

DHML – Nursing Sciences Team – Research Interests

Principal Investigator: Prof. Marie FRIEDEL

The Nursing Sciences team at the University of Luxembourg conducts a broad and dynamic programme of research with strong clinical relevance and societal impact. Grounded in the nursing sciences, our work spans the full continuum of care from prevention and treatment to rehabilitation, long-term support, and care during progressive or life-limiting conditions. Our collective research interests encompass key thematic areas, including paediatric palliative care, quality of life, ethical practice, health equity, and mentoring in nursing education.

General overview of the Nursing Team’s research interests and ongoing projects:

Researcher	Research Area	Research Topics	Research Interests... in a nutshell	Current Research Projects (including funder)
Prof. Marie FRIEDEL	Nursing sciences	Paediatric palliative care; Children’s-reported outcome measures; Quality of life; Family-centred care; Nursing Ethics; Spiritual care	Professor Friedel’s work sits at the intersection of pediatric palliative care, quality of life metrics, ethics, and innovative nursing education—with a strong emphasis on collaboration with patients, families, and healthcare professionals.	(1) ERASMUS+ “Spirit4Care” (2) INTERREG GR – “WALUXSANTE”
Dr Dan LECOQCQ	Nursing sciences	Models and theories in nursing; Attractivity and retention in the nursing profession; Mentoring new professors in nursing	Dr Dan Lecoq’s interests combine through theoretical and qualitative research elements of nursing philosophy, nursing education, ethical care frameworks, patient partnership and the design of robust, reflective healthcare systems, all related to healthcare quality	(1) INTERREG GR – “REMOCOSAN” (in collaboration with Prof. Louis CHAUVEL, FHSE)
Dr Anne-Marie HANFF	Nursing sciences	Patient-reported outcomes; Mobility; Fall-related injuries; avoidable hospitalisations; Autonomy; Chronic diseases; illness trajectories; self-care; sex-specific progression;	Dr. Anne-Marie Hanff’s research focuses on understanding patient-reported outcomes, such as functional mobility in chronic diseases (e.g., Parkinson’s disease) through mixed-methods studies combining longitudinal data analysis and qualitative interviews. Moreover, she’s examining the effect of sex/gender, self-care and social factors to understand	

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		Parkinson's disease; patient partnerships	unexpectedly stable symptoms trajectories and aims to translate findings from fall-related injuries in older individuals into practice-oriented recommendations for health and social policy in Luxembourg.	
Dr Afi AGBOLI	Nursing sciences	Female genital mutilation; Gender-based violence; Capabilities approach; Posttraumatic growth and Existential growth; Spiritual care; TMulticultural Nursing Education	Dr. Agboli's work blends aspects of women's health empowerment, critical psychological analysis, and public health ethics, using rich qualitative (grounded theory) and conceptual approaches to foreground resilience and agency in vulnerable populations. She also researches on how multicultural teams shape nursing education and teaching practices by exploring the lived experience of nursing teachers within the ever- changing multicultural academic team at the University of Luxembourg; the challenges and the coping strategies they put in place for collaboration, and building their professional identity.	ERASMUS+ "Spirit4Care"
Dr Jyoshma D SOUZA	Preventive healthcare	Cancer prevention; Health behaviour theories; Health Literacy, Health promotion & Disease prevention behaviour, Health education	Dr. Jyoshma D'Souza's research bridges theory, practice, and policy, translating evidence into culturally relevant public health and patient-centred interventions. Her work integrates health behavior theory, health literacy, and implementation science to strengthen prevention and education across diverse populations. She has extensively applied psychological and behavioral theories, developed an integrated ' DOST ' model to guide public health cancer screening education. Her expertise includes assessing and addressing	

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			<p>psychosocial determinants of health behaviors and creating validated health literacy assessment tools that inform cancer-prevention policies in universities and national programs. Using mixed-methods and theory-driven approaches, Dr Dsouza tests health-literacy–integrated educational tools for research in India-Luxembourg collaboration study “CAPTURE” Project</p>	
Dr Semra SMAJIC	Nursing sciences	Mentoring of nursing students; Education in Nursing Sciences; Family-centered autism research	Dr Semra Smajic’s research focuses on the impact of mentoring nursing students, education in nursing sciences, and family-centered autism research, with particular attention to the experiences of siblings of autistic children.	(1) Œuvre Nationale de Secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte – « Twin-a-nurse »
Thibault DUBOIS (PhD candidate)	Nursing sciences	Attractivity & retention in nursing profession;	(1) Thibault Dubois’ research focuses on the decision-making process of hospital nurses who decide to stay or leave the profession	(1) INTERREG GR – “WALUXSANTE”
Micha MASSAAD (PhD candidate)	Nursing sciences	Paediatric palliative care ; personal and professional nurses' growth in pediatric palliative care	Micha’s PhD research is structured in three phases. The first study provided the first national study of pediatric palliative care in Luxembourg, examining legal frameworks, resources, care needs, and estimating the number of children requiring palliative care through a mixed-methods approach. The second study, a narrative literature review, identified evidence of multidimensional personal and professional growth among nurses caring for children with life-limiting conditions. The third study will explore how nurses experience growth in pediatric	

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			palliative and end-of-life care and how it influences their practice and lives.	
Dr. Privitera Daniele	Nursing Science	Vascular access safety; Catheter-related complications; Emergency and critical care nursing; Non-invasive respiratory support; Helmet CPAP in acute hypoxemic respiratory failure	Dr. Daniele Privitera conducts research on vascular access safety in acute and critical care, with particular focus on short peripheral intravenous catheters, midlines and central venous devices, their complications, and the impact of educational and organizational interventions on clinical outcomes. He also develops and evaluates non-invasive respiratory support strategies with helmet CPAP in emergency and intensive care settings, combining bench experiments, clinical studies and protocolized nursing assessment in acute respiratory failure, including COVID-19 pneumonia	