

# Hearing From the Silent: Patients' Experiences of Family Presence During Resuscitation

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# Background

- Family
- Family presence
- Resuscitation
- Family presence during resuscitation (FPDR)

# Question

How might we understand the meaning of FPDR for the patient?

This question came from a number of experiences of family presence during resuscitation, and a perceived desire from healthcare professionals to maintain a sense of autonomy for individuals who, during the actual need for resuscitation, might not be able to speak for themselves. There was also a desire to venture beyond the preference and factors that influence family presence during resuscitation.

# Participants

- Carrie
- Ivan
- Rebecca
- Alexis
- Mike

“Hermeneutics without phenomenology  
is interpretation without context,  
without situating it in the world”  
(Moules, 2002, pp. 12-13)

# Participants

- Mike

Gadamer (2004) explained, “this kind of sensitivity involves neither ‘neutrality’ with respect to content nor the extinction of one’s self, but the foregrounding and appropriation of one’s own fore-meanings and prejudices” (p. 271).

# Method

*“Hermeneutics is not founded upon the separation of researchers from the earthly life they live or the lives that are the topics of their research. Such a sense of separation and isolation and breakdown is often demanded, in all places of research into the lives we live.”*

(Jardine, 2000 p. 105)

# Interpretations

- Memory

*Rebecca: For me I needed to have my family to help me make sense of what happened.*

*I needed my family to help me comprehend what was happening.*

# “Encircled”

Epistemology tends to exclude all poetry and all art from the domain of knowledge: in short, it excludes everything that does not conform to the ideal of systematic knowledge.

Gadamer regarded this as a great mistake, and the whole of his hermeneutics tried to correct it. (Grondin, 2003, p. 4)



# Interpretations

- Words

*Alexis: I truly believe it brought me back*

# Interpretations

- Being “watched”

*Alexis: I...I know this probably...maybe it doesn't sound strange to you...  
I could see everything happening and I could watch everything, but I wasn't in my body anymore.*

# Interpretations

- Definitions

"Situations deconstructed are always  
unique to each situation"

(Metzger, 2012, p. 97)

# Implications

- Family is the constant
- There may be more going on
- Uncertainty/Possibility
  
- Conclusion?
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