

Poster abstract submission -NORNA 2023

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Presenter

Stein Ove Danielsen has worked as an operating room nurse from 1997 (post graduate education 1995-1997). Danielsen is present working as Associate Professor at the Master's Programme in Advanced Practice Nursing to Acute and Critically Ill Patients -Operating Theatre Nursing. Cardiothoracic surgery was his latest clinical work context, from where he also conducted research related to the patient's pathway following aortic valve replacement. This doctoral work led to a PhD in Medicine and Health Sciences at University of Oslo and Doctor of Biomedical Sciences at KU Leuven, Belgium, 2020. Present research portfolio relates mainly to cardiac surgery, global health and patient safety.

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Preferred type of presentation

Oral presentation of paper

The attached abstract holds 250 words.

Abstract

Title

Operating room nurse's experiences amid a pandemic -lessons related to task-shifting

Background

The Corona pandemic was declared by the WHO in March 2020. The healthcare services in Norway prepared for treating a surge of patients in a short time span. The plans included re-deployments and task-shifts for healthcare professionals in the hospitals, to handle a larger number of intensive care unit patients.

Research problem

The aim was to explore how the operating room (OR) nurses experienced how their professional competence was used in the first two phases of the corona pandemic.

Method

This study had a qualitative design. Data collected by single in-depth interviews. NVivo was used in the first steps of organising and analysing the data. The final analysis was completed by reflexive thematic analysis ad Braun and Clarke.

Results

We interviewed 13 OR nurses at 4 hospitals and identified following main themes with sub-themes: **1) Professional role and scope** with sub-themes '*redeployment and basic nursing*' and '*use of the professional OR nurse competence*'. **2) Crisis management** with sub-themes '*organizational preparedness*', '*need for transparent information*' and '*resource management*'. **3) A psychological and ethical load** with sub-themes '*need of influence in one's work context*', '*professional practice and patient safety*' and '*solidarity with the profession and society*'. The redeployment and task-shifts challenged the OR nurse's professional role amid the two first phases of the corona pandemic. There was a difference in how well organised the hospitals was, and the psychological and ethical load was high and challenged the patient safety.

Key words

Operating room nursing; corona pandemic; task-shifts; qualitative research.