

Patients Handovers. Quality of postoperative patient handovers in PACU: Focus groups

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I bring my own checklist. You know, I'm a former pilot



Why do handovers draw attention?

- Handovers are critical to patients safety and may lead to adverse events and prolong patients length of stay
- Handovers are complex processes involving several functions, specialties and healthcare professionals

Definition of handovers

"the transfer of professional responsibility and accountability for some or all aspects of care for a patient, or a group of patients, to another person or professional group on a temporary or permanent basis"



Improving the quality and safety in handovers in PACU ?

Why don't we use a checklist developed by others?



Current research:

- Communitation
- Checklists
- Behavior
- Recievers memory
- Human factors



Factors influencing handovers

- Communication
- Information
- Organization
- Infrastructure
- Professionalism
- Responsibility
- Team awareness
- Culture



Culture as barrier

- If new implementation science intervention doesn't fit existing cultural and identity, or "*networks of practice*" that are important to health care professionals, "*resistance*" and "*workarounds*" will occur.

Objective

To improve the quality, and the safety of the handovers between anesthetic clinic and perioperative care unit

Purpose

To explore nurses experiences of factors influencing postoperative patient handovers between anaesthesia and perioperative care unit.



Method

- Litterature review were carried out
50 studies were identified, none relevant
- Two focus group interviews were conducted
Anastethic nurses
PACU nurses
- Data were analysed according to inductive
content analysis and meaning interpretation

Coding of focus group, AN

Time in work

Seeing the big picture

Readiness

Relation in work

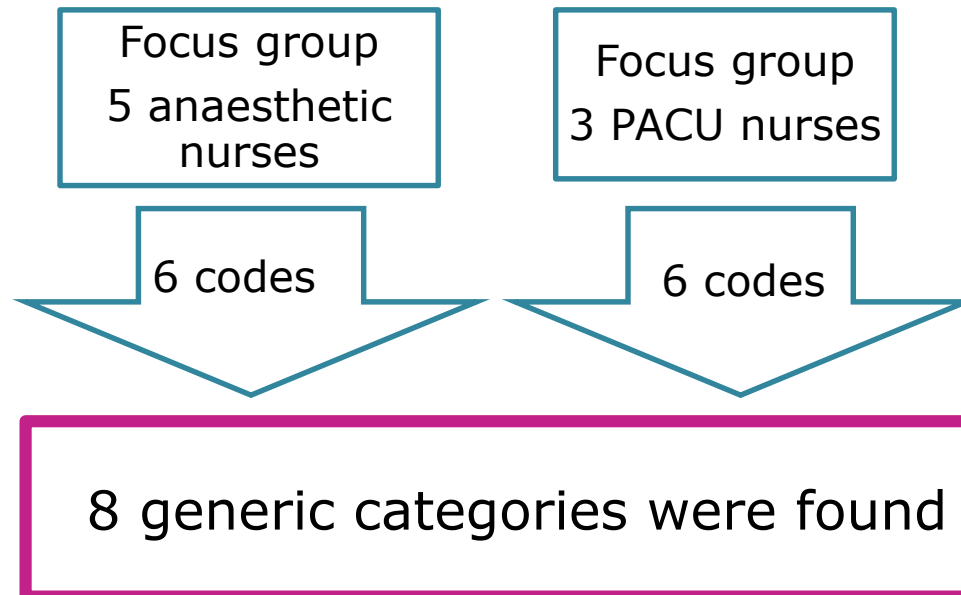
Documentation

Ethic



Analyse

Nurses experiences of aspects influencing handovers between anaesthetic clinic and Peri Operative Care Unit?



