PsycINFO
Basic search with Peer-Reviewed Limiter

From the results page, look for **Index Terms** (subject headings) that could be useful for additional searches.

For example:
Companion animals and Mental health
Companion animals and Well-being
Under the Methodology limiter, select **Literature Review**

### Methodology
- **Empirical Study** (22)
- **Quantitative Study** (12)
- **Qualitative Study** (7)
- **Interview** (8)
- **Literature Review** (2)

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### Tests and Measures
- **General Health Questionnaire** (2)
- **Beck Depression Inventory-II** (1)
- **Companion Animal Interview** (1)
- **Computer Assisted Telephone**

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**A qualitative investigation of the significance of companion dogs.**

By Majaraj, Nandini, Haney, Colleen J.
Western Journal of Nursing Research, Vol 37(6), Sep 2015, 1175-1193.

Using a qualitative design, the purpose of this study was to examine how people describe their relationship with their dog and how they do that support the bond represents a meaningful relationship. Dog owners (N = 27) aged 10 years and older were invited to participate in one of seven focus group discussions. A qualitative content analysis revealed the presence of three themes: (a) the impact of dogs on interpersonal relationships, (b) dogs as subjective beings, and (c) psychological and health benefits of dogs. The second theme reflects the personal agency of dogs and their unique contributions to the human–dog relationship. These themes are discussed in light of the current research in the field. The findings suggest implications for counseling research and practice in improving the well-being and health of dog owners. (PsycINFO Database Record 2016 APA, all rights reserved)

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**Number of Cited References**


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**References**

Click to read the **abstract** and to view the **References**

Click **GET IT @ VCU** to view options for getting the article.
Be willing to try out various terms in your searches.

Click on Index Terms one at a time for more focused results.

Use the Cited by option to view newer articles that may be useful.
Use the Methodology Limiter to search for empirical studies

10. Companion animals for elderly women: The importance of attachment. doi: http://dx.doi.org.proxy.library.vcu.edu/10.1080/14780880802314288
By Chur-Hansen, Anna; Winefield, Helen Russell; Beckwith, Melinda