

8th International Conference on

EURO NURSING & HEALTHCARE

May 04-05, 2023 | Zurich, Switzerland

Received date: 13.12.2022 | Accepted date: 03.01.2023 | Published date: 04.06.2023

Challenges experienced by portuguese professionals in humanitude care for institutionalized elderly people during the pandemic

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Method: This is a qualitative study, supported by reflections on the Humanitude Care Methodology, carried out with workers from different areas in a nursing home for elderly people in Portugal. Data collection took place between September and October 2020, from individual and online interviews. The categorization proposed by Bardin was adopted as the analysis technique.

Results: Three categories emerged: (1) self-protection and of the other with the subcategories fear of being contaminated and fear of contaminating the elderly; (2) maintenance of affective relationships, broken down into the subcategories absence of family members in the nursing home and personal protective equipment as a barrier to communication and approximation; and (3) confinement of the elderly who attended the Day Center, with the subcategories lack of family support/loneliness and change in the elderly's routine.

Conclusion: The main challenges experienced by Portuguese workers are related to the necessary changes in the performance of care practices due to the use of personal protection that was not used before, limitations in affective relationships, and restrictions in interaction spaces.

Descriptors: Coronavirus Infections; Old Age Assistance; Humanization of Assistance; Institutionalization.

Recent publications

1. Liliana Vanessa Lúcio Henrique; Desafios da metodologia de cuidado humanitude na assistência aos idosos institucionalizados em tempos de pandemia; 2021-10-19; DOI: 10.33448/rsd-v10i13.21284
2. Liliana Vanessa Lúcio Henrique; Metodologia de Cuidado Humanitude: Repercussões na atuação dos profissionais em instituição para idosos durante a pandemia da COVID-19; 2021-05-23; DOI: 10.33448/rsd-v10i6.15529
3. Liliana Vanessa Lúcio Henrique; Caring for the Human Dignity of the Institutionalized Elderly: a scoping review protocol; 2020-12-21; DOI: 10.15517/revenf.v0i40.43243

Biography

Liliana Vanessa Lúcio Henrique is a Nurse, completed her studies at the University of Porto, Portugal. Her interests are Patient care, Personality, Elderly, and Institutionalization.

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