THE ROLE OF THE NURSE IN RELATION TO THE DEAF PATIENT

O PAPEL DO ENFERMEIRO FRENTE AO PACIENTE SURDO

EL PAPEL DEL ENFERMERO FRENTE AL PACIENTE SORDO

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ABSTRACT

Objective: to report the experience of undergraduate Nursing undergraduates in an extension activity aimed at raising the awareness of the role of nurses in the care of the deaf and the importance of the use of sign language in their field of practice. **Method:** it is a descriptive study, of experience report type. It should be noted that, for the development of the activity, weekly meetings were held with theoretical classes discussing the theme "Accessibility and Social Inclusion". Then came the idea for the elaboration of a lecture related to the subject with a professional of LIBRAS. **Results:** it was observed during the presentation of the subject that the students were attentive, absorbed the maximum of information possible among them, giving importance to the importance of a professional to know the Brazilian Language of Signs when necessary. **Conclusion:** it is necessary, therefore, that the health professionals are updating themselves, through the course in LIBRAS, so that they can be able to attend the deaf individuals in a way that a satisfactory attendance of both parties happens. **Descriptors:** Persons with Hearing Impairments; Health Services Accessibility; Sign Language; Nursing Care; Lack of Communication; Patient Nurse Relationship.

RESUMO

Objetivo: relatar a experiência vivenciada por discentes do curso de graduação em Enfermagem, em uma atividade de extensão voltada para a sensibilização sobre o papel do enfermeiro no atendimento ao surdo e para a importância do uso da linguagem de sinais em seu campo de atuação. **Método:** trata-se de um estudo descritivo, tipo relato de experiência. Ressalta-se que, para o desenvolvimento da atividade, realizaram-se encontros semanais com aulas teóricas discutindo sobre o tema "Acessibilidade e Inclusão Social". Surgiu-se, então, a ideia para a elaboração de uma palestra relacionada ao tema com uma profissional de LIBRAS. **Resultados:** observou-se, durante a apresentação do tema, que os alunos estavam atenciosos, absorveram o máximo de informações possíveis dentre as mesmas, dando relevância à importância de um profissional saber a Língua Brasileira de Sinais quando necessário. **Conclusão:** necessita-se, assim, de os profissionais de saúde estarem se atualizando, por meio do curso em LIBRAS, para que possam estar aptos para atender os indivíduos surdos de maneira que aconteça um atendimento satisfatório de ambas as partes. **Descritores:** Pessoas com Deficiência Auditiva; Acesso aos Serviços de Saúde; Linguagem de Sinais; Cuidados de Enfermagem; Falha na Comunicação; Relação Enfermeiro Paciente.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: relatar la experiencia vivenciada por discentes del curso de graduación en Enfermería, en una actividad de extensión orientada a la sensibilización sobre el papel del enfermero en la atención al sordo y la importancia del uso del lenguaje de signos en su campo de actuación. **Método:** se trata de un estudio descriptivo, tipo relato de experiencia. Se resalta que para el desarrollo de la actividad se realizaron encuentros semanales con clases teóricas discutiendo sobre el tema "Accesibilidad e Inclusión Social". Se planteó, entonces, la idea para la elaboración de una conferencia relacionada con el tema con una profesional de LIBRAS (lenguaje brasileño de signos). **Resultados:** se observó, durante la presentación del tema, que los alumnos estaban atenciosos, absorbieron el máximo de informaciones posibles entre las mismas, dando relevancia a la importancia de un profesional saber la Lengua Brasileña de Señales cuando necesario. **Conclusión:** se necesita, así, de los profesionales de salud estar actualizándose, a través del curso en LIBRAS (lenguaje brasileño de signos), para que puedan estar aptos para atender a los individuos sordos de manera que ocurra una atención satisfactoria de ambas partes. **Descriptor:** Personas con Deficiencia Auditiva; Accesibilidad a los Servicios de Salud; Lenguaje de Signos; Atención de Enfermería; Falta en la Comunicación; Relación Enfermera Paciente.

