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Preferred type of presentation: oral presentation (paper).

**OR nurses contribution to holistic nursing in the operating room.**

Background: Patients should be recognized as a whole person, where all needs are met, also in the operating room. An OR nurse should provide quality care to all human beings. It is important to better understand what holistic nursing in entails.

Research problem: How does the OR nurse contribute to holistic nursing in the operating room?

Goals: Explore OR nurses experiences of taking care of the patient in a holistic manner in the operating room.

Method: The study has a qualitative design and uses a social constructivist approach. The data material was obtained through three focus group interviews, with a total of 11 participants. The data material was analyzed using Braun and Clarke´s (2006) model for thematic analysis.

Results: OR nurses place great emphasis on the importance of being prepared before meeting the patient. They describe this meeting as short, and they want the patient to feel safe and confident. They continuously look after the patients through the perioperative period and try to understand their individual needs. OR nurses have a wide range of knowledge, but they also express that it is not so easy to put this into words. They wish their knowledge could be more visible. They also want to increase their knowledge by, among other things, getting more feedback on injuries caused by positioning during the surgery. The interaction with colleagues is clearly visible, but the interaction also includes medical technical equipment and surgical instruments. Time is a limiting factor, but it also provides opportunities.

Key words: holistic nursing, quality care, operating room nursing.