PATIENT SAFETY CULTURE: MEASUREMENT – LEADERSHIP – IMPROVEMENT

by

Solvejg Kristensen

Patient safety is highly prioritised in the Danish health care system, never the less, patients are still exposed to risk and harmed every day. Implementation of a patient safety culture has been suggested an effective mean to protect patients against adverse events. Working strategically with assessment and development of the patient safety culture is in early days in Denmark. It depends upon valid, reliable and effective methods.

The patient safety culture represents a wide range of social phenomena permeating the way of life in a health care. In essence, the safety culture is an aggregation of health care professional’s behaviour, habits, norms, values, and basic assumptions related to patient care; it is the way things are done. The patient safety culture guides the motivation, commitment to and know-how of the safety management, and how all members of a work place interact.

This thesis presents a tested and valid questionnaire for measuring patients’ safety culture within hospital care, confirms the effectiveness of a leadership intervention to improve the safety culture, and highlights the role of leadership in creating a patient safety culture.
To fulfill the requirements for the PhD degree, Solvejg Kristensen has submitted the thesis: Patient Safety Culture: Measurement – Leadership – Improvement, to the Faculty Council of Medicine at Aalborg University.

The Faculty Council has appointed the following adjudication committee to evaluate the thesis and the associated lecture:

**Professor David Roe**  
Department of Community Mental Health  
University of Haifa  
Israel

**Clinical Professor Doris Østergaard**  
Department of Clinical Medicine  
University of Copenhagen  
Denmark

**Chairman:**  
Clinical Professor Erika Frischnecht Christensen  
Department of Clinical Medicine  
Aalborg University  
Denmark

**Moderator:**  
Clinical Professor Jan Mainz  
Department of Clinical Medicine  
Aalborg University  
Denmark

The PhD lecture is public and will take place on:

**Wednesday 14 September 2016 at 13:00**  
Festsalen, Aalborg University Hospital, Psychiatry  
Mølleparkvej 10, 9200 Aalborg

**Program for PhD lecture on**  
**Wednesday 14 September 2016**  
**by**  
Solvejg Kristensen

Patient Safety Culture: Measurement – Leadership – Improvement

**Chairman:** Clinical Professor Erika Frischnecht Christensen  
**Moderator:** Clinical Professor Jan Mainz

13.00 Opening by the Moderator  
13.05 PhD lecture by Solvejg Kristensen  
13.50 Break  
14.00 Questions and comments from the Committee  
Questions and comments from the audience at the Moderator’s discretion  
16.00 Conclusion of the session by the Moderator

After the session a reception will be arranged