

"Perchance to dream;

ay, there's the rub . . ."

If you happened to read Chris Frye's article "Nursing Views on Chronic Dialysis", in the last issue of this Journal (Fall/1971), you may have been intrigued by the analysis. Many readers *were* intrigued, so much so that we have been asked to make Chris' survey available to our entire readership. Chris Frye herself has promised to compile the results and report them in an upcoming issue of the Journal.

If you work in dialysis, please take the time, when you can, to answer the survey. Your report can be mailed to the Journal office or directly to Chris in care of the Dialysis Unit, Ottawa Civic Hospital, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Although we would like to have your name and/or that of your institution, it is not absolutely necessary. Though the questionnaire was designed for dialysis nurses, it also has many questions that pertain to many workers in the field. Our thanks for your participation in this project.



GENERAL

Are you a technician or a nurse? What was your job before joining the dialysis unit? How long have you been in dialysis? How large is your unit? How long has it been open? What type of unit, chronic or acute or a combination? What types of dialysis are practiced here, peritoneal and/or hemodialysis?

A. DREAMS

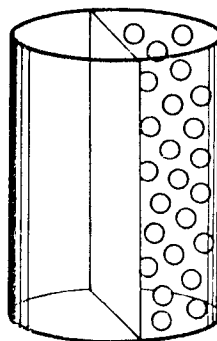
1. Describe briefly a few of the dreams you have had which have involved dialysis, the Unit staff, etc.
 - a. At the time of the dream, could you relate it to some incident in, or aspect of, the work at that time?
 - b. Was it a realistic situation, or completely fantastic?
 - c. Was the equipment functioning poorly or was it troublesome?
 - d. Were the head nurse or doctors seen in a threatening role or as villains?
2. Have you ever dreamed you were a dialysis (or renal failure) patient yourself? Was it an unpleasant experience?
3. Would you say you have work-related dreams seldom or often?

B. ATTITUDES TOWARD DIALYSIS NURSING

1. Why did you decide to become a dialysis nurse? Do you ever regret having done so? Why?
2. Could you describe your feelings and attitudes toward long-term patient care:
 - a. Do you find it easier to care for a patient when you have weeks and months to get to know him? Do you find yourself irritated by a patient when you have had frequent contact with him over a long period of time-'patientitis'?
 - b. If you left an acute nursing care unit to work in dialysis, compare your reactions to short-term, acute care and long-term chronic care.
 - c. Do you find the routine mechanical work in the Unit boring or tedious? Would you prefer more nursing and less technical work?

3. What are your opinions on the value of chronic hemodialysis?
 - a. Do you feel it is economically and morally justified in a hungry world?
 - b. Should hospitals spend large amounts of their limited budgets on this care for a few selected patients? Could this money be better spent in some other department or for some service benefitting larger number of patients?
 - c. Do you feel there should be strict selection criteria?
4. Should some form of guidance or counselling be available to the dialysis personnel? If so, is this more necessary for dialysis nurses, for example, than for nurses in other departments? If you have such counselling available, do you find it helpful?
5. To what extent should dialysis nurses get involved in their patients' socio-economic and psychological problems? Is involvement satisfying or frustrating? Is there a danger in becoming too involved?
6. If there is an informal, relaxed atmosphere in your Unit, do you enjoy it? Or should there be a formal nurse-patient relationship, with no first names, as on other nursing floors?
7. Do you find it harder to accept the death of a long-term dialysis patient than, for example, a post-operative patient on an acute ward? Which of the following more clearly reflects your attitude when a chronic dialysis patient dies?
 - a. A young person, with work and family responsibilities, shouldn't have to die of chronic renal disease with dialysis! We have failed!
 - b. Because hemodialysis was available, he was able to live an extra year of fairly productive life. We have helped!
8. Do you enjoy the challenge of an occasional acutely ill patient, as acute renal failure, or fresh post-op chronic renal failure-i.e. intensive nursing care as well as dialysis?
9. Would you sum up your feelings about the type of work you are doing with special reference to personal commitment, job challenge and satisfaction, and feelings of frustration and/or accomplishment.

Any additional comments or avenues of approach would be most welcome.



DIALYSIS