3 main categories

Time in handovers
Organisation of handovers
Working relations in handovers

Findings

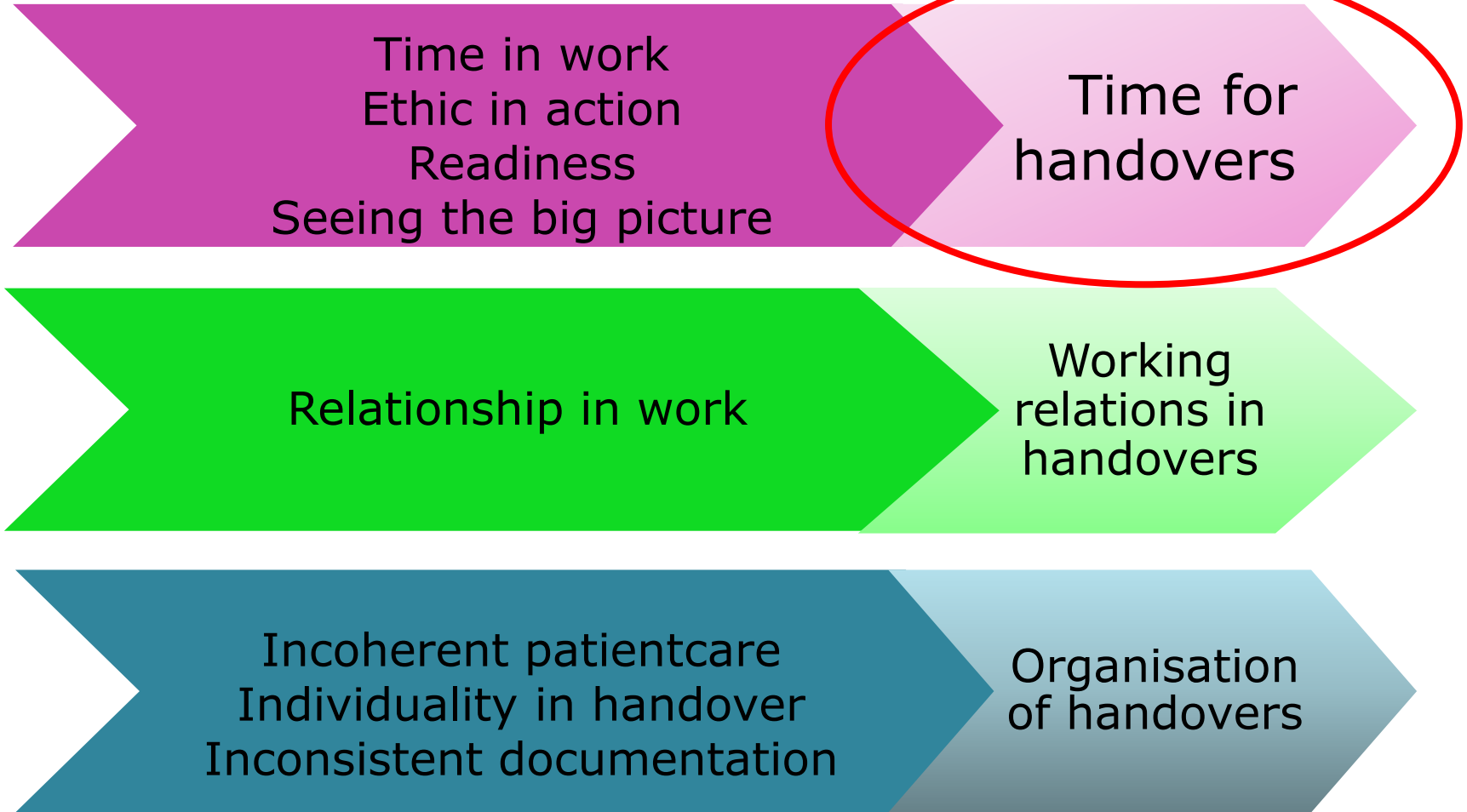
8 generic categories

Incoherent patientcare
Individuality in handover
Inconsistent documentation
Relationship in work
Time in work
Ethic in action
Seeing the big picture
Readiness

3 main categories

Time in handovers
Organisation of handovers
Working relations in handovers

Findings



Time for handover

- Extreme workload
- Pressure of production
- Being busy
- Fragmentation of time: "instant time" and "the extended time"



Time for handover



Time for handover

Ethic

Maybe it's also a culture we have created that everything has to be done so fast, it is not allowed to say stop for once, let's get the patient positioned properly before we start the rapport..... "(Informant 2, POA).

Time for handover

Ethic

"I don't want be negative ...but handovers where old patients lies in messy beds with blankets and everything, and the patients don't have any underwear on...if it was me"

Time for handover

Seeing the
big picture

"If we had used at little more time in the handover we could have gained some time in the other endI think"

(Informant 3, AN).

Conclusion



- Time, both as a real time experience and as a way of viewing time, influences the postoperative handovers
- The existing interpretation of time doesn't provide optimal conditions for nursing care
- Nurses overview in handovers is compromised by the time discourse, and creates an environment where ethic in action and coherence in nursing care is challenged

Implications for practice

- More attention to the awareness of handovers as clinical risk factor
- Handovers needs to be seen as an important tasks, that can provide a more coherent course for patients
- There is a need for creating conditions for "extended time"
- The conditions and structure for handover needs to be improved

THANK YOU

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