INTERNATIONAL NURSING CONGRESS
"Quality in Nursing: Realities and Visions"

ABSTRACTS

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"NURSING CARE IN PSYCHIATRY:
NURSES PARTICIPATION IN MULTI DISCIPLINARY EQUIPS AND THEIR SATISFACTION DEGREE"

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INTRODUCTION: On 1978 the law 180 changed the conception of psychiatric care. It highlighted the social aspect and hid the medical one. This allowed the developement of several different professions. But the specificity were not considered cause the emphasis put on democracy. Working in a multydisciplinary equip became normal, but a sense of lost of professional identity arised.

FRAMEWORK: This study was born by the nurses' perception of a persistent professional role uncertainty and ambiguity, inadequate curricula of nursing schools and a confusion between other professional groups expectations about nurses' role inside the equip (role conflict).

Aims of this study are: verify of professional role expectation, and real activities of nurses in psychiatry; equip working analysis; nurses' educational curricula analysis; investigation on nurses' satisfaction degree.

The author forms the hypothesis that nursing staff satisfaction degree increases as much as role conflicts and ambiguity decrease.

METHOD: All the nurses working in psychiatric areas of Trentino (Italy) had been admitted to the study. Except for Pergine's Psychiatric Hospital a sample of 27 nurses had admitted, because of their total number. The tool was a questionnaire self administered, based on a questionnaire build up by the Centre of Studies for Mental Health of Friuli Venezia Giulia. A nurse in each service was trained to be a point of reference. Data collection was held in summer 1993.

CONCLUSIONS: Data analysis, that is yet going on, will give a view on the psychiatric nursing care in Trentino, putting in evidence educational needs of nurses, their position inside the equip, and their satisfaction degree, laying the basis to clarify nurses identity in psychiatric equips.