Environmentally-friendly hospitals: implications for nursing practice within the Australian healthcare context

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**Historical Context**

**Hippocrates** (460-370 BC)
- Four Seasons
- Four Bodily Humors
- Four Elements

**Florence Nightingale** (1820-1910)
- Light
- Fresh Air
- Warmth
Aim
To develop an understanding of how climate change adaptation has influenced nursing practice for registered nurses within the Australian healthcare context.

Question
What is the lived experience of registered nurses when hospitals become climate-friendly?
Methodology

Phenomenology

Husserl (1859-1938) Vs Heidegger (1889-1976)

Heidegger’s Hermeneutic Phenomenology

- Interpretive
- Pre-conception
- Convergence of Ideas
Individual’s experience

Semi-structured – questions guided by participant’s response

Face to face interview

Telephone and Tape recorded interviews
Data Analysis

- Hermeneutic Circle

- Interpretive Phenomenological Approach (IPA)

- Bracketing was not implemented
Participants

Registered Nurses

Working towards 7 elements (WHO) & (HCWH)

Climate-friendly hospitals
Findings

Emerging Themes:

- Confidentiality of Information
- Recycling of waste – Traditional Nursing Practice
- Accountability and Responsibility for Own Actions
  - Education and Recognition of Knowledge Base
- Recognition for Professional Development
  - Professional Development within the area of Climate Change
  - Conflicting Information
- Professional and Ethical Practice
  - Patient safety - Pressurised
  - Comfort of Patients
Global Green & Healthy Hospitals

- Progressed to 10 Goals
- Australia – Australian Healthcare & Hospital Association
- Thailand – Green and clean Hospital Program
- Indonesia – Proper Program
- England – NHS Trust – “Route Map”
- Europe – Health Promoting Hospitals Network
- USA – NGO Practice Greenhealth
- Other countries: Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Philippines, South Africa and Sweden
Summary

Future Focused:-

- Empower nurses with choices and involvement
  - “I never thought about it”
  - Top down approach

- The Climate and Alliance and Australian Hospitals and Healthcare Association
  - Policy Think Tank
  - Belong to a ‘Governing Body’
  - Uphold an Agenda

- Cascading Systems Approach (CSA)
  - Buddy System – Nationally and Internationally
  - Audit
Thank You & Questions

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