



Autonomy and Social Participation of Nursing Home Residents: Nurses' Perspectives

Introduction

- ✓ Maintaining and facilitating autonomy and social participation are major challenges for nursing practice, especially in nursing home residents.
- ✓ We assumed that the facilitation of the nurses' autonomy and participation could in turn have a positive effect on the residents' autonomy and participation and therefore, on their quality of life.
- ✓ The aim of this study was to examine organizational structures in nursing homes and nurses' autonomy and participation in decision making. Additionally, nurses' influence on the residents' autonomy and social participation was examined.

Methods

- ✓ 12 qualitative Interviews were conducted in 4 nursing homes
- ✓ Participants were interviewed using a semi-structured interview guide containing 5 different dimensions
- ✓ Interviews were audio-recorded and transcribed verbatim
- ✓ All transcripts were thematically analyzed using content analysis approach
- ✓ Data analysis was done by 2 researches with a subsequent discussion of the results

Results

There is a highly structured daily routine in the nursing homes (e.g. basic care or meal times)

Nurses can vary from daily routine on a small scale or in exceptional cases

Autonomous decision making is limited by structures

Nurses' reported that they have a big influence on residents' autonomy and social participation and great responsibility as to that matter

„... it is determined, there is a guideline (...) what we have to manage in a shift.“ (Nursing Assistant)

„... actually, I have to get it done (...) till 2:30.“ (Registered Nurse)

„with small stuff (...) I am free to make decisions“ (Certified Nurse)

„yes (...) I can organize myself (...) but within the time schedule“ (Certified Nurse)

„I would love to work more with the residents (...) involve (them) in proceedings (...) but I can't because I actually run from resident to resident“ (Certified Nurse)

„then I say (the resident) is still sleeping, then (breakfast) is prepared later or she (...) gets it up to her room“ (Nursing Assistant)

„when I think (...) it won't work (...) but I take my time (...) and let the people do as they like“ (Nursing Assistant)

Conclusion

- ✓ Nurses' autonomy and participation in decision making may be limited by institutional structures.
- ✓ Thus, the residents' autonomy and social participation could be restricted because nursing home residents are influenced by nurses' acting.



OLE
ORGANISATIONALES LERNEN IN
DER STATIONÄREN ALTENHILFE