





# Nursing care for children victims of violence



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# 1 INTRODUCTION

The occurrence of cases of violence has been transforming the profile of health problems in Brazil and the world. To face this problem, new approaches are needed for the health sector, such as lifestyle determinants, environmental and social conditions, and the impact that is caused on quality of life. Even with the enactment of the National Health Policy for the Reduction of Accidents and Violence, the system has been slowly organized to meet the needs arising from the issue while trying to assist the general demand (MINAYO, 2007).

Estimates by the World Health Organization (WHO) show that millions of children around the world are victims or witnesses of violence, which can seriously affect their health, quality of life, and full development. This is an old problem since the first scientific work describing a beaten child was the monograph of a French coroner in 1860 (GAWRYSZEWSKI et al., 2012).

Thus, this study aims to specify, based on a literary survey, the characteristics that makeup nursing care for child victims of violence, as well as to identify evidence in primary studies published in scientific journals that investigated nursing care for children victims of violence who are treated in emergency units.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

This is a literature review study that offers, through the study of previous research, knowledge, and applicability of significant results in the practice of health care. The review enables the synthesis of published studies as well as the formulation of general conclusions regarding a given topic (MENDES et.al., 2008).





For its elaboration, it was necessary to follow six steps: establishment of the hypothesis or guiding question, search in the literature, categorization of studies, evaluation of studies, presentation of results, and synthesis of knowledge/presentation of the review. The synthesis of these results facilitates and speeds up the transfer of new knowledge, thus improving healthcare and nursing care, and bringing scientific knowledge closer to clinical practice (MENDES et.al., 2008).

The study was carried out in three electronic databases: Latin American and Caribbean Health Sciences Literature (LILACS), Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online (MEDLINE), and Scientific Electronic Library Online (SCIELO). The relevance of the study and its correlation with the theme were taken into account.

Inclusion criteria: original research articles that answered the guiding question, indexed in the databases selected for the study, and with complete and free texts, published from 2010 to 2014, in English, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Exclusion criteria: articles that were not freely available, those that addressed other age groups, were excluded from the research; as well as those who, after reading it in full, did not respond to the guiding question.

# **3 CONCLUSION**

We identified 505 publications related to the descriptors used in this research in the years 2010 to 2014, among them, after the subsequent steps of reading the title, 134 were selected to read the abstracts and then read them in full. However, 116 of them did not contain some of the inclusion criteria, either because they were not available in full, or because they addressed aspects that were not related to the purpose of this study.

Of the remaining articles (18), some were repeated in the different databases (six) and were therefore excluded from this work. The final sample consisted of 12 original scientific articles.

Among the journals that the studies were published, journals in the area of nursing predominated, this result, in turn, was already expected because of the theme of this study being focused. Professional nurse authors prevailed, in only one study the author was not a nurse.

Thus, it is observed that the theme of violence against children is addressed by professional nurses, however, studies addressing all types of violence are still needed, as in this research, it was found that in the studies sexual violence prevailed, not prioritizing the others, types of violence against children.

The issue of nursing care for child victims of violence was also addressed by authors from the northeast, southeast, and south of Brazil, a country that is known for its high rates of violence in all age groups.

In the result of the study by Cocco et al (2010), it was verified the care strategies adopted in cases of violence against children and adolescents, in hospital institutions in the municipality of Cruz Alta - RS 2008. The care of the professional nurse: dialogue with the mother and the child, nursing visit, referral to







the doctor, psychologist, and social worker. Referral to the physician on duty to evaluate, referral to the social worker and guardianship council. Clinical nursing care and emotional support. Nursing history and communication to the tutelary council. Referral to the doctor, guardianship council, and notification form. Providing confidence and peace of mind.







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