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# NURSING TRAINING TO ACT WITH THE ELDERLY IN THE FAMILY HEALTH **STRATEGY**

A FORMAÇÃO DO ENFERMEIRO PARA ATUAR COM A PESSOA IDOSA NA ESTRATÉGIA DE SAÚDE DA FAMÍLIA

LA FORMACIÓN DEL ENFERMERO PARA ACTUAR CON LA PERSONA ANCIANA EN LA ESTRATEGIA DE SALUD DE LA FAMILIA

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Objective: to analyze the nurses' perception about their training to act with the elderly in the Family Health Strategy / FHS. Method: qualitative research. Nurses working at the FHS in Maceió (AL), Brazil, will participate in the study. The data will be collected from April to July 2017, using the semi-structured interview technique. The analysis will be carried out through Content Analysis, based on Paulo Freire's critical pedagogy and the scientific literature published in the area. The project was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the Federal University of Alagoas, CAAE 62266316.3.0000.5013. Expected results: to instigate and foster discussions about the training of nurses to work with the elderly in the Family Health Strategy / ESF, generating possibilities for the reorientation of undergraduate curricula in Nursing, which may have a direct impact on health services and in the practices of Nursing professionals regarding the elderly. Descriptors: Nursing; Education Nursing; Aged; Primary Health Care.

#### RESUMO

Objetivo: analisar a percepção do enfermeiro sobre a sua formação para atuar com a pessoa idosa na Estratégia de Saúde da Família/ESF. Método: pesquisa qualitativa. Participarão do estudo enfermeiros que atuam na ESF em Maceió (AL), Brasil. Os dados serão coletados no período de abril a julho de 2017, utilizandose a técnica de entrevista semiestruturada. A análise será realizada por meio da Análise de Conteúdo, fundamentada na pedagogia crítica de Paulo Freire e na literatura científica publicada na área. O projeto foi aprovado pelo Comitê de Ética em Pesquisa da Universidade Federal de Alagoas, CAAE 62266316.3.0000.5013. Resultados esperados: instigar e fomentar discussões sobre a formação do enfermeiro para atuar com a pessoa idosa na Estratégia de Saúde da Família/ESF, gerando possibilidades para a reorientação dos currículos dos cursos de graduação em Enfermagem, o que pode impactar diretamente nos serviços de saúde e nas práticas dos profissionais de Enfermagem relativas às pessoas idosas. Descritores: Enfermagem; Educação em Enfermagem; Idoso; Atenção Básica.

Objetivo: analizar la percepción del enfermero sobre su formación para actuar con la persona anciana en la Estrategia de Salud de la Familia / ESF. Método: investigación cualitativa. Participarán del estudio enfermeros que actúan en la ESF en Maceió (AL), Brasil. Los datos serán recolectados en el período de abril a julio de 2017, utilizando la técnica de entrevista semiestructurada. El nálisis se realizará por medio del Análisis de Contenido, fundamentado en la pedagogía crítica de Paulo Freire y en la literatura científica publicada en el área. El proyecto fue aprobado por el Comité de Ética en Investigación de la Universidad Federal de Alagoas, CAAE 62266316.3.0000.5013. Resultados esperados: instigar y fomentar discusiones sobre la formación del enfermero para actuar con la persona anciana en la Estrategia de Salud de la Familia / ESF, generando posibilidades para la reorientación de los currículos de los cursos de graduación en Enfermería, lo que puede impactar directamente en los servicios de salud y en las prácticas de los profesionales de Enfermería relativas a las personas mayores. Descriptores: Enfermería; Educación en Enfermería; Anciano; Atención Primaria de Salud.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

This research has as object of study the training of nurses to work with the elderly in the Family Health Strategy (FHS). The aging rate of a population indicates the degree of development of a nation. The aging of the population brings challenges such as functionality, autonomy, dependence and social participation of the elderly with the family and the community in which it is inserted.1 "Aging should be celebrated, the increase in life expectancy is the triumph of development". 2

Population aging, more than a trend, is a reality that covers almost 90% of countries. In developing countries, the phenomenon of aging is recent, whereas in developed countries it is an old process.<sup>3</sup> The increase in life expectancy and the growth of the elderly population are phenomena of global interest and are associated with the reduction of the fertility rate, technological advances and health, resulting in the progressive aging of the world's population.<sup>4</sup>

The growing number of elderly people has already become a significant global phenomenon. With the exception of a few African countries, the whole world is at some stage in this process. Brazil follows the world trend of growth of the elderly population. However, it differs in the rhythm and characteristics presented by this group of people, in health problems, in the existence and effectiveness of public policies, and, in the way in which the elderly are treated in society and health services.<sup>4-5</sup>

In the last decades, the phenomenon of aging has been happening vertiginously. Nowadays, the elderly represent the fastest growing segment of the Brazilian population<sup>6</sup>. This demographic transition in the country is due to the reduction of the gross mortality rate, which was 19.7/ one thousand inhabitants in 1950, to 6.1/ one thousand inhabitants in 2010; the reduction of the total fertility rate that fell from 6.2 children per woman to 1.9 children per woman; to the increase in the life expectancy rate, that was 45.5 years, in 1950, to 73.5 years, in 2010.<sup>1</sup>

Contrary to what has happened in many developed countries, in Brazil, this aging has been very fast. The study found that the country is not prepared to respond to the needs generated by this population aging<sup>7</sup>.

