

Summary of the PhD Dissertation

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Place	Vienna,
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Curriculum Vitae

Marianne Frech leitet seit 2019 den Masterstudien- gang in Pflegewissenschaft an der Careum Hochschule Gesundheit. Gleichzeitig hat sie ihr Doktorat am Institut für Pflegewissenschaften der Soziologischen Fakultät an der Universität in Wien zum Thema: «Young Carers and Young Adult Carers in Switzerland: Impact of their Caring Role and their Needs for Support.» verfolgt und 2022 erfolgreich ab- geschlossen.



Von 2012-2015 absolvierte Marianne Frech ihren Master Nursing Science an der Universität Basel und von 2015-2016 den Master in Science Nursing an der Kalaidos Fachhochschule, Departement Gesundheit. Bereits von 2014–2019 war sie als wissen- schaftliche Mitarbeiterin im Team «Young Carers» der Careum Hochschule Gesundheit tätig. Marianne Frech hat 2001 eine Krankenpflegeausbildung abgeschlos- sen und war als Pflegeexpertin und in der praktischen Berufsbildung tätig.

Description of the project

Defining Support for Young Carers in Switzerland

The relevance of adult relatives or person close providing informal care for a family member suffering from chronic disease as well as impairment, frailty or substance abuse is well rec- ognized. Yet, the awareness towards Swiss young people with caring responsibilities is still little. The international research discourse shows a growing data base and understanding about these so-called young carers or young adult carers. In Switzerland, their situation and challenges have not been in the focus of research and practice until recently. It may be

assumed that these children and young adults play also a significant role in delivering familial care, support and assistance like in other countries.

This PhD research project aims to highlight the different outcomes of the caring role of young carers, young adult carers on their lives and their need for support by developing model of support for the professional context. The data gathered will help to develop an understanding of the influencing factors of support approaches, interventions and its provision.

A multi-methods approach is being used. The project consists of three parts, namely a theoretical analysis of the concept of young carers used in German speaking countries (1), a quantitative analysis of an existing set of data from professionals from education, health care and social service sectors (2) and a qualitative study with interviews conducted in families with young carers, young adult carers (3). The national knowledge of potential repercussions influencing the lives of young carers as well as their families will be increased. The findings will be transferred into implications for policy makers as well as recommendations regarding the development of support.