

Supplement 2: Code-tree illustrated by quotes.

Theme	Concept	Subconcept	Quote
Baseline adjustment		Individual history	<i>If something needs doing, you just go do it. You don't sit around and whine about it. Whining gets you nowhere in life. That's always been the way I've been, and I guess that's how I'm coping [with caregiving at home]. (p80)²³</i>
		Social-cultural background	<i>In our family we have never been open about death, we have rather joked about it. (p1121)²⁶</i>
Resilience predictors	Caregiver characteristics	Balanced dependency	<i>I then called on someone we know well, a good friend, whose wife also died at home, after the whole process at home and, by chance, the same GP. I called him asking, should I do that? Am I able to do that? Because, like, you're afraid of that too, right. How is this all gonna go? And the dying, how's that gonna go and will I be able to handle that? There are so many questions going through your head. (p12)³⁵</i>
		Flexibility	<i>I went there in agony with him. But I did it (. . .) And there, in that foreign country, with those techniques. Because they didn't know the technique of draining the fluid, they taught me how to do it in the hospital, so I could do it myself. And uhm, I did do it, but it was so difficult because I was in a different role there. In the end, I really was his nurse. (. . .) Then we drove back home. I had never driven that long myself. I didn't even like to drive with his car because it was so big. Actually, I don't like to drive at all. But I didn't have a choice back then. So, I had to overcome several fears, but in such a situation, you just do it. (p12)³⁵</i>

		Information processor	<i>I think we have found a good way to deal with the situation. People sometimes ask how my wife is doing, and I then tell them what is going on with her cancer at that time. But after that, we have lots of other things to talk about, and I like that. I do not want her to be seen only as a sick person. (p128)³¹</i>
		Positivity & humor	<i>Actually, how something so horrible [as his partner who was dying from cancer] can bring up such beautiful things. Yes, that's just it. It was horrible and it still is, but. . . In the end, it was something beautiful, especially the moment she told me she had been happy. That gave me such a satisfied feeling. (p13)³⁵</i>
		Inner strength	<i>I felt I had a lot of strength and I needed it all, that's for sure. (p109)²¹</i>
			<i>I kept telling myself, "I can't, I can't, I can't" [do the work associated with caregiving]. And everyday, I'd get up and I'd go, "I can't." The next day, I'd go to bed at night and say, "Yes you can." Tomorrow is a new day. You've got to get up. Change your attitude. Get outside where you are, in that darkest place (p.80).²³</i>
	The supportive network	Meaningful relationships	<i>I was privileged during the difficult period. My sister and brother-in-law were here all the time and helped my husband and me. My husband did not have to be alone in his room, and I could take a break, that was a great help for me. (p255)²⁸</i>
		The patient's contribution	<i>I went along with her positivity. Because when your partner is so positive, you're not going to tell her that it may only last six months or . . . No, then you just pull away the belief, you pull away all the hope from under her feet. You simply don't do that. (p17)³⁵</i>

Resilient outcome		Mental wellbeing	<i>But as far as physical changes or mental changes relative to dealing with cancer, I can't say that I've noticed much change in the way my wife or I approach life. (p8)³²</i>
		Benefit finding	<i>Yes, I suppose to some extent it was rewarding for me because I could do it and it meant that it kept her out of hospital. (p277)²⁵</i>
		Personal Growth	<i>We've learned a lot of patience and tolerance for other people that we didn't have before, a lot more empathy that we have for people who have adversity whether it's cancer or any other kind of problem.... you feel a connection and an empathy for that, that we didn't have before. (p8)³²</i>
The coping repertoire		Focusing on everyday life	<i>Things just go on like before. We talk, we potter around here, we clean a bit and help each other and nothing is so different when it comes to all that (...). We used to work at the same place, and we have our ways (laughs) And she bakes something sometimes, a cake or buns or something, which we can have if we want. No, it works quite well. (...) We go on more or less as usual so it's all right. (p71)²⁷</i>
		Taking responsibility	<i>...then you get talking to other people and they help their mums out a couple of days a week and things like that, but I don't../.. you feel bad if you don't go up there and you feel bad when you are there. (p73)²⁷</i>
		Managing	<i>I knew it was available in a neighboring country, so I e-mailed the firm and called the local representative in advance to inquire which doctors had</i>

			<i>contributed to the study, and so on. Then, I contacted them. I received e-mail addresses, and we got accepted abroad. (p8)³⁵</i>
		Mastering	<i>[We] realize that life is precious, and our moments with people are precious. And that that is so much more important than all the little trivial, busy things of life. (p7)³²</i>

