



SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION IN BIOETHICS IN THE NURSING FIELD: INTEGRATIVE REVIEW OF LITERATURE

PRODUÇÃO CIENTÍFICA EM BIOÉTICA NO CAMPO DA ENFERMAGEM: REVISÃO INTEGRATIVA DA LITERATURA

PRODUCCIÓN CIENTÍFICA EN LA BIOÉTICA EN EL CAMPO DE LA ENFERMERÍA: REVISIÓN INTEGRADORA DE LA LITERATURA

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ABSTRACT

Objective: investigate the thematic approached of the scientific productions of the nursing in the field of bioethics in the period from 2000 to 2008. **Method:** integrative review study by formulating the question: what are thematic approaches in nursing publications disseminated online periodic in the period 2000 to 2008, the field of bioethics?, in two databases of Health Virtual Library: Latin Literature American and Caribbean Health Sciences (LILACS) and Bibliographic Database Specialist area of Nursing (BDENF), and in electronic bibliotheca Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO). To select articles used the descriptor 'bioethics and nursing'. Inclusion criteria were formulated and the sample consisted of 46 studies; posteriorly, the categorization was made based on the instrument developed, organized, summarized and integrated the discussion of this review. **Results:** it was possible to determine similarities and differences between the discussions proposed by the studies and the results allowed the construction of eight Thematic Approaches (TA). **Conclusion:** the analysis indicate that the nursing professional acknowledges bioethics as a field of reflection to their practice, guiding their actions from the principles of autonomy, justice, beneficence and no harm, since the professional ethical action involves more than the performance of procedures and techniques. **Descriptors:** nursing; bioethics; nursing research.

RESUMO

Objetivo: investigar as temáticas abordadas em produções científicas da enfermagem no campo da bioética no período de 2000 a 2008. **Método:** estudo de revisão integrativa mediante a formulação da questão: quais as temáticas abordadas em publicações de enfermagem disseminadas em periódicos on-line no período de 2000 a 2008, no campo da bioética?, em duas bases de dados da Biblioteca Virtual de Saúde: Literatura Latino Americana e do Caribe em Ciências da Saúde (LILACS) e Base de Dados Bibliográficos Especializada na Área de Enfermagem (BDENF), e na biblioteca eletrônica Scientific Electronic Library Online - SciELO. Para a seleção dos artigos foi utilizado o descritor 'bioética e enfermagem'. Foram formulados critérios de inclusão e a amostra foi composta por 46 estudos; posteriormente, foi feita a categorização com base no instrumento elaborado, organizados, agrupados, sumarizados e integrados à discussão da presente revisão. **Resultados:** foi possível constatar convergências e divergências entre as discussões propostas pelos estudos e os resultados permitiram a construção de oito Abordagens Temáticas (AT). **Conclusão:** a análise evidenciou que o profissional de enfermagem reconhece a bioética como um campo de reflexão para a sua prática, norteando suas ações a partir dos princípios da autonomia, justiça, beneficência e não-maleficência, uma vez que o agir ético do profissional envolve mais do que a realização de procedimentos e técnicas. **Descritores:** enfermagem; bioética; pesquisa em enfermagem.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: investigar las temáticas aportadas en producciones científicas de la enfermería en el campo de la bioética en el periodo de 2000 a 2008. **Método:** estudio de revisión integradora mediante la formulación de la pregunta: Cuáles son los temas abordados en las publicaciones de enfermería difunden las revistas on-line en el periodo 2000 a 2008, el campo de la bioética?, en dos bases de datos de la Biblioteca Virtual de la Salud: Literatura Latina y el Caribe en Ciencias de la Salud (LILACS) e Área de la Base de Datos Bibliográfica de Especialistas en Enfermería (BDENF), y en la biblioteca electrónica Scientific Eletronic On-line (SciELO). Para seleccionar los artículos que utiliza el descriptor de la 'bioética y enfermería'. Los criterios de inclusión fueron formuladas y la muestra fue compuesta de 46 estudios; más tarde, la clasificación se realizó con base en el instrumento elaborado, organizado, agrupado, que se resumen y se integran la discusión de esta revisión. **Resultados:** fue posible constatar convergencias y divergencias entre las discusiones propuestas por los estudios y los resultados permitirán la construcción de ocho Enfoques Temáticos (ET). **Conclusión:** la análisis encontró que el profesional de la enfermería reconoce la bioética como el campo de la reflexión para sus práctica, norteando sus acciones a partir de los principios de autonomía, justicia, beneficencia y non-maleficencia, una vez que la acción ética del profesional involucra muy más que la realización de los procedimientos y técnicas. **Descriptores:** enfermería; bioética; pesquisa en enfermería.

