



Explore, Value and Support: Meaningful Collegial Relationships Among Nurse Educators

Presenters

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Introduction

- ▶ A research project exploring the nature and meanings of collegial relationships among nurse educators in Canada and Australia

Introduction to the research

- ▶ To explore collegial relationships between and among nurse educators in differing contexts of practice, using a co-constructivist critical approach



Research Questions

- ▶ What are the meanings of collegial relationships for participants?
- ▶ How do nurse educators construct their collegial relationships in differing contexts of practice?
- ▶ How do collegial relationships influence participants' practice?



Research Participants

- ▶ Nurse educators in either a health authority or a post-secondary institution in BC, NWT or Australia
- ▶ 12 participants formed 6 dyads for the purpose of engaging in conversations over a 12 month period.



Data Collection

- ▶ Participants completed a demographic questionnaire and attended an orientation meeting prior to engaging with their dyad partner.
- ▶ Dyads communicated via telephone or Face Time.
- ▶ 6 Focus groups with participants were conducted using a virtual web-based platform (Webex) provided by a “innovative nursing services and practice informed by Research and Evaluation network”, INSPIREnet, in BC.
- ▶ InspireNet was a password protected online portal through which focus group conversations could be conducted, recorded and transcribed.



Data Analysis

- ▶ Focus group transcripts were analyzed individually by the researchers and then by the research Team collectively.
- ▶ Summaries of themes and key ideas were shared with the Participants for their input, resulting in confirmation of themes and further conversation.
- ▶ 2 Final Group Discussions with participants led to reflection about their collegial experiences and the findings, and questions about the nature of collegial relationships within their contexts of practice.



Stories/Experiences

- ▶ What do collegial relationships mean to you?
- ▶ How does a collegial relationship impact your practice?
- ▶ What supports collegial relationships?



Questions for Dialogue

- ▶ How do the personal and professional intersect in meaningful collegial relationships?
- ▶ What is lost if we don't or can't make time to connect?
- ▶ Do we value collegial relationships enough to prioritize them in the busyness of our work life? If so how do we make time and space for meaningful relationships?
- ▶ How does the “culture of busyness” disrupt authentic and meaningful collegial relationships in nursing?



Questions for Dialogue

- ▶ Why do we continue to allow this to happen? Why is it so difficult to change the culture of busyness?
- ▶ Are nurses missing out on supportive environments and professional satisfaction as a result of the culture of busyness? If so how do we change this to create better environments for nurses and patients?
- ▶ How might what you have heard from this research project support the building and valuing of collegial relationships in your place of work?

