Integrative review of literature: nursing care to aged people with HIV

Revisão integrativa da literatura: assistência de enfermagem a pessoa idosa com HIV
Revisión integrativa de la literatura: asistencia de enfermería a la persona anciana con VIH


1 Centro Universitário Mauricio de Nassau. Maceió, Alagoas, Brazil.
2 Centro Universitário Cesmac. Maceió, Alagoas, Brazil.
3 Universidade de São Paulo. Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, Brazil.

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To identify evidences in scientific Brazilian literature on nursing care to aged people with HIV. Method: Integrative review of literature from databases: Latin American and Caribbean Literature on Health Sciences (LILACS), Scientific Eletronic Library Online (SciELO), Cochrane and the Nursing Database (BDENF). The applied inclusion criteria were publications that were fully available from 2001 to 2015 and answered to the guiding question of this study. Results: We included 13 studies; and the categories that allowed a better presentation of the scientific evidence on nursing care to aged people with HIV carrier were: Epidemiological profile, perceptions and experiences of aged people with HIV and nursing care to aged people with HIV. Conclusion: The studies address nursing care from a clinic that follows NANDA diagnoses of strong individualizing approach and low consideration of social aspects.

Descriptors: Nursing Assessment; Sexuality; Aging; AIDS Serodiagnosis; Nursing Care.

RESUMO

Objetivo: Identificar na literatura brasileira as evidências científicas sobre a assistência de enfermagem ao idoso portador do HIV. Método: Revisão integrativa da literatura, realizada nas bases de dados: Literatura Latino-Americana e do Caribe em Ciências da Saúde (LILACS), Scientific Eletronic Library Online (SciELO), Cochrane e a Base de Dados em Enfermagem (BDENF). Os critérios de inclusão aplicados foram publicações que estivessem disponíveis na íntegra, no período de 2001 a 2015, e que respondesse a questão norteadora do estudo. Resultados: Foram incluídos 13 estudos; e as categorias que permitiram uma melhor apresentação das evidências científicas sobre a assistência de enfermagem ao idoso portador do HIV, foram: Perfil epidemiológico, percepções e vivências dos idosos portadores de HIV e Assistência de enfermagem frente ao idoso soropositivo. Conclusão: Os estudos abordam a assistência de enfermagem ainda através de uma clínica baseada nos diagnósticos da NANDA com forte abordagem individualizante e baixa consideração dos aspectos sociais.

Descritores: Avaliação em Enfermagem; Sexualidade; Envelhecimento; Sorodiagnóstico da Aids; Cuidados de Enfermagem.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: Identificar en la literatura brasileña las evidencias científicas sobre la asistencia de enfermería al anciano portador del VIH. Método: Revisión integrativa de la literatura, realizada en las bases de datos: Literatura Latinoamericana y del Caribe en Ciencias de la Salud (LILACS), Scientific Eletronic Library Online (SciELO), Cochrane y la Base de Datos en Enfermería (BDENF). Los criterios de inclusión aplicados fueron las publicaciones que estuvieron disponibles en la versión completa, en el período de 2001 a 2015, y que respondiera la cuestión orientadora del estudio. Resultados: Fueron incluidos 13 estudios; y las categorías que permitieron una mejor presentación de las evidencias científicas sobre la asistencia de enfermería al
anciano portador del VIH, fueron: El Perfil epidemiológico, las percepciones y las vivencias de los ancianos portadores de VIH y la Asistencia de enfermería delante el anciano seropositivo. **Conclusión:** Los estudios abordan la asistencia de enfermería todavía a través de una clínica basada en los diagnósticos de NANDA con fuerte abordaje individualizante y baja consideración de los aspectos sociales.

**Descriptor:** Evaluación en Enfermería; Sexualidad; Envejecimiento; Serodiagnóstico del Sida; Cuidados de Enfermería.

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**INTRODUCTION**

The aging process has been more and more common proportionally to economic development. At each year, it is possible to observe the need to provide more accurate health services to aged people\(^3\).

