Title
The development of bedriddenness in long-term care facilities
Influence of the institution and the professional caregivers on local confinement and bedriddenness

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Abstract

Introduction
A basic need of humans is activity, which if lost there are severe consequences for the art of shaping one’s life. Nevertheless, bedriddenness is paid little attention in nursing research. It is known that bedriddenness is a hidden ongoing process, in which “gradual local confinement” was identified as the core category. In this section people are not able to switch between places alone, but they remain in one place and are dependent upon assistance if they need to be transferred (Zegelin 2008). So far the perception of the caregivers and the influence of the institution are disregarded. For this reason the knowledge about influencing factors has to be deepened and enlarged.

Aim of the study
The aim of this study is to determine what factors affect local confinement and bedriddenness, in relation to the institution and the professional caregivers in long-term care.

Method
The study is based on a qualitative Case Study Design. To collect the data, participant observations, interviews, and content analysis of nursing care plans and documentation are used. The data collection of four cases is already completed and first evaluations of the observation perspectives are available. Further data evaluation is in progress.

Results
At this time the first analyses are finished and showed three first influencing factors: low priority of mobility, transfer situation, and missing incentives. In addition to these results, three major factors were identified: attitude of the caregivers, rigid organizational structures, and spatial conditions.

Discussion incl. Conclusion
At this stage of research it is too early for a content discussion, but bedriddenness is a multifactorial phenomenon which is greatly influenced by the institution and not only by physical factors.

Practical relevance
This study can contribute to a change of attitude and can help draw more attention to locally confined people. Furthermore, this study is essential in developing programs and interventions against these phenomena.

Research implications
With the results of this dissertation, the first model of Zegelin and her core category can be developed further and used for future instruments.
References