WORKING WITH CASE STUDIES

A way to professionalize and to discover a deeper spiritual awareness

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Graduated: MA Practical Theology



Chaplain in nursing home for one year

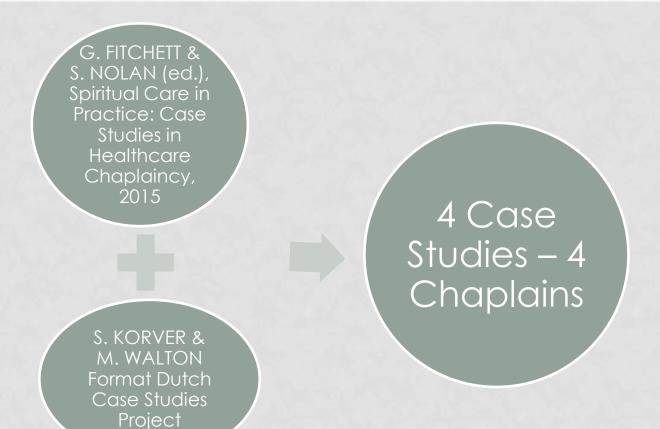


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Master thesis: An empirical research of interventions and outcomes of chaplains in university/general hospitals based on case studies and research groups

CASE STUDY RESEARCH



RESEARCH OUTLINE AND QUESTIONS

- How can we show what we do, who we are and what the effects are of our profession?
- Not reclaiming or retaking our profession, but profiling it
- Give words to our unique contribution to care, so it can be understood by others
- Chaplains as researchers through their daily practices
- Getting to know interventions and outcomes of spiritual care through case studies

INTERVENTIONS AND OUTCOMES

Interventions	Outcomes
The chaplain is present and creates time for his patients	Sustainable relations, trust, a sense of security and connectedness
The chaplain connects: - Patient and family - Patient and God - Situation of the patient and reality - Patient and other caregivers	Transparant communication, an open and honest dialogue
The chaplain opens up a future perspective	New actions, new ideas, restart activities, thinking about the past
The chaplain prays with patient, family, care givers	Acknowledging spirituality, giving words to emotions, strength of faith

Interventions	Outcomes
The chaplain brings peace in an escalating situation	Calmness, creating the possibility of communication, gives space to emotions
The chaplain acknowledges the powerlessness	Getting to know their own story, a feeling of not-being-alone, removing the pressure of 'getting better soon'
The chaplain provides a space for mourning, talking about their losses	Gives space to emotions, forgiveness and reconciliation, the proximity of God
The chaplain works with and through non-verbal communication	Getting to know their wellbeing, proximity and a sense of security
The chaplain represent a spiritual identity	Gives space to their believes, reflects on their spirituality

WHAT'S NOT IN MY RESEARCH





CASE STUDIES IN FUNCTION OF ...

- The patient: good care
- Profiling and professionalizing
- Research: as a starting point

Interventions and outcomes

 The chaplain: the identity spiritual awareness

THE THIRD PERSON FORM

Use of the third person form to rise above themselves ⇒Ignoring the spirituality of the chaplain

Balance between personal approach and professional identity:

- ⇒ Distance and proximity
- ⇒ Objective and subjective
- ⇒ Personal involvement: opportunity or problem
- Personal reflection improves the professional identity

THE IDENTITY AND BACKGROUND OF THE CHAPLAIN

The identity of the chaplain determines the interventions and outcomes of the case study. At the same time, the case study determines the further identity of the chaplain and can lead to a deeper spiritual awareness.

