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AN INVESTIGATION OF NURSING STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES IN AN IRANIAN PSYCHIATRIC UNIT

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Aim: This qualitative study set out to discover and explain clinical experiences of nursing students in a psychiatric unit in an Iranian hospital.

Method: This Heideggerian hermeneutic phenomenological study was carried out in a psychiatric unit of an educational hospital in Iran. Data were produced through an in-depth interview with 13 participants. Analysis rooted in the Diekelmann manner helped to interpret data and uncover frequent themes.

Findings: Four correlated themes - Anxiety, Maturation, Learning Routines and Enthusiasm were recognized in the data.

Conclusion: These results present exclusive insight for scheduling and applying and fitting clinical Education in Iran, especially in psychiatric units. The exploration and description of experiences of the nursing students will help nurse educators plan clinical learning opportunities in such a way that they are less stressful, thus ensuring that nursing students are equipped to use themselves as therapeutic instruments.