



MARTIN SALZMANN-ERIKSON is a registered nurse specialized in psychiatric care in addition to holding a master's degree in Caring Science. He has more than 15 years' experience from working in inpatient psychiatry. Alongside his clinical work as a nurse he enrolled as a part-time doctoral student at Örebro University and was employed by Dalarna University from 2006. From a platform that has combined part-time nursing practice at Oslo University Hospital, Ullevål and doctoral studies in intensive psychiatry. Salzmänn-Erikson has also initiated and is involved in other research projects directed at further developing education, theory and methods within nursing science. He has published numerous research articles as well as popular science articles, contributed to national and international conferences and held lectures and symposia.

The overall aim of this thesis is to describe and explore the concept of caring in intensive psychiatry. The studies the thesis is based on led to the conceptualization of caring in intensive psychiatry as a projection of a culture of stability. Within this culture, the overall goal is to prevent, maintain and restore stability as turbulence occurs. Cultural knowing, as expressed through nursing care, is further described in terms of providing surveillance, soothing, being present, trading information, maintaining security, and what has been termed reducing. Within the culture of stability, caring can be accurately described as the projection of rhythm and movements. Nursing care in terms of movements creates fluctuations in the stability as it shapes the rhythm of caring in intensive psychiatry. In conclusion, physical boundaries and incorporated control along with tactful sensibility involve rhythm and movements within limited structures and closeness in care. Closeness in care does not explicitly or necessarily implicate being in close proximity, but rather, and even more importantly, it relates to cultural knowing of the act of balancing between being close and keeping a distance. This thesis contributes to articulating advanced nursing practice within intensive psychiatry.

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Medical Science with focus on Health- and Care Sciences

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