

Exploring homecare nurses' encounters with citizens living with mental illness - A study protocol examining professional and organizational conditions for homecare nursing in Denmark.

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Background: Over the past two decades, the reorganization of psychiatric care and treatment has led to a shift in responsibilities. Homecare nurses now experience more contacts with citizens with mental illness. Previous studies have shown that home care nurses are often challenged in their encounters with citizens with mental illness due to a lack of competencies and insufficient interprofessional and cross-sectional collaboration in care.

Aim: To generate knowledge about current practices by exploring how Homecare nurses act in clinical practice and to develop recommendations on how the existing practice can be changed towards more coherent citizen trajectories and collaboration between professionals and sectors.

Methods Study 1

An ethnographic field study based on participant observation and interviews.

Researchers will follow homecare nurses in clinical practice.

Homecare nurses from three Municipalities located in the Central Region of Jutland. Two urban and one rural district.

Methods Study 2

Action research based on the methodology of dialogical action research

Actors from the field of 'homecare nursing' e.g. the citizens, General Practitioners, hospital and homecare staff are participants.

Based on results from sub-study 1, to create a basis for collaboration and develop recommendations for future practice

Research proces

Study 1

Data collection from March to June 2025

Data analyses from August to October 2025

Study 2

Data collection from April – October 2026

Data analyses from November 2026 to March 2027