

Prosjekt beskrivelse

Område	Master i avansert klinisk allmennsykepleie
Prosjektnummer	4
Tittel	BRIDGE-NP: Bridging the Care Gap for Elderly living at home with concurrent somatic and mental health challenges: developing strategies for Nurse Practitioner interventions.
Bakgrunn	There has been an increase of elderly with concurrent somatic and mental health challenges living at home, and this heighten the demand for high competence and knowledge in the municipality health care. An important initiative by the Norwegian authorities, to meet the heightened demand of health care for patients with multimorbidity, was the development of Nurse Practitioners (NP) as a new profession (<i>'Avansert klinisk allmennsykepleier'</i>). The NPs role and function varies globally, and the NPs role in Norway is relatively new and evolving. It is therefore important to explore the NPs role and function in care for elderly with concurrent somatic and mental health challenges living at home.
Formål	The main objective of this study is to explore gaps in the care of elderly with concurrent somatic and mental health challenges living at home and suggest strategies on how NPs can contribute to meet the care needs. This knowledge could contribute to define the role and function for NPs in municipality care for patients with concurrent somatic and mental challenges.
Metode	This qualitative study consists of three sub-studies. Sub-study 1 will explore what nurses working in Norwegian municipality homecare services consider is the patients' needs, and what are promoters and challenges for the nurses to encounter the patients' needs. Data will be gathered by using field observations and individual in-depth interviews. Sub-study 2 will explore what service gaps exist in the care for elderly living at home with concurrent somatic and mental health challenges from the perspective of municipal homecare service leaders by individual interviews with 12-15 leaders in the community health care service in the eastern and western parts of Norway. Sub-study 3 will explore how NPs perceive their expertise in addressing the patient needs and service gaps for elderly with concurrent somatic and mental health challenges, and what strategies the NPs suggest for their role and function in care for these patients in the municipal health care service. Data will be collected by using focus group interviews with NPs working in the municipal health care service. Interpretive description will frame the data analyses.
Forskingstiljø	Supervisors, reference group and international collaborators: Project leader: Assoc. Prof. Ragnhild B. Strandberg. Supervisor team: Main supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Ragnhild B. Strandberg (HVL); Co-supervisors: Assoc. Prof. Beate-Christin Hope Kolltveit (HVL); Assoc. Prof. Linn Hege Førsvund (USN/HVL); and Prof. Oscar Tranvåg (HVL). Reference group: Prof. Anne Marie Sandvoll (HVL); Assoc. Prof. Oda Karin Nordfonn (HVL); Prof. Emerita Kirsten Lomborg (University of Copenhagen, Denmark; Steno Diabetes Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark).
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