

Abstract

The topic of this paper is the cooperation of nurses and nursing assistants in the traumatology department. The goal is to find out the role performed by the nursing assistants in providing patient care, and highlighting their position in the nursing team. In this paper, I also focus on the fact that despite the differences in education and function, these two groups must function and cooperate as one unit.

The first part of the paper is theoretic and focuses on the method of research used here: autoethnography. This method observes cooperation within the team and with management and assesses the role of cooperation within the whole team. It also focuses on the most common diagnoses in the traumatology department.

The second, practical part of the paper addresses the goals and methods of the research. The method of data collection is also introduced in this part. The department where the research took place is described here, as well as the composition of the patients and the employees.

The third part describes the research itself. The course of five days at the department is covered in this part. For each day, the structure of employees and patients is listed, as well as the patients' diagnoses. Key situations of cooperation and communication between the nurse and nursing assistant and a summary of the entire day are also described.

Some situations, which are handled by the nurse and nursing assistant during providing nursing care, are described in detail. These are often situations in which the cooperation of these two professions is key.