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INTRODUCTION

Auditory impairment is the partial or total loss of the ability to detect sounds caused by malformation (genetic cause) or damage to the hearing aid composition. Everyone who has a total absence of hearing is considered deaf, meaning that they do not hear anything. Are considered to be partially deaf, all those whose ability to listen, although deficient, is functional with or without hearing aids, and among the types of hearing deficiency are conductive, mixed, sensorineural and central.¹

In Brazil, according to the Demographic Census of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), in 2010, 9,715,318 of its population were referred to as hearing impaired, and in the State of Bahia this figure was 765,471.²

It is known that the fundamental value of language lies in the relationship in which people make themselves understand one another. For the deaf, this language is less inclusive, and although Brazil recognizes its own sign language (LIBRAS), there is no compulsion in the constitution for teaching or inclusion through interpreters of this language, for this relationship.

It is added that, according to the Federal Constitution of April 24, 2002, Article 1: "The Brazilian Language of Signals - LIBRAS and other associated expression resources is recognized as a legal means of communication and expression" and in paragraph "The meaning of communication and expression in which the linguistic system of a visual-motor nature, with its own grammatical structure, constitutes a linguistic system of transmission of ideas and facts, coming from communities of deaf people in Brazil".³

It is necessary to relate and communicate, in health care, in a careful and responsible manner, trying to translate, understand, understand and understand the meaning of the message that the patient sends, consequently, identifying their needs.⁴ It is a block, by the deaf individual, to seek care in the Health Unit, their communication with the team, since they are not able to interpret the Brazilian Sign Language (LIBRAS) and, therefore, will not receive the integration by the professional team, generating a shortage in individualized and integral health care.

It is mentioned, as an urgent matter, that ethics, in the context of Nursing, encompasses behaviors and actions that involve knowledge, values, skills and attitudes understood in the sense of favoring the potentialities of the human being with the purpose of maintaining or improving the human condition in the

process of living and dying.⁵ It becomes crucial, then, an assistance based on the principles of ethics and legality, with the importance of humanized care.

OBJECTIVE

- To report the experience lived by undergraduate nursing students in an extension activity aimed at raising the awareness of the role of nurses in the care of the deaf and the importance of the use of sign language in their field of practice.

METHOD

It is a qualitative, descriptive study of the type of experience, experienced from an extension activity, of the IDW III (Interdisciplinary Directed Work) discipline, held in May 2017 and given in the fifth period of the Undergraduate Nursing of the College of Technology and Sciences (FTC, Jequié Campus). This is an experience report in the observation and report of the researcher, after analyzing the variables that are important to the development of the care given to the individual or to their problems.⁵

For the development of the activity, weekly meetings with theoretical classes were held, discussing the theme "Accessibility and Social Inclusion". These were sub-divided into groups and each approached an area of the main theme, developing it with the intention of presenting a project for the conclusion of the discipline.

It was proposed, by the groups in question, to seek a professional in LIBRAS who would develop a discursive activity on the importance of sign language in the communication between health professionals and users of the system. Weekly meetings were held and the methodology to be approached to achieve the project objective was decided. Research was done on articles related to the topic and the search for guidelines with a professional in LIBRAS, and through this orientation, the idea for a lecture about the theme arose. In the context of the presented lecture, the professionals of LIBRAS were introduced situations that the health professional could use as a basis for communicating with the deaf individual, thus initiating their attendance with some basic questions and answers in the form of signs.

The lecture was distributed in the teaching unit, in order to alert participants to the lack of professionals, not only in the health area, related to social accessibility and quality in the treatment of a deaf subject. Doubts were clarified and relevant points were addressed,

including didactics and techniques for the accessibility of the deaf in society.

The project developed throughout the course was presented at the end of the course, which was validated by all undergraduates and by the teacher of the discipline, arousing the sensibility of those present and succeeding in the proposed project.

RESULTS

In the lecture given by the LIBRAS professional, students from the health area of the teaching unit, organizers of the event and the coordinator of the extension project were present as a public. During the presentation of the lecture, the professional was approached about the deficiency in the care of the deaf individual. The students were explained that the patient needs people who interpret and translate their emissions to the professionals and vice versa, strengthening the idea the need for a third person to be successful in the reception process.

It was discussed, after sharing with the students the difficulties faced by the deaf individual, the knowledge of many commented information. Several questions and answers were used in this dialogue in LIBRAS, by the professional, with all present.

