

**ABSTRACT**

**EXPLORATION OF ELDERLY PERCEPTION TOWARDS DEATH IN  
UPTD GRIYA WERDHA JAMBANGAN SURABAYA**

Phenomenological Qualitative Research

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**Introduction:** Many people say that death is taboo and reluctant to discuss. In reality people experience dilemmas when facing death. The elderly are one of them to deal with death. This study was aimed to explore elderly perception towards death in four aspect, that is psychology, spiritual, social, and physical. **Methods:** Design used in this study was qualitative research of phenomenological approach with in-depth interview method on 10 participants. **Results:** The results of this study found 7 themes that represented the research objectives. The seven themes were perception of death, attitude towards death, meaning of life, hope, divine relationship, social interaction, and response to disease. Elderly perception towards death was certainty and they ready to face it. Their readiness was based on maximum effort to got closer to God. They wanted a good death that was free from pain. **Discussion:** Attitude towards death in the elderly is influenced by several factors such as the perception towards death, the efforts of the elderly to deal with death, and family. Another factor that causes the elderly afraid of death was the presence of pain during the death. Pain could be caused due to disease. Acceptance of disease and grateful would make elderly more happier and improve health.

**Keywords:** perception, death, elderly, attitude