

# **'The OMAHA SYSTEM'**

## **OPENING THE BLACK BOX**

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research of good practices: clinical reasoning explored  
a mixed-methods study to gather insight in holistisch clinical  
reasoning of good community nurses

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# research Purpose:

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To get insight into the functioning of ADNC nurses supported by the SC system.

Amstelring District Nursing Care, (ADNC) organizes dementia, cancer and wound care with the help of nurse experts.

Their expertise is accessed within a Stepped Care system (SC).

ADNC nurses use the Omaha System on an electronic platform.

The Omaha System care plans describe this expert care.

The purpose of this research was to gain insight into the functioning of ADNC nurses supported by the SC system.

# Background

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Nurses and researchers from ADNC and the Centre for Client Experience (VU) examined whether Omaha System data provides an insight into the clinical holistic reasoning of dementia, cancer, and wound care by ADNC nurses.

It looked at how this data might be used for reflection on team level.

# Mixed methodes study:

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use of Quantity and Quality Data:

We employed short surveys, (QuickScans) created by specialists and/or competence experts within the organization; qualitative interviews with professionals; Omaha System intervention data; examining good practices, problem areas; and possibilities for improvement for the team

# Results:

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- Results:
- There were many similarities across the surveys, interviews, and Omaha System data, together with reflections shared during the reflection meetings.
- This shows that expert care expressed by Omaha System data aids in understanding good practices and possibilities for improvement.
- The surveys and reflection meetings with the teams helped to clarify the “why” argumentations and stumbling blocks faced by ADNC nurses in their SC system.

# Lessons learned

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- Accessible team-level data contributed to reflection and quality improvements within the teams.
- There is need for further development of a practical working method in order for Omaha System data to be transparent and accessible. Further work will require team discussions to clarify what information they find most relevant. We have incorporated these findings into Omaha System
- trainings for ADNC professionals. Future research should examine the best ways to monitor how
- we develop further as professionals.

# Implementation in daily practice

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- stepped care better put in practice
- guilds better facilitating teams
- critical reasoning being trained by trainers
- more schooling and workshops about the use of Omaha System
- more training on various nursing specialities

# Five years from now.....

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- ❑ aim to 1. all nurses can make good care plans and evaluate care
- ❑ 2. all specialised nurses are quickly found by colleagues

## Which steps should be taken to realize this?

aid nurses and support team in their profession creating further insights

further research possible:

- application e-Health of patients
- night care regionally organised
- preventative care elderly patients
- use of home help alongside nursing teams