



The Experiences' of General Nurses' Role Transition into a Specialist Oncology/Haematology Area.

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Background to Study

- Government Initiatives
- Higher incidence of cancer
- Centres of Excellence



Aims and Objectives

Aim:

- To highlight how general nurses' experience role transition into a specialist oncology/haematology area.

Objectives:

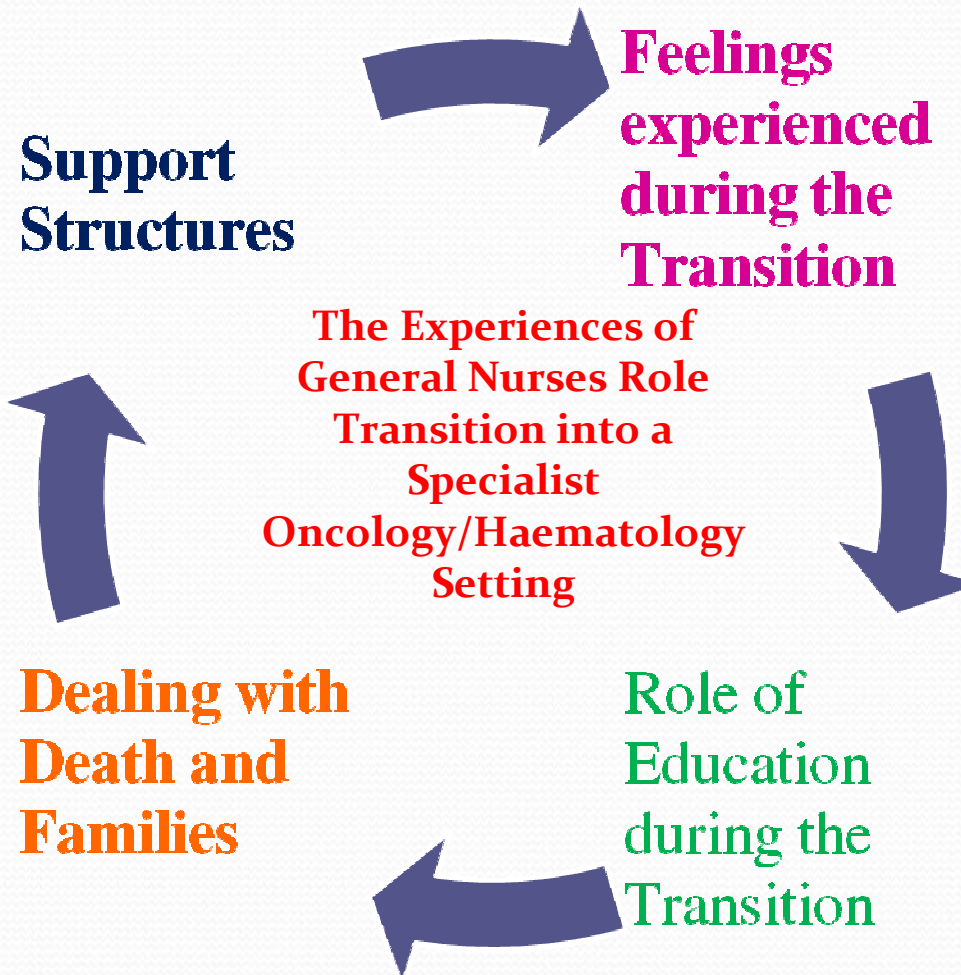
- To describe the experiences' of nurses who have made this transition.
- To ascertain what factors facilitated their transition.
- To ascertain factors that impede this transition.



Methodology

- Qualitative Descriptive Design
- Purposeful sampling
- 12 participants
- Semi- structured interviews
- Data analysed using Leininger (1985) analysis framework

Themes:





Findings and Discussion

- In the initial stages of their transition all participants experienced negative feelings of incompetency to work alone in the specialist area.
- Regardless of previous clinical experience participants felt that without educational preparation their skills were inadequate.
- Dealing with death and dying was found to be one of the most significant events identified.
- Collegial support was the most common and highly rated support mechanism.

Finding and Discussion cont'd..

- *Unique Finding:* No differentiation between support structures required for newly qualified nurses versus longer qualified nurses.



Conclusion

- Despite the initial fears and anxieties experienced, participants expressed an overall positive attitude to their role transition.



Recommendations

Implications for practice:

- Clinical supervision and mentorship
- Education and orientation

Future Research:

- Large, multi- centre study
- A comparative study to evaluate novice oncology/haematology nurses that have been provided with preparatory education and clinical supervision.

Questions

