The aim of this caring science study is to make the invitation visible in the context of a new caretaker in a caring culture. To work from a caring science perspective means to work by ontological, epistemological and methodological and ethical standpoints.

It is within the theoretical perspective that the answers to the questions in the study will be searched for. The two questions in the study are: 1) What is characteristic of the invitation in the caring culture” and 2) What kind of understanding about being invited in a caring culture do new caretakers have?

The study is based on the hermeneutical concepts of aiming, seeking and concluding. Before the study a literature review was done. During the review one can observe that (1) invitation is a part of confirmation of the new caretaker, (2) listening is part of the invitation in a caring culture, (3) the atmosphere at work affects the way the new caretakers comprehend being invited and (4) inviting learning experiences are appreciated by the new caretakers.

The study is descriptive and has a hermeneutical approach. Data was collected by qualitative interviews. In the study 8 new caretakers with a working experience of between 3 and 18 months in their current positions were interviewed. The interview data was analysed in an inductive way using content analysis. The analysis has helped making the invitation of the new caretaker in a caring culture visible.

In the result invitation becomes visible when compared by the ontological view. Without caritas an invitation cannot occur in a caring culture. The new caretaker experience herself or himself being invited by various acts and by being confirmed as a human being and a caretaker. The confirmation occurs in a state of symmetry and openness where all caretakers consider themselves equal with the other caretakers and thus invite each other. The task of the new caretaker in a caring culture is to be there for the patient. The caretaker is invited to a caring community to serve the common goal of taking care of the patient. Invitation is constantly present in a caring culture. The invitation is visible in kind reception and in various actions that make the new caretaker feel being invited. The head category of "invitation" consists of kind reception, support, confirmation, openness and participation. The meeting between two persons is based on an ethical demand and creates a metaphysical moral ground for humanity.

The result of the study conforms with the ethical and ontological views in the study. The study describes how a caretaker is invited to a caring culture and makes the caring concept of "invitation" visible in a new context.