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The pursuit of hope: Hope and hoping in different nursing contexts

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Aim: This paper focus on experiences of hope and hoping in different clinical nursing contexts.

Background: Hope is an important part of everybody's life. However, less focus has been on similarities and differences on experiences of hope in different contexts of suffering and health.

Methods: This study of synthesized empirical knowledge from twelve research studies was based on methods of concept development. Findings from each study were compared to increase the typology and particular patterns of hope, clarifying and modifying the essence of hope.

Results: A synthesized understanding of the empirical findings revealed the following categories: despairing hope, uncertain hope in the acute and critical nursing context, struggling hope, flexible and creative hope related to the context of rehabilitation and universal and existential hope in the context of prevention and health promotion. The essences of hope which rose from the different contexts were possibilities, expectations, destiny, vitality and freedom.

Biography

Vibeke Lohne is a Nurse and a Professor at University of OsloMet. She has a degree (Dr Polit) from University of Oslo and her main research focus is on hope, dignity in critically illness and in the context of rehabilitation, and on family caregivers.

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