



The Discursive Constructions of Self Positioning amongst Minority Ethnic Patients in a Hospital Ward

Strunck, Jeanne; Lassen, Inger

Publication date:
2010

Document Version
Accepted author manuscript, peer reviewed version

[Link to publication from Aalborg University](#)

Citation for published version (APA):
Strunck, J., & Lassen, I. (2010). *The Discursive Constructions of Self Positioning amongst Minority Ethnic Patients in a Hospital Ward*. Abstract from The Third International Conference on Multicultural Discourses, Hangzhou, China.

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal -

Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at vbn@aub.aau.dk providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

The Discursive Constructions of Self Positioning amongst Minority Ethnic Patients in a Hospital Ward.

Jeanne Strunck & Inger Lassen. Aalborg University, Denmark.

This paper deals with results from an ongoing research project about how patients and health professionals talk about and enact culture in a specific Danish hospital ward, whether this may have implications for staff - patient relationships and how knowledge of cultural complexities may add value to patient care. The project and this paper are based on a discourse analytic and social constructivist approach, and contrary to some earlier studies focusing on health professionals' perceptions of culture in relation to the care of minority ethnic patients (Dansk Sygeplejeråd 2006; Nielsen, B. 2006; Roberts, C. 2005) this project and paper deal with culture seen from a patient perspective. Data have been collected from interviews with minority ethnic patients and with nurses about the intercultural encounter in an infectious diseases ward, and the analysis focuses on evaluating statements (Martin and White 2005) present in the discourses. The analysis aims at studying how such discourses may display the patients' roles and self positioning, to discuss whether such positions and roles are attributable to culture, language proficiency or social conditions. Furthermore, analysis of the discursive constructions of nurses' perceptions demonstrates both intended perceptions and actual enactments which may, as those of the patients, contribute positively or negatively to care and intercultural complexities in the ward.

References:

- Dansk Sygeplejeråd (2006) Sygeplejersken, *Undersøgelsen om den etniske patient*. Catinèt spørgeskemaundersøgelse.
- Iedema, R. (2007), *The Discourse of Hospital Communication. Tracing Complexities in Contemporary Health Care Organisations*. New York: Palgrave.
- Martin and White (2005), *The Language of Evaluation. Appraisal in English*, Palgrave Macmillan
- Nielsen, B. (2006), *Patienter med minoritetsetnisk baggrund i det danske sundhedsvæsen, en fænomenologisk undersøgelse af sygeplejerskers oplevelse af mødet med minoritetsetniske patienter på en dansk hospitalsafdeling*, Institut for Folkesundhed, Århus Universitet.
- Roberts, C. et al. (2005), *Misunderstandings: a qualitative study of primary care consultations in multilingual settings, and educational implications*, in: *Medical Education* 2005. 39:465-475. Blackwell Publishing.
- Roberts, C. & Srikant Sarangi (2003), *Uptake of Discourse Research in Interprofessional Settings: Reporting from Medical Consultancy*, in: *Applied Linguistics* 24/3: 338-359. Oxford University Press.
- Van Dijk (2008) *Discourse and Power*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Van Dijk, T. A. (2009), *Society and Discourse, How Social Contexts Influence Text and Talk*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.