The training of health professionals, especially Nursing professionals, needs to consider this sociodemographic reality. The process of training the Nursing professional in recent years has been the subject of critical reflection proposition of changes. This is due to the political, economic and social changes in the national and international scenario, with an impact on education and health, among them, the demographic transition. These transformations bring challenges that must be discussed in the process of training professionals, with a view to attending to the specificities of this reality.4

The training of nurses comes to the fore, bringing the need to rethink issues such as: what training is needed and how to do to address the various needs that the social reality and health services present? In this direction, it seems fundamental to think of responses from basic care, considering the high degree of decentralization and capillarity of this level of attention. As the main gateway and communication center with the entire Health Care Network, basic care can be a preferred contact for users. Thus, there is a need to rethink issues such as health care and the training of professionals to meet these needs, with emphasis on basic care (BC).8

In order to provide the best health care for the population, the Ministry of Health instituted the FHS, in 1994, aimed at reorganizing basic health care in the country, in accordance with the provisions the Unified Health System. restructuring basic health care, aiming to provide a greater coverage of the population, acting both promotion, and disease prevention, thus, contributing to the improvement of the quality of life of the subject.9

It is observed that health professionals, especially those working in the health FHS, have the reality of aging reflected in the demands of services, where the

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elderly are increasingly present, regardless of the level of complexity.10

It is imminent the need for health professionals, with a focus on the care of the elderly, taking into account the particularities caused by aging. At the Second World Assembly on Aging, it was pointed out that education directed to care for the elderly is not very present in undergraduate education, being, more frequent, in university extension and postgraduate courses.<sup>4</sup>

This reality needs to be reviewed, urgently, since, it seems that the academic training of health professionals is not following this social reality. This implies bringing the debate about the issue and discussing it critically within the scope of Nursing education, in order to review or revisit the training process and undergraduate Nursing curricula.

# **OBJECTIVE**

◆ Analyze the nurses' perception about their training to work with the elderly in the Family Health Strategy/FHS.

## **METHOD**

Considering the of the nature investigated object, that focuses on the training of nurses to work with the elderly person in the FHS, a qualitative research, methodological presented, as a proposal. The analysis of the data will be carried out from the perspective of Content Analysis, based on Paulo Freire's critical pedagogy and the scientific literature published in the area. The scenario could be the interviewee's own work environment or any other place of his choice.

Nurses who work at the FHS in Maceió will be participants in this study. Since this is a qualitative research, there is no prior definition of the exact number of study participants, however, participants' prediction is 15 subjects. The saturation criterion will be used to define final sample. By following this criterion, the researcher stops collecting when he realizes that information no longer appears.

Nurses in the period of data collection and excluded from the study will be included nurses who are linked to the FHS who, for any reason, are away.

The data will be collected from April to July 2017. An open interview will be held, starting with the following question: "How does the nurse perceive his training in the scope of the graduation to act with the elderly person in the FHS?". The interviews will be recorded and transcribed in full for later analysis, which will be done through Content Analysis, in the Thematic Analysis modality. Once analyzed, the data will be archived and will remain under the custody of one of the researchers for the period defined in the legislation.

The subjects of the study will through previous recruited a listing, the Municipal provided by Health Department, with data (name and telephone contact) of the nurses. They will be aware of all the information about the research, which will be clarified by the researcher. By agreeing to participate in the research, you will be asked to sign the Free and Informed Consent Form (FICT), and may refuse to participate in the survey at any time.

The study will, closely, follow the ethical principles proposed in Resolution No. 466, of December 12, 2012, of the National Health Council (CNS). It was submitted to the Research Ethics Committee / National Commission for Research Ethics (CEP / CONEP), through the Brazil Platform, and was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the Federal University of Alagoas - UFAL, CAAE 62266316.3.0000.5013.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS**

To instigate and foster discussions about the training of nurses to work with the elderly in the FHS, generating subsidies that can be used to reorient the curricula of Nursing undergraduate courses, which may have a direct impact services health and professional practices of Nursing related to the elderly, in order to contribute to the improvement of the health care of the elderly.

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