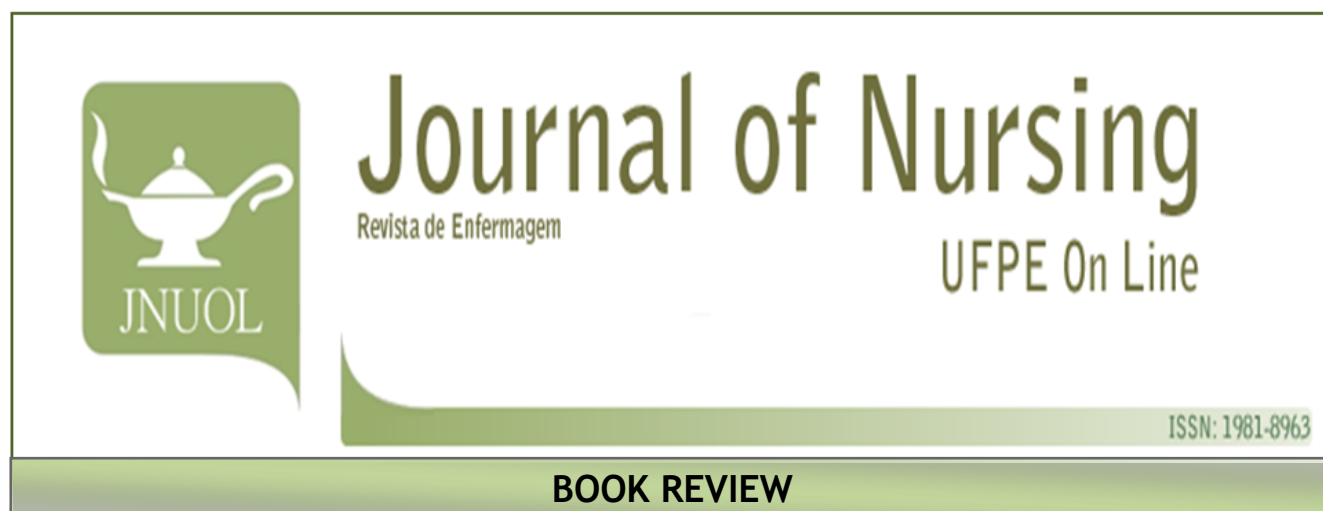




THE COMPETENCE FOR THE SPIRITUAL CARE IN NURSING
A COMPETÊNCIA PARA O CUIDADO ESPIRITUAL EM ENFERMAGEM
LA COMPETENCIA PARA LA ATENCIÓN ESPIRITUAL EN ENFERMERÍA

Silvia Maria Alves Caldeira Berenguer. Nurse, Phd, Assistant Professor and Researcher, Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Health, Institute of Health Sciences, Portuguese Catholic University, Lisbon, Portugal. Email: scaldeira@ics.isboa.ucp.pt

Sara Maria de Oliveira Pinto. Nurse, Hospital São João Porto, Doctoral Student of Nursing at the Institute of Sciences Abel Salazar, University of Porto. Porto, Portugal. Email: sara.o.pinto@gmail.com

The work < The competence for the spiritual care >> is to analyze the relations established between some sociodemographic variables and the religion/religiosity, with the skills to the spiritual care and with the index of spiritual intelligence of nurses. The author, Ana Paula da Conceição, is professor of nursing at School of Nursing of Santa Maria in Porto, Portugal.

The book consists of 280 pages, organized in five fundamental parts: introduction; questions, hypotheses and methods; results and discussion; conclusions and references. The indexes of tables and figures are in the early part of the book and underline the quantitative nature and extent of the study participants, which confer to this work, PhD thesis, a unique feature in research in spirituality in nursing. The author has the preface of his scientific advisor, Professor Margarida Vieira, and with the afterword of Dom Carlos Azevedo.

In the introduction, the author of the discussion about discipline and profession of nursing centralizes the duty of nurses in caring for patients in their entirety and given their individuality. In part for the exploration of the concept of competence, describing its importance and centrality in professional development, how skills are acquired and, finally, presenting some policies and documents defined by the order of nurses regarding the competence of nurses. Then, she explores the specificity of spiritual care, defining it and placing it in the professional duty. At the same time, provides the reader with the explanation of the concept of

spirituality, noting that while human dimension, present in all people, tends to emphasize in situations of greatest suffering or difficulty in life, as is the disease, a condition in which the nurses are with patients. According to the author, in this meeting, in this area with those who are vulnerable and in pain, nurses can and must find space to achieve the spiritual care. However, with the international literature, she emphasizes the difficulties that nurses reveal, in particular at the level of training even though, for example, the classifications of nursing incorporate terms, diagnosis, interventions and outcomes related to spirituality. However, she emphasizes the development of nursing knowledge, particularly the theory of Jean Watson, who directs the duty of nurses for this integral care to the patient. Even in this introductory section, the author explores the spiritual intelligence which, although not part of title of the work, it is a variable of the study, alongside the responsibility for the spiritual care. She describes the concept, based on the theory of multiple intelligences of Gardner, and elucidates scientific studies involving the variable spiritual intelligence.

On the second point, the author describes the research issues, the assumptions and variables of this study, guiding the reader in understanding of the methodological design.

Thereafter, the reader can find a description of the method of a study that is cross-sectional and correlational and involving 546 participants selected by sampling non-probabilistic sample among the nurses from

across the country. She describes the sampling process and ethical procedures and formal. She lists and describes the data collection instruments and measuring the variables under study that integrated a questionnaire. In this part of the work adds, still, the methodological procedures of validation and linguistic and cultural adaptation of the instruments that we used.

The presentation and discussion of results it is possible to analyze in detail the data relating to sociodemographic variables of the sample, the data resulting from the application of the instruments that measured the variables under study (competence for the spiritual care and spiritual intelligence), including a description of the study of the psychometric properties. Despite the sample is not probabilistic, these results emphasize aspects of great interest to the Nursing knowledge, as are the significant correlations between the competence for the spiritual care and the following variables: the age of nurses, the time of professional practice, the index of spiritual intelligence, be affiliated with a religion or have had training related to the theme of spirituality.

This research, objective inherent to its quantitative nature, brings evidence that should be appropriate for nurses in clinical practice and in academia, by those responsible in nursing education, in order to integrate content in education and develop strategies for implementation of spiritual care. With these results the author defines new fields of research and the continuity of the demand for knowledge that sustain a practice of nursing care, as part of a transdisciplinary team, based on evidence, and to meet a holistic care and promotes dignity of patients and families.

REFERENCE

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Corresponding Address

Sílvia Caldeira
Universidade Católica Portuguesa
Instituto de Ciências da Saúde
Edifício da Biblioteca João Paulo II
Palma de Cima, 1649-023
Lisboa, Portugal