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INTRODUCTION

The construction of knowledge about nursing has as one of its main goals to situate it in the context of science. Thus, the Nursing has been looking at their professional valorization through the development of research related to the production of priority and essential knowledge for health, aiming to support its practice and progress of this profession.¹

Nursing brings together knowledge from different theoretical sciences and applied in several areas involving the biological, human and social, in which the production of knowledge, conceived as an essential means for their development², aims to contribute towards improving the quality of actions performed by professionals and obtain better health levels for humans beings.³

The production of knowledge about nursing that had marked its beginning in 1859, after the publication of Notes on Nursing by Florence Nightingale, emerges amid a growing concern in exploring the essence of the profession, culminating in contemporary studies of diverse topics, which have led to the strengthening of the construction of nursing knowledge.⁴

A thematic that has attracted the attention of researchers in nursing is the bioethics and its diverse aspects. The bioethics, with initial purpose of ethical concern for the preservation of the planet, is understood nowadays as a multidisciplinary study of human conduct in the field of life and health sciences, by moral values and principles.⁵ So, the bioethics is like a discipline that aims to reflect on values related to the life, death and human health⁶, and also permeates through the actions of nurses.

Understanding that the practice of nursing suffers effects of the ethical dimensions and the construction of knowledge takes place through studies and research on the theme that you want to focus on, is a pressing need to investigate about the production of nursing knowledge in the field of bioethics. Meanwhile, the searching in the literature ambit of published studies involving the link nursing-bioethics through integrative review; it constitutes an investigation of scientific knowledge in order to envision new assertive and ways to develop the actions of this profession.

Considering the importance of socializing the knowledge produced by researchers of Nursing in the field of bioethics, the integrative review shows up as an investigation method that allows seeking

answers to the following appointing question: what are the thematic approached in nursing publications disseminated in online journals in the period 2000 to 2008, the field of bioethics? From this questioning it emerges the purpose of this study.

OBJECTIVE

- Investigate the thematic approached in the nursing scientific production disseminated in online journals in the field of bioethics in the period between 2000 and 2008.

METHOD

It consists of an integrative review of literature about production of knowledge about nursing in the field of bioethics, a method that enables analysis of scientific research in a systematic and widespread mode, favoring the characterization and dissemination of produced knowledge.⁷⁻⁸ For the construction of this integrative review, it was walked a methodological route that was divided into six stages.

The first stage refers to the formulation of research question: what are the thematic approached in nursing publications disseminated in online journals in the period 2000 to 2008 in the field of bioethics? Faced with this challenge, we decided to go for the second stage: selection of studies.

To identify studies we performed an online search in databases of the *Literatura Latino Americana e do Caribe em Ciências da Saúde* (LILACS), of the *Base de Dados Bibliográficos Especializada na Área de Enfermagem* (BDENF) and the Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO), by searching the Biblioteca Virtual em Saúde (BVS). For locating of the research papers we used the descriptor 'bioethics and nursing'.

For the selection of the publications included in this study it were formulated criteria for inclusion of studies in order to guide the search in the databases described, were they: have been conducted by researchers of the Brazilian nursing; to present contextualization of bioethics in the field of nursing; to be available in full, regardless of language; have been published between 2000 and 2008, and have been published in the scientific paper form (original or revision). Of 152 available studies, 46 research papers constituted the final sample.

After the selection of research papers it was made the categorization of studies for the empirical data concerning the object and results of studies could be described and analyzed, this being the third stage. Then, in the fourth stage was initiated the procedure for the analysis of information based on the

instrument elaborated, which are organized, grouped, summarized and integrated to the discussion of this present review.

With data integration, the results were interpreted based on the summarization obtained, constituting the fifth stage. This, in its turn, was initiated in order to identify the central thematic approached in this study, verifying what is the object of this study and its relation to bioethics. From the observation of the different approaches of bioethics produced in the field of nursing, it were listed eight Thematic Approaches (TA) in a way to group the results found into a standard understandable and better elaboration of the synthesis of focused contents by researches.

The presentation of the synthesis of the knowledge produced, strong mark of integrative review of literature, emerged as the sixth stage and it was exposed in figures according to thematic built, formalizing a standard comprehensive of synthesis of content focused by researches.

