



Abstract Submission Form – Papers

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Proposed title of paper: Studying moral competence of health care professionals

Abstract with 3 clearly stated objectives in 250 words: Participants in this presentation will:

- Gain insight in a PhD study focusing on the understanding of the concept and practice of moral competence within (training of) Moral Case Deliberation; and

- Gain insight in the practice of a Moral Case Deliberation project in a mental health care institution

Introduction

The Free University is setting up long-term projects of Moral Case Deliberation (MCD) in health care organizations. One of the goals of implementing MCD is to support the development of the moral competence of health care professionals. Despite the enthusiasm of the health care professionals and the positive results of the scientific evaluations of the projects, it is not clear what moral competence in practice means and how MCD and the development of moral competence are related.

<u>Results</u>

<u>Today there are many concepts about the development of (moral) competencies' from different</u> <u>backgrounds (ethics, psychology, etc.). In this PhD research project the starting-point will be the practice</u> <u>itself. To define what moral competence means for health care professionals and what they need in</u> order to develop this competence, various qualitative and quantitative research activities are planned according to the methodology of Responsive Evaluation.

Discussion

The concept of moral competence, its development and its relationship with moral deliberation are studied in and with the health care professionals in a mental health care institution. How do they understand moral competence? What do they actually do if they exercise their moral competence? What role plays MCD? These questions and challenges are being discussed.

If you have or will publish on this topic, please cite reference:

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