

The Core Competences in Wound Care of Registered Nurses at Careggi University Hospital: A Survey Through Focus Groups

Matteo Cosci¹, Chiara Balestri², Francesca Braschi³, Franca Pinelli³

¹ Operational Unit for Staff Policies and Labor Relations, Careggi University Hospital, Florence, Italy

² Department of Education, Languages, Intercultural Studies, Literature and Psychology, University of Florence, Florence, Italy

³ Planning, Governance and Monitoring of Nursing and Midwifery Care Processes, Careggi University Hospital, Florence, Italy

(Corresponding Author: coscim@aou-careggi.toscana.it)

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Introduction. Chronic wounds pose significant global healthcare challenges. Managing complex lesions requires multidisciplinary efforts and advanced nursing competencies. However, gaps remain in standardized protocols and clear definitions of professional expertise.

Methods. A qualitative study was conducted at AOU Careggi (Florence) involving 24 expert nurses from clinical, educational, and management backgrounds. Data were collected through two focus groups, incorporating the participatory World Café methodology and the Business Model Canvas adopted for the project. A six-phase thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006) was performed.

Results. Six core competencies for wound care consultant nurses were identified, alongside specific training and organizational requirements. The discussions also revealed insights into daily professional barriers and strategic proposals for improving practice and role definition.

Discussion. This peer-to-peer evaluation successfully mapped the distinctive skills required for wound care within a specific clinical context. The participatory methodology facilitated open dialogue and high participant satisfaction. The richness of the findings encourages the integration of such collaborative research models to enhance clinical practice and professional development.

Keywords: Competencies, Wound Care, Participatory Methodology, Focus Group, Thematic Analysis

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