RESULTS

The analysis of the research papers included in the review was initiated with a view to identify the central thematic approached in this study. After successive readings of the texts, it was detected several approaches in the perspective of bioethics produced in the field of nursing. From this observation, 8 Thematic Approaches (TA) were constructed by grouping the results found.

Based on the content exposed and discussed by the researches, the TAs elaborated were: TA1 - Bioethics, Nursing and Scientific-Technological Development; TA2 - Bioethics as a guideline for the Practice of Nursing; TA3 - Bioethics and Teaching in the Field of Nursing; TA4 - Bioethical Reflections and Ethical Conflicts in Health Assistance; TA5 - Bioethics as an Instrument for Reflection in the Field of Health; TA6 - Bioethics and Rights of Users of Health Services; TA7 - Bioethics and Terminality of Life, and TA8 - Bioethics and Research Involving Human Beings . The TAs and related approaches to the studies are presented in Figures 1, 2 and 3 below:

TA1	Bioethics, Nursing and Scientific-Technological Development.	
Code	Title	Focus
TA1a	Technological advances in oncology: considerations for nursing practice.	Technological advances in oncology in the nursing practice.
TA1b	Perception of the nurse of <i>Organização de Procura de Órgãos</i> (OPO) on the humanization of the process of organ transplantation.	Organ Transplantation.
TA1c	The caring in neonatal intensive care units: towards a humane and ethical care.	Technological advances in neonatal care.
TA1d	Assessment of knowledge about stem cells observed in undergraduate students of courses in the health area of the Universidade Estadual de Londrina - what students know and how to position themselves about the theme.	Stem Cells.
TA2	Bioethics as a guideline for the Practice of Nursing.	
Code	Title	Focus
TA2a	Ethics and Bioethics: to start reflecting.	Bioethics and responsibility to life.
TA2b	The rediscovery of the ethics of care: focus and emphasis on relationships.	The principle of autonomy in health actions
TA2c	Bioethics and Nursing: An interface in the caring.	Bioethics as a guide in the of health actions
TA2d	Humanized care of nursing: the act with respect in a university hospital.	bioethics as a tool in volunteer activities.
TA2e	Ethical and bioethical themes that disturbed the Nursing: REBEn's publications from 1970 to 2000.	Health promotion in perspective of bioethics.
TA2f	The spiritual care to terminally ill patients in nursing practice and the participation of bioethics.	Bioethics as a bridge to the hosting
TA2g	Nurses and users of family health program: contributions of bioethics to reorient this professional relationship.	Bioethical, caring and spirituality in health assistance
TAh	Esthetic procedures: customer perception to provide information to decision-making.	The principle of beneficence in health assistance.
TA3	Bioethics and Teaching in the Field of Nursing.	
Code	Title	Focus
TA3a	Importance of bioethics in the training of nurses for the attending of chronic ill adolescents	Bioethics in nursing training.
TA3b	Curriculum guidelines for the teaching of ethics in the nursing graduation.	Guidelines for teaching ethics / bioethics.
TA3c	Bioethics: an essay on its inclusion in Graduation Nursing Courses.	Insertion of bioethics in the Graduation Nursing Courses.

Figure 1. Studies inserted in the Thematic Approaches TA1, TA2 and TA3 and its respective focus.

