TO CARE FOR PATIENTS WITH HARD-TO-HEAL WOUNDS - HOMECARE NURSES’ NARRATIVES

Camilla Eskilsson¹.
¹University of Borås. School of Health Sciences (Borås, SWEDEN)

First time international presenter/ Erster internationaler Vortrag/ Présentateur international pour la première fois:

TO CARE FOR PATIENTS WITH HARD-TO-HEAL WOUNDS – HOMECARE NURSES’ NARRATIVES

Aim: To describe how nurses in homecare experience the care of patients with hard-to-heal wounds.

Method: This study has a lifeworld phenomenological approach. Seven nurses in homecare were interviewed. The data was analyzed in terms of meaning.

Results: Four themes emerged. To be responsible means both to heal the wound and relieve the patient’s suffering. In this respect, good care depends on inter-professional collaboration, but the nurses ascribe the physicians a lack of interest. To be respectful means a shift in focus from wound to person to holistically confirm the patients. To feel secure in order to provide security means that the nurses want patients to experience confidence in their care, so they must experience professional confidence themselves. There are also temporal and spatial meanings in this: the caring relationship is more likely to be personal if frequent caring events take place in their home contexts. However, the caring relationship should be professional and personal but not private. This invisible border must be emphasized.

Conclusions: Nurses need wound treating competence from education as well as clinical support in their daily care. Preferably, there should be some sort of mentoring that offers opportunities to professional reflections on care. Finally, the shared responsibility between nurses and physicians needs improvement.