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Title: Dynamics in the sense of dignity over the course of illness: A longitudinal study into the perspectives of seriously ill patients

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What is already known about the topic:

- Promoting dignity in seriously ill patients and fragile older people is an important aim in health care.
- There is quite a substantial amount of knowledge on which factors affect patients' and older people's sense of dignity.
- Most studies have a cross-sectional design. There is limited insight into the dynamics of patients' sense of dignity during the progression of illness.

What this paper adds:

- Using a qualitative longitudinal design, this paper demonstrates how progression of illness affects sense of dignity over time in patients with serious illness.
- Three trajectories of change in patients' sense of dignity were identified.
- Sense of dignity could be maintained or regained by most patients while disease advanced, but not by all patients.

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