**Compassion fatigue and satisfaction in primary care nurses, its determinants and associations with resilience: Preliminary findings**

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**ABSTARCT**

**Purpose:** The aim of this presentation is to examine the level of compassion fatigue, its determinants and associations with resilience in a sample of nurses working in primary care and compare them with those working in secondary and tertiary care. **Theory:** Professionals working in primary health care being exposed to the suffering and traumatic experiences of the people they care are susceptible to develop compassion fatigue (CF). Compassion fatigue (also called secondary or vicarious trauma) jeopardizes professionals’ ability to care for their patients because of symptoms similar to posttraumatic stress disorder. It is described as the convergence of secondary traumatic stress and cumulative burnout, and it is a condition characterized by a gradual lessening of empathy or compassion over time because of the constant demands of caring for others. **Methods:** A self-report questionnaire was administered online or in person to all nurses working in various primary, secondary and tertiary health care units in Crete. **Findings:** The data will be analysed in terms of compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction and their association with resilience. A comparison will be made between primary, secondary and tertiary health care units. **Discussion:** More research should be devoted to determining the level of and factors associated with CF in primary care nurses. Addressing those modifiable factors could result in significant benefits, such as safeguarding those in risk, and potentially minimize the related health and economic consequences.

***Key words:*** secondary or vicarious trauma; burnout; empathy; resilience.