Despite the favorable conception on the aging process, the increase in life expectancy in Brazil has been referred as negative regarding the epidemiological framework of sexually transmitted diseases, becoming more common among the aged\(^2\).

Among venereal diseases, authors\(^6\) state that HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and the consequent increase in the number of cases of Aids (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) are more common in this population.

A study from Chile, where the conduction of data collection was through information on people with HIV/AIDS given by the Spanish National Center of Epidemiology, showed that both Caribbean and Latin America have higher prevalence rates of HIV/AIDS in adults, mainly because of the religious, cultural, economic and political factors that influence the population's sex behaviors\(^4\).

This pathology also represents a Brazilian significant public health problem not only because of its debilitating elements of physiological character, but also of its psychic and social issues associated with the stigma around the disease\(^3\). Regarding HIV epidemiology in Brazil, there were 39,185 cases of Aids in Brazil by 2012 with a detection rate of 20.2 to 100,000 inhabitants. The Northeast region achieved the level of 14.8 cases/100,000 inhabitants. There was a total of 1,250 cases in the state of Alagoas mainly featured in Maceió, Arapiraca, União dos Palmares, Rio Largo e São Miguel dos Campos\(^5\).

According to the National Program of DST/AIDS of the Brazilian Ministry of Health, in the last three decades, there were 13,665 cases of people aged 60 years or more, 34.36% of them affecting females\(^6\). Such epidemiological design shows the need to change the idea that aged people are sexually inactive, only considering the young population as part of the risk group of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). By not comprising aged people in HIV risk group, this conception expressively contributes to increases in the number of cases and the lack of strategies that might favor a change of paradigm\(^4\).

The possibility of HIV infection in the aged population is an aspect ignored in the development of more effective public policies, generally limited to young people, which is associated with the fact that aged people not using condoms, especially among climacteric and hysterectomized women, or who cannot get pregnant for any reason, thus seeing no point for using condoms\(^7\).

However, the lack of concern on the sexuality of the aged is not only seen in the public policy and assistance actions field, but also on the scientific one, considering the literature usually addresses sexuality from the adolescent’s perspective, not producing enough publications on aged people with HIV, especially regarding the contributions of nursing care to patients with this disease\(^7\).

**OBJECTIVE**

To identify evidences in the scientific Brazilian literature on nursing care to aged people with HIV.

**METHOD**

This is an integrative literature review that allows the inference of questions on the nursing care of aged people with HIV. The integrative review of literature aims at offering research results based on a guiding question using a systematic planning that can contribute to the understanding how literature has been referring to nursing care to aged people with HIV in a more accurate way\(^8\). The theme of this production was based on the following guiding question: How nursing care to aged people with HIV is addressed by Brazilian literature?

We did a research on a scientific database from January 2015 to October 2015 using the advanced search form in the following databases: Latin American and Caribbean Literature in Health Sciences (LILACS), Scientific Eletronic Library Online (SciELO), Cochrane and Nursing Database (BDENF), by using Health Sciences Descriptors (DECS): “HIV”, “idoso” [aged people], “enfermagem” [nursing], and “assistência” [care] combined with Boolean operator “AND”.

The inclusion criteria were: fully available publications from 2001 to 2015 that addressed the guiding question of this study. We excluded the publications that were prior to 2001, not fully available, repeated in different databases, and that did not meet the guiding question of this study. Data cross-referencing were carried out with descriptors such as “HIV”, “idoso” [aged people], “enfermagem” [nursing], and “assistência” [care]. The results were interpreted from the variables: methodology, investigated subject, research scenario, descriptors, and theme. Followed by the interpretation and comparison of productions and the elements that comprised each one of them, finding information and relevant evidence on how literature has referred to nursing care of aged people contaminated by the human immunodeficiency virus.
RESULTS

