ABSTRACT

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Masters’ Thesis: The shining star in the sky—medical laboratory technologist’s thoughts of the beauty in caring

Keywords: Evident caring, laboratory, nurse–patient relationship, constructivist caring, hermeneutics

April 2013 Pages: 99 Appendices: 3 Figures: 5

The aim of this thesis is to find out the nuances which the medical laboratory technologist experiences as beautiful in caring in clinical physiology. Caring in clinical physiology contains a technical part with the devices and a caring part with the patient. It is challenging to the medical laboratory technologist to connect these two parts together for evidence caring. Evidence caring consist of the truthful (the head), the goodness (the heart) and the beautiful (the hand). When the head connects with the heart, realizes the truth or the truthful and this leaves into sight through the hand, the beautiful. The beautiful is something aesthetic. The central research questions are: What does a medical laboratory technologist experience as beautiful in caring in clinical physiology? How does the beauty unfold in medical laboratory technologists caring to patients?

Gadamer's philosophic hermeneutics is used as methodology. The theoretical perspective is attached to the evidence caring and the thought of human beings: to serve with love, to exist for other human beings. The thesis approaches a new understanding by interpreting texts. The participants of the thesis are medical laboratory technologists who work in the field of clinical physiology. The material consists of written narratives which were submitted through an online questionnaire. The textual interpretation is inspired by philosophic hermeneutics. The interpretation consists of the confluence of the new and the old hermeneutic.

The result brings out the meaning of the devices as a tool for bringing forth the Clairsus in the caring of medical laboratory technologist. The presence and attitude of the medical laboratory technologist offers a timeless time in a unique meeting with the patient. The medical laboratory technologist receives the patient’s calling and invites the patient to the laboratory test. The medical laboratory technologist picks up the baton of the patient and meets her as a fellow human being. The encounter between the medical laboratory technologist and patient is unique for both of them. A good intersubjective is deep and material and it reflects the medical laboratory technologist’s capability to step into the patient’s thought world. An idea for further study is to research how the viewpoint of beauty in caring makes a difference between the medical laboratory technologist and the nurse.