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Introduction

Person-centred practice and culture are recognized as an essential component of 21st century healthcare and in Denmark it is part of the strategy for our public healthcare system. In oncology, person-centred practice (PCP) is increasingly recognized as an essential approach to care, as it emphasizes the individual needs, preferences, and values of patients, and a focus on PCP values can significantly enhance nurses' work satisfaction as value-aligned work protects nurses from experiencing burnout.

Objectives

A study was undertaken that aimed to enhance clinical practice and foster a culture of person-centred care within two departments at a university hospital in Denmark.

Methodology

An action research study employing a participatory approach was undertaken over three years. The research involved participants throughout the research process. Data were collected through a combination of field studies, reflective notes, interviews and questionnaires.

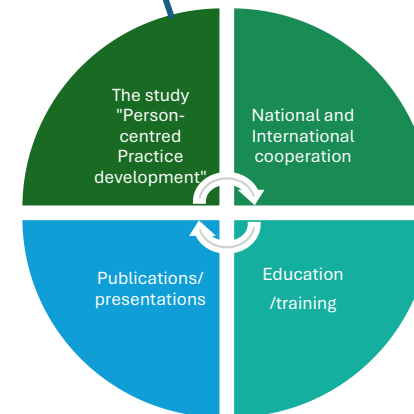
Findings

The findings reveal that the action research processes and methods were meaningful and relevant when developing a PCP culture. All participants gained knowledge and awareness in relation to PCP and framework, and at the end of the study they experienced being able to facilitate PCP processes in clinical practice. The findings also reveal that nurse practitioners and patients experienced care in accordance with the PCP Framework.

Derived outcomes

Local PCP-initiatives

- Daily dialogues based on the PCP framework
- Introducing new nurses to PCP
- Journal clubs reading PCP related papers
- Local studies based on the PCP model
- Field studies examining communication and professional dialogues



Conclusion

The findings indicate that both departments successfully cultivated a more person-centred practice. The study underscores the importance of sustained, proactive engagement from all healthcare professionals, particularly leaders, in fostering a cultural shift towards person-centred care.

Recommendations

- The action research design is meaningful and relevant when developing a PCP culture.
- Leadership support is crucial, and the espoused values must align with values as they are practiced.

