Abstract (300 Wörter, ohne Titel und Leerzeichen), derzeit 295

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Abstract Topics: (Choose from category list) Supportive and Palliative Care

Title: Experiences and needs in palliative care - a qualitative multiperspective evaluation study on health care structures in Austria

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Background
Specialist care is important to provide excellent care for patients with advanced cancer and their families over the course of their illness. A project for extensive hospice and palliative care was developed and implemented in addition to usual health and hospice care in Austria, aiming to provide better qualitative care for patients with advanced illness and their families. To prove this an evalualional study was carried out.

Aim
The aim of this study was to:
- reconstruct the caring process retrospectively from a family view
- explore the needs and experiences from a patients view
- explore the professionals’ view on the realisation of the project

Methods
Qualitative research was used to describe the substantial quality of care from four perspectives to explore the experience of patients, familial caregivers, professionals and project management. Qualitative interviews were used to - reconstruct care processes from the perspective of family caregivers (n=21) after the death of their relatives - examine and describe experiences and needs of cancer patients (n=13). Five focus groups were conducted with interdisciplinary palliative care teams (n=50) to describe their experience with the realisation of the processes and structures. A focus group (n=6) was carried out to investigate the point of view of the operative project management. To analyse the data content analysis was used.

Results
Although the analysing process is still ongoing, first results show important benefits for patients with advanced illness and their family caregivers over the course of illness. Critical incidences are continuity and certainty for patients and families. This requires 24hours accessibility of the hospice and palliative care teams. The point of transition to palliative health care and access to palliative care teams are often too late, caused by health care system which is mainly focused on curative health care.