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Abstract

Death is a natural part of life, which mostly occurs in the ER. This study described the meaning of nurses' lived experience of caring for critical and dying patients in the ERs. In this qualitative study, 13 nurses who was purposefully selected. Data were collected using in-depth individual interviews. Data analysis used van Manen's hermeneutic phenomenological approach. The experiences of caring for the dying patient were divided into two parts: experiences in patients with acute and chronic problems. In patients with acute problems, four themes were extracted: fight to the death, no time for palliative and spiritual care, lacking support for the family, no privacy for peaceful death. In patients with chronic problems, four themes were extracted: Facilitating a peaceful death, Allocating time for palliative and spiritual care, support for the family, Attention to privacy. Therefore, attention should be paid to the fields of care and its inadequacies.

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