

Joakim Öhlén

Biography:

Joakim Öhlén, PhD, RN, is professor in nursing at the Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg in Sweden, and has a clinical appointment to the Department for Palliative Care at Sahlgrenska University Hospital in Gothenburg. He is a research domain leader and primary investigator at the University of Gothenburg Centre for Person-Centred Care, and leads a research programme focusing on person-centeredness in palliative care. He has contributed with knowledge about how to put person-centeredness in action including a practice model for communication in the context of palliative care, patients' preparedness for recovery, and support to family members in palliative care. He is member of the editorial board for the journals Qualitative Health Research, Nursing Inquiry and Global Qualitative Nursing Research. His publications are related to palliative care, person-centeredness, nursing and cancer care.

Title of Plenary Lecture:

Advancing person-centred care: From philosophy of the person to practice

Abstract:

To person-centred healthcare is today considered an important core competence for all health professionals. However, it is common that professionals find themselves already practicing care focusing on patients as persons, while patients and family members report that the care received lack person-centeredness. This talk will present a view of person-centred care as a possible and radical alternative principle for practicing and organizing healthcare, without claiming to offer a solution to all challenges in healthcare. Theoretical underpinnings of the 'person' will be taken from philosophical perspectives of the 'person', including the work of Paul Ricoeur. Examples of practical applications and results will be taken from the development at the Centre for Person-Centred Care at the University of Gothenburg.