TA4	Bioethical Reflections and Ethical Conflicts in Health Assistance.	
Code	Title	Focus
TA4a	Bioethics and primary care: an exploratory study of ethical problems lived by nurses and doctors in the PSF.	Ethical problems lived by nurses and doctors from the Family Health Program - <i>Programa de Saúde da Família</i> (PSF).
TA4b	Bioethics and primary care: a profile of ethical problems lived by nurses and doctors from the Family Health Program, São Paulo/SP, Brazil.	Ethical problems lived by nurses and doctors from the Family Health Program - <i>Programa de Saúde da Família</i> (PSF).
TA4c	Ethical conflicts in health assistance for adolescents.	Ethical conflicts in attending adolescents.
TA4d	Nurses caring for the elderly: bioethical reflections.	Ethical Conflicts in elderly care.
TA4e	Ethical dilemmas in blood transfusion in Jehovah's Witnesses: a legal-bioethical analysis.	Ethical dilemmas in blood transfusion in Jehovah's Witnesses.
TA4f	Autonomy of hospitalized children faces the procedures and beliefs of pediatric nurse.	Nursing care for hospitalized children.
TA4g	The meanings and motives of giving birth at the Birth House: social representations in the bioethical context of recent mothers of São Paulo/SP, Brazil.	Assistance for women during childbirth.
TA4h	The relationship between nursing and ecology: approaches and perspectives.	The environmental crisis and health care.
TA4i	The woman in abortion situation: an existential focus.	The woman in abortion situation.
TA5	Bioethics Like an Instrument of Reflection in the Field of Health.	
Code	Title	Focus
TA5a	Bioethics and health care as a responsibility with life and nature: some reflections.	Bioethics as a responsibility to life.
TA5b	The bioethical principle of autonomy from the perspective of health professionals.	The principle of autonomy in health care.
TA5c	Bioethics	Bioethics as a guide for health actions.
TA5d	Female presence in volunteering: a reading from bioethics.	Bioethics as a tool in volunteer activities.
TA5e	Reflections on health promotion in a bioethical perspective.	Health promotion in perspective of bioethics.
TA5f	The incorporation of values in the management of health units: key to the hosting.	Bioethics as a bridge to the hosting.
TA5g	Bioethics and Caring: the spiritual challenge.	Bioethics, caring and spirituality in health care.
TA5h	Moving between desire and practice of beneficence.	The principle of beneficence in health care.

Figure 2. Studies inserted in the Thematic Approaches TA4 and TA5 and its respective focus.

TA6	Bioethics and Rights of Users of Health Services.	
Code	Title	Focus
TA6a	The rights of the citizen user of the <i>Sistema Único de Saúde</i> (SUS): an approach of bioethics in public health.	Rights of users of health services.
TA6b	Bioethical principles and rights of users of health services.	Rights of users of health services.
TA6c	Social criteria for selecting patients in emergency services.	Selection of patients in emergency services.
TA6d	Positioning of nurses related to the revelation of prognosis of no treatment possibility: a bioethical issue.	Right of user of health service to have information.
TA6e	Bioethics and health care as a responsibility with life and nature: some reflections.	Hospital and ethical values.
TA7	Bioethics and Terminality of Life .	
Code	Title	Focus
TA7a	A bioethics vision about palliative care: characterization of scientific production on the theme.	Terminality and palliative cares.
TA7b	The Dysthanasia as a generator of ethical dilemmas in Intensive Care Units: considerations on the participation of nurses.	Dysthanasia as an ethical dilemma.
TA7c	Brain death as a gift for life: exploring contemporary cultural practices.	Brain death and organ donation.
TA7d	Thresholds of life in health care.	Assistance to critical patients.
TA7e	The positioning of nurse face to the autonomy of the terminally ill patient.	Dysthanasic attitudes while ethical dimension.
TA8	Bioethics and researches involving human beings	
Code	Title	Focus
TA8a	The term of free e clarified consent and their different ways of expressing the consent authorized by the subject of research.	The different forms of expression of consent by TCLE.
TA8b	Steps, paths and roads in the bioethics acting in research with human beings.	Bioethical acting in research with humans beings.
TA8c	Bioethics, research involving human beings.	Bioethics and instrumentalization of dilemmas in research with human beings
TA8d	Bioethics in the nursing setting.	Practice of nursing as a research field.

Figure 3. Studies inserted in the Thematic Approaches TA6, ATA7 and ATA8 and its respective focus.

Figures 01, 02 and 03 depict the diversity of TA constructed demonstrating the importance of interdisciplinary study of bioethics, and that this area of knowledge permeates many areas and situations that nursing is immersed. Nursing in its turn, despite the knowledge and own characteristics, is linked and receives the cooperation of several other areas in situations that interdisciplinarity is necessary and that bioethics emerges with the sense of reflecting and revealing ethical dilemmas.⁹

DISCUSSION

For a better understanding of the thematic approaches expressed on referred figures; they will be presented in accordance with the numerical sequence that they were mentioned.

♦ TA 1 - Bioethic, Nursing and Scientific-Technological Development

The question of bioethics implications is printed in the field of scientific-technological development, while the experienced advances in science and technology are providing a transformative force that acts on the nature and especially about human life, demanding that the process is accompanied by studies aimed at better understanding of what is happening.¹⁰ In the biotechnology field it is essential the advancement of bioethical reflection about their aims and objectives towards human life.

Underneath this perspective, four studies refer to questions related to the scientific development, as a theme permeated by controversy and interest, is necessary to consider bioethics as a reference to subsidize the reflection of the ethical aspects involved. The discussion points addressed in TA1 contemplated the following approaches: Technological advances in oncology nursing practice; Organ Transplantation; Technological advances in neonatal care, and stem cells.

