic Mental Health Disparities among Cancer Survivors”
(Psychosocial Intervention)

From the 1,100 eligible cancer survivors in HESUS 2023, 41 participants were excluded due to data missing on SES, 53 on depression, and 26 on social support, resulting in a final sample size of 980 participants.

References

Bones Rocha, K., Pérez, C., Rodríguez Sanz, M., Borrell i Thió, C., Obiols Llandrich, J. (2011).

Propiedades psicométricas y valores normativos del General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12) en población general española. *Int J Clin Health Psychol*, 11(1),125-39.

Graham, J. W. (2009). Missing data analysis: Making it work in the real world. *Annu Rev Psychol*, 60, 549-76.