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TurvaSiipi project: The analysis of situations where there is a heightened risk of violence, but the security room intervention could not be used

The TurvaSiipi project aims to develop a new procedure to prevent violence and aggression in psychiatric inpatient units in Finland, and consequently increase job-related safety and well-being as well as job management among nurses working with challenging patients. The new developed procedure is a security room intervention that is based on prevention, environmental changes and enhanced communication. The objective is to strengthen violence prevention by introducing the Brøset Violence Checklist.

The intervention units implemented the security room and evaluated the possible risk of violence using the BVC. When the project commenced, the security room was to be used if the BVC points were two or more. If the security room was not used in that situation, the staff would then fill out a monitoring form A. This form was used to investigate the staff's background information, the reasons why the security room was not used and the functions related to the situation.

The form included information about the patient's individual treatment, humane encounter, paying attention to cultural background, the inclusion of relatives or experts by experience, if verbal or eye contact was established and other functions used in the situation. These other functions included eating, showering, PRN medication, sleeping or something that the patient wished for. In addition, the staff would evaluate the actualization of these functions using a five-point Likert scale.

The approximate 200 filled out forms were compiled into statistics using SPSS, but the statistical analysis is still in progress. The final results will be reported in the ECMH conference. The preliminary results suggest that the use of humane encounter, individual treatment and other functions that the patient wishes for are actively used but the situation where there is a risk of violence might still result in the use of the seclusion room.