Database research resulted in 717 articles in SciELO database, 89 in LILACS, 91 in BDENF, and 58 in Cochrane. After reading the abstracts, we selected 339 studies in SciELO, 60 LILACS, 69 in 60 BDENF and 54 in Cochrane databases. However, among these articles, only a few answered to the guiding question, 5 of them being in SciELO, 02 in LILACS, 04 in BDENF, and 02 in Cochrane. This way, according to the exclusion criteria, we only 13 articles remained in the study sample (Figure 1). We analyzed the variables: order, title, author, journal and objectives (s). As presented and described in Table 1. To do so, we used a data collection instrument, commonly used in integrative literature reviews and adapted from the review model(9).

Among the 13 found articles, three (23.1%) were from 2010 (A2(7), A3(10) and A9(16)), and two (15.4%) from 2009 (A1(9) and A11(17)), having one (7.7%) publication/year in 2004, 2007, 2008, and from 2011 to 2015. It becomes clear that only two studies were from the last five years (considering the ones until 2015).

We identified that the Brazilian Journal of Sexually Transmitted Diseases published three articles (23.1%) and Acta Paulista Journal published two (15.4%). The other publications were in journals such as: Anna Nery School, Saúde em Debate [Health in Debate], Revista de Enfermagem do Centro O Mineiro [O Mineiro Center Nursing Journal], Revista Eletrônica de Enfermagem [Nursing Electronic Journal], Research Journal: Fundamental Care Online, Brazilian Journal of Epidemiology, Interamerican Journal of Psychology, Epidemiology and Health Services; each one of these with a publication (7.7%) addressing the theme under study.

Regarding the used methodology, ten publications (76.92%) used qualitative descriptive methods, usually based on speech or content analysis or documentary research; while three (23.1%) performed statistical analysis of epidemiological nature.

Concerning the investigated subjects, 11 publications (84.62%) used the aged to approach the topic under study, while two articles (15.38%) have done so by using nurses as research subjects. When it comes to the research context, most researchers held their studies in outpatient clinics or HIV/Aids specialized centers (38.46%), while four of them have held it

Chart 1 – Characterization of selected articles to analysis, according to order, title, author, journal and objective, Brazil, 2001–2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Title Author</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Objective (s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Clinical-epidemiological profile of aged people with Aids Souza ACA, Suassuna DSB, Costa SML</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Brazilian Journal of Sexually Transmitted Diseases</td>
<td>To analyze the epidemiological profile of aged people with Aids in João Pessoa, Paraíba.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Aids in aged people: Experience of patients AndradeHAS, Silva SK, Santos M</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Anna Nery School (printed)</td>
<td>Understand the experience of aged people with human immunodeficiency syndrome by analyzing participants from a reference unit of the Unified Health System in the metropolitan region of Belém, PA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>Knowledge and actions on sexuality in aged people with HIV/AIDS Okuno MFP, et al</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Acta Paulista de Enfermagem</td>
<td>To assess the knowledge and actions on sexuality in aged people with HIV/AIDS that attended a specialized outpatient clinic; and to identify the epidemiological profile of these patients.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be continued
in hospital units (30.77%).

From the descriptors used in 13 of the studied publications, 14 (28.57%) comprised HIV/AIDS in its description (considering all had it as focus of study), 8 (16.33%) comprised nursing, and 8 (16.33%) comprised aged people. Usually when approaching HIV, studies consider the adolescent’s context, leading to small amount of productions around HIV in aged people (its prospects and constraints, for example), which was possible to see in A8\(^{[15]}\) and A9\(^{[16]}\).

From the analysis and complexity of scientific articles, two categories of results arouse, leading to a better presentation of scientific evidences on nursing care to aged people with HIV, these being: Epidemiological profile, perceptions and experiences of aged people with HIV and nursing care to aged people with HIV.

