

The Lived Experiences of Fire Fighters in Facing of Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment in Taiwan



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Introduction

According to the statistics of the Ministry of Health and Welfare in 2016, the number of mental illnesses in Taiwan is 1.5 times higher than that in 2007. Fire fighters in Taiwan not only need to extinguish the blaze, but also require helping the involuntary psychiatric treatment.

The fire fighters usually are the one, who send them to hospitals. Sometimes, after the fire fighters assess these suspicious psychiatric patients, they find no needs to send them to the hospitals. The family members of the patients may argue with the fire fighters and cause troubles in complain or irrational legal proceedings, resulting in the gap between the mental health system and the actual social events.



Through the discussion of this study, the fire fighters who assist in the implementation of involuntary psychiatric treatment were thought-provoking, paying attention to the feelings and emotions of the self.

It is recommended to first join the mental patient treatment courses from the continuing education of fire fighters, and integrate the topics such as on-site simulation scenarios and regulations, so that fire fighters have different visions and processing modes in the cultivation education, which helps to adapt to the scene.

Objectives

The study explored the experiences of fire fighters in facing of involuntary psychiatric treatment.

Methods

A phenomenological approach was the theoretical framework. The purposive sampling was used as the data collection. One face-to-face audio-taped in-depth interviews were held to explore the lived Experiences of Fire Fighters in Facing of Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment from three Southern-Fire Brigades in Taiwan. Seven fire fighters were selected until the data was saturation.

Conclusion

Results

The results show that three major themes were identified from Colaizzi's analysis method: (1) the gap between regulations and reality, (2) the fear caused by uncertainty, (3) the feeling of powerlessness and adjustment.

number	Name	Fire Fighter Job tenure	Emergency Medical Technician Qualification
1	An	10	EMT-2
2	Lin	10	EMT-2
3	Chang	16	EMT-2
4	Lu	18	EMT-P
5	Xu	0.5	EMT-1
6	Chen	0.5	EMT-1
7	Chiang	0.5	EMT-1