In general, questions relating to technological and scientific development have direct implications for the practice of health. Either in the use of devices and equipment such as palliative care or therapeutics, or care to the terminally ill patient or neonate, all situations are imbued with dilemmas that need to be evaluated with emphasis on the ethical aspects involved.

Therefore, the involvement of nursing in front of the dilemmas arising from advances in science and technology show that it is undeniable that nursing professionals be aware of these advances to support the

rethinking of their practice and seek innovation values, in order not to transform nursing profession in a only limited breeding that values dominant ideology.¹¹

♦ TA 2 - Bioethics as a guideline for the Practice of Nursing

Nursing is in its essence and specificity care for human beings, individually, in family or community, developing promotion activities, disease prevention, recovery and rehabilitation of the health. From the perspective of the nursing process is evident in bioethics as a guideline in their practice, providing opportunities for professionals to rethink their approach towards the provision of services to the population.

The TA2 was constructed from eight studies and the various directions obtained from these data show that nursing is a profession of health that must develop their actions based on the assumptions of bioethics. Either, in decision-making, in the professional-patient relationship, respect for autonomy, or in care for those who will undergoes esthetical procedures, nursing is present in more diverse settings and professionals should develop the ethics of care as the framework for the implementation their practice.

Thus, the studies analyzed showed that nursing must include in their actions the bioethical principles of autonomy, justice, beneficence and nonmaleficence, since the act on health involves much more than the performance of procedures and techniques, it is essential ensure that practices, interpersonal relationships and the decisions taken, bioethical reflection serves as a means of propulsion to ensure respect for rights and the preservation of human dignity.

♦ TA 3 - Bioethics and Teaching in the Field of Nursing

Bioethics as a discipline should compose the table of contents to be explored during the course of training of nurses, so that professionals are trained to adopt postures focusing on the preservation of human dignity and to make ethical and moral decisions in different scenarios their practice. It is in this line of reasoning that shows the TA3, drawn from three studies.

As assessment of studies focus of approaches of TA3 discussions turned to the need to train nurses able to cope in different situations imposed by the practice that require bioethical reflections. The curriculum of schools of nursing must priming by creating spaces that allow conditions for students to make ethical decisions, acquiring knowledge and developing an appropriate adaptation to

experience the health situations of which they are embedded in the sphere bioethics.

It is important to emphasize that the teaching of bioethics should not be designed to improve the moral character of future professionals, but to provide those who already possess intellectual knowledge and skills enabling them to better ethical performance as possible before any and every situation imposed professional practice.¹²

♦ TA 4 - Bioethical Reflections I and Ethical Conflicts in Health Assistance

It is common in health care to living in situations that are configured as conflicting. Based on this assertion, nine studies had discussions focused on the ethical and bioethical conflicts in health care, thus consolidating the TA4.

The studies cover framed in this TA approaches discussions focused on respect for autonomy and privacy of patients, the decision-making, the practice of beneficence and the need for equitable access to health care. Thus, we can see that bioethical reflection penetrates in crucial situations such as abortion, death, blood transfusion, as well as ethical dilemmas in caring for the elderly, to pregnant women, children and adolescents, potentially conflicting issues in the field of health care.

As bioethics understood as a branch of applied ethics that includes a set of concepts and theories, with the function of giving legitimacy to human actions that can have an effect on the vital phenomena and life in general, its principles are the basis for the operationalization of dilemmas that pervade in health assistance.¹³ The principlalist focus of bioethics is concerned with the rational evaluation and, as far as possible, impartial, of human acts that may have significant irreversible effects on humans.¹⁴

♦ TA 5 - Bioethics as an Instrument for Reflection in the Field of Health

Bioethics is configured as a space for transprofessional, transdisciplinary and transcultural dialogue in health and life, in order to redeem the dignity of the individual, emphasizing the quality of life: promoting human life and its environment.¹⁵ Based on this understanding, which it conceives the bioethics as a tool for reflection in the health field.

In TA5 were included in eight studies and on the content covered is emphasized that the research is turning to the use of bioethical assumptions to reflect the practice amid persistent emergent situations and in health. It requires an understanding of bioethical

principles by health professionals so that its use is based on respect for human beings life.

