ICD storm from the patient’s perspective

Hilary Bugden RN, MSc
Papworth Hospital NHS Trust
ICD storm from the patients perspective: understanding the lived experience of multiple shocks from an Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis

- Rationale
- Literature
Tim

- 7 shocks in 3 days
- Admitted for stabilisation
- 18 shocks in less than an hour
‘You’ve never experienced a shock, so how can you understand?’

- **Methodology**
  - Patient’s perspective
  - Suited to phenomenology
  - IPA seeks to understand the experience and its meaning (not ascertain theory)
  - Single interview
Research process

- Recruitment & selection
- IPA Process
- Superordinate Themes
Superordinate Themes

- The event itself
  - ‘I’d only ever had a single shock but I’d be unconscious before the shock would happen’

- Fear
  - ‘that’s my biggest fear, that it goes off again’

- Adjustment
  - ‘you just have to find a way of dealing with it’

- Interaction with others
  - ‘I need reassurance’
Conclusions

- Fear and uncertainty, leading to lack of confidence
- Variable ability to cope
- Reassurance sought from health professionals
- Being conscious makes a difference