

## Everyday life with chronic illness: physical health or well-being?

The background of the study reported in this chapter was the growing number of chronically ill patients. The purpose was to explore patients' perspectives on life with chronic illness and how it relates to healthcare practice. The research was conducted as an ethnographic field study. A conclusion of the study is that the disease-oriented healthcare system is not geared to deal with rehabilitation because of a narrow focus on disease and treatment, and the exclusion of patients' knowledge. However, knowledge about patients' everyday life and perspectives hold potentials for rehabilitative and health promotional professional interventions.

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