The bioethics emerges, therefore, as a new mode of valorization and protection of the human being, an exchange of knowledge that facing life from an ethical perspective that questioning the sense of progress when faced with dignity of the individual.¹⁶ Underneath this sense, it is clear the important role of bioethics as a reflexive requirement that enables resolve the ethical dilemmas that are triggered in the health field.

♦ TA 6 - Bioethics and Rights of Users of Health Services

Understanding that bioethics deals with the reflection that aims to act properly to ensure the well-being and survival of humanity, and considering that its principles ensure that health rights are respected, the TA6 emerges before the consolidation of five studies included in this review.

The rights of users of health services appointed by the studies, it becomes apparent the interest of researchers in disseminating nursing knowledge focused on: the care with dignity and respect, confidentiality, clear, objective and understandable information, access to medical records, have ensure its physical integrity, privacy, individuality and reliability; equitable access to services, preservation of autonomy, among others.

In the routine health services bioethical principles must pervade the intensified pursuit of human rights guarantees. As pointed out by nursing publications included in this thematic approach, the health assistance given needs to be humane, fair, respectful, encouraging communication and interaction between professionals and patients. So the respect for their rights as citizens are assured.

♦ TA 7 - Bioethics and Terminality of Life

The human finitude is a subject of study in the field of bioethics and research in various areas of knowledge, particularly in health. The professionals of Health, especially nurses, lives daily with terminal human and ethical dilemmas facing the death phenomenon. Bioethics and the end of life, therefore, has been the subject of investigation in the setting of nursing research as it was seen from the construction of the TA7 through the inclusion of five studies.

Publications converge on the understanding that in many scenarios where death is the protagonist of the situations, positions and ideas are needed to promote the greatest possible benefit for humans in the terminal phase. Moreover, the experience and the

implicit consensus of the professional team, a solid theoretical foundation and technical structure should always permeate the decisions that involve conflicts.¹⁷

The ethical approach of caring for the terminally ill patient is of great complexity since the death, although a mandatory requirement for the right to live, it is not assimilated by any conscious being.¹⁸ Thus, every human being has instinctively impulse to defend life, trying to distance himself from death. Therefore, when valuing the technical aspects of death over the human, ethical dilemmas tend to grow, which creates a threat to the defense and preservation of human dignity.¹⁹

It is clear the existence of ethical dilemmas in the process of death in the conflict between beneficence, autonomy and human rights are linked to situations that involve asking for die, euthanasia, assisted suicide and dysthanasia. Therefore, it is necessary to reflect how it has been provided to assist the terminally ill patient and its family, if it has accepted his/her feelings, respecting its physical and mental state and sustained the quality of care.

♦ TA 8 - Bioethics and Research Involving Human Beings

Understand the importance of bioethics in the context of research involving human subjects is essential for nursing professionals who believe that the development of studies is essential for the scientific growth of the profession (nurse). Thus, based on review of the studies, four of these were about issues linked to research involving human beings.

The research papers inserted in the TA8 emphasize that research involving human subjects are permeated by ethical dilemmas, requiring researchers to appropriate ethical and bioethical knowledge to operate their studies. The bioethical acting in the development of studies involving human beings is a primary condition for not injuring the rights and not to put in risk the dignity of the participants.

Therefore, the Nursing should be aware of when conducting research involving human beings. Researchers should recognize the importance of ensuring the protection of human integrity and dignity. To reach this level there is the need to comply with the assumptions dictated by Resolution N° 196/96 of the Brazilian National Health Council, and shall be based on ethical principles focused on resolution no. 311/2007 of the Brazilian Federal Nursing Council, which deals with the Code of Ethics of Professional Nursing,

essential to guide the ethical behavior of researchers in conducting their studies involving humans.²⁰⁻²¹

CONCLUSION

All thematic approaches have brought discussions which have gone to the contemplation of nursing practice based on the principles of bioethics. In care, teaching and research, these were the ambits for which studies have directed their allusions.

It appears, therefore, that the studies published by researchers of nursing allow a solid understanding that bioethics is anchored to situations that involve from the implications of scientific-technological development on life and human health, even conflicting issues emerging triggered in situations of abortion or death process, or even everyday situations aimed at guaranteeing human rights and the integrity and the humanization of health assistance.

Notwithstanding, bioethics must also pervade the development of research involving human beings, in a way that it is provided to study participants a safety guarantee, integrity and respect.

Although the results have been achieved successfully, it is a pressing need for the development of new studies by researchers in nursing, which contextualises bioethical approaches in the field of profession that will serve later like subsidies to support the professional actions.

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