It was asked, as a matter of curiosity, to the target audience, about what would be the attitude of a professional if a deaf individual arrived at the health service suffering a myocardial infarction, if such students would recognize the symptoms without the individual had reported them, having the answer that " he could have died at that time because I do not understand sign language. " It is added, based on this answer, when the professional taught, showing in signs, what steps to follow to facilitate the diagnosis, and the participants were surprised and showed satisfaction in knowing how to act in the event of the unexpected.

It can be seen, in figure 1, a predominance of the number of participants of the female gender where the extension activity was performed. From the sample data, they were all taken by surprise, because they did not imagine the magnitude of the problem.

Variable - Resident Population (People)										
Year 2010										
Territorial Unit x Sex										
Type of permanent disability	Total		Brazil		Bahia		Jequié (BA)			
			Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
	Hearing impairment - cannot hear at all	344.206	172.405	171.801	23.987	11.948	12.040	270	117	153
	Hearing impairment - Great difficulty	1.798.967	946.289	852.678	135.427	70.057	65.370	1.671	794	878
	Hearing impairment - some difficulty	7.574.145	3.789.918	3.784.228	606.057	289.924	316.133	6.248	3.097	3.151
		9.717.318			765.471			8.189		

Figure 1. Resident population by type of disability, by sex.
Source: 2. Note: 1. Sample data. 2. For the Total category: persons included in more than one type of disability were counted only once. 3. The category None of these deficiencies includes the population without population without any type of disability.

DISCUSSION

It is understood that the prevalence is not relevant, since there are no studies that indicate or prove the higher prevalence of deafness in females than in males and vice versa. However, it is pointed out that women, being in contact more often than men for routine care, as preventive and prenatal care,

end up being a little more constrained because they do not find the opportunity to express themselves and to expose their doubts in the consultation as what actually happens with their body and, because the professional does not understand the health problems of the deaf, it can generate an ineffective diagnosis.

Questions were also raised about inserting the Brazilian Sign Language into the curricular curriculum of the universities in the area of health, not being optional, but mandatory, at which point all students supported the idea and even proposed to take part in some LIBRAS course.

There were two video reports of two hearing impaired people, who lost their hearing during adolescence, telling how it happened, as is life, the daily life of a deaf person, how difficult accessibility and social inclusion in the century in which they live, but, also, they reported how much they are warriors and examples with their life lesson.

In conclusion, they approached the lecture about a deaf individual who was able to enter the graduation with their effort, their intelligence and with the help of the speaker, the professional in LIBRAS who encouraged them and helped them in what was necessary, leaving for all examples of equality and respect for adversity.

It was observed during the presentation of the subject that the students were attentive, absorbed as much information as possible among them, giving relevance to the importance of a professional knowing the Brazilian Sign Language (LIBRAS) to act when necessary. It is warned that failure to understand the instructions prescribed and / or stipulated by health professionals may have, therefore, misinterpretations, which harms the health of the deaf and therefore gives him insecurity regarding his cure.⁷

CONCLUSION

It was promoted, for the extension activity in question, health education and allowed the exchange of knowledge between the speaker and the listeners. It was observed that the participants of the lecture were dissatisfied with the difficulties faced by deaf individuals, pointing out that there is a certain lack in the scope of knowledge of the Brazilian Sign Language (LIBRAS) between listeners and health professionals.

The deaf individual is looking for care in the Health Unit, in addition to welcoming, solidary and trusting relationships with professionals, but unfortunately they find, as a barrier, their communication with the team, since the Brazilian Language of Signals (LIBRAS), most of the time, is unknown by health professionals, and there are no interpreters on the spot to assist the deaf, leaving it to be humanized and effective.

It is necessary, therefore, that the health professionals are updating themselves

professionally, through the course in LIBRAS, so that they can be able to attend the deaf individuals so that a satisfactory attendance of both parties happens.

Today, it is recommended to coexist with differences, so there is a need to include the Brazilian Sign Language (LIBRAS) in the curricula of educational institutions, in order to favor interaction between patients and professionals, reducing significantly discomfort during consultations.

It is concluded that responding to the difficulties of the deaf, when they seek health care, it is the duty of all professionals committed to collaborate in the construction of an inclusive society.

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