### Epidemiological profile, perceptions and experiences of aged people with HIV

As for the epidemiological profile of aged people with HIV, articles identified that the amount of men and women with HIV is almost the same, being 11 (55%) and nine (45%), respectively. However, in A10\(^ {[1]}\) and A13\(^ {[19]}\), the number of men was higher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Title Author</th>
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<th>Objective (s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A5</td>
<td>Perception of life of aged people with HIV/AIDS that attended a State reference health center Serra A, et al(^ {[12]})</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Saúde em Debate</td>
<td>To analyze the perception of older people with AIDS that attended a State reference health center from Maranhão, Brazil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6</td>
<td>Benefits of group interaction between people with HIV/AIDS Souza NR, Vietta EP(^ {[13]})</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Brazilian Journal of Sexually Transmitted Diseases</td>
<td>To investigate the benefits of group interaction between people with HIV/AIDS; to evaluate the group relationship as an alternative to outpatient treatment of people with HIV/AIDS, analyzing the several stages of the process of group formation and development; to identify evidences of users and staff involved in group activities, its advantages and disadvantages to the patients’ quality of life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7</td>
<td>Managing in the older women care with HIV/AIDS in a infecto-contagious disease service Oliveira EC, Leite JL, Fuly PS(^ {[14]})</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Revista de Enfermagem do Centro O Mineiro</td>
<td>To identify the implications of office nursing in the management of older women care with HIV/AIDS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8</td>
<td>Nursing diagnoses on security and protection to people with HIV/AIDS Faria, JO, Silva GA(^ {[15]})</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Revista Eletrônica de Enfermagem (Online)</td>
<td>To identify nursing diagnoses on security and protection of Taxonomy II of NANDA-I in people with HIV/AIDS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9</td>
<td>The nurse’s role to encourage antiretroviral therapy in HIV-positive patients Sá TA, Rembold SM(^ {[16]})</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Journal of Research Fundamental Care Online</td>
<td>It explores the importance of adhering to antiretroviral therapy for the survival of HIV-positive; it identifies the difficulties of patients that adhered to antiretroviral therapy and/or abandoned treatment when undergoing outpatient treatment for infectious and parasitic diseases in Antônio Pedro College Hospital.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A10</td>
<td>Characteristics of Aids in old age in a reference hospital from the state of Ceará, Brazil Araújo VLB, et al(^ {[1]})</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Brazilian Journal of Epidemiology</td>
<td>To describe the characteristics of Aids in people with 60 years of age or more that attended a HIV/AIDS reference hospital in Ceará from 1989 to 2004.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11</td>
<td>Aging with Aids: representations, beliefs and actions of aged people with HIV Saldanha AAW, Araújo LF, Souza VC(^ {[17]})</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Interamerican Journal of Psychology</td>
<td>To identify emerging representations regarding HIV infection in aged people, exploring coping and social support issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A12</td>
<td>The epidemiological profile of Aids in aged people using health information from Datasus: truths and challenges GodoyVS, et al(^ {[18]})</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Brazilian Journal of Sexually Transmitted Diseases</td>
<td>To identify the epidemiology of diagnosed cases of Aids in Brazil in individuals with ≥ 60 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A13</td>
<td>Clinical and epidemiological characteristics of aged patients with Aids in a reference hospital from Teresina, Piauí, Brazil, from 1996 to 2009 Silva HR, et al, 2011(^ {[19]})</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Epidemiology and Health Services</td>
<td>To investigate the epidemiological characteristics of aged patients with Aids that attended a reference hospital of Teresina, state of Piauí, Brazil.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
than that of women. We also identified A12\(^{18}\) reported that in 1995, the relation was of three infected men to one infected woman; in 2005, this value changed from 1.5 to 1, respectively.

When it comes to sexual orientation, A12\(^{18}\) and A13\(^{19}\) observed 51 (73.9\%) heterosexuals with HIV and only five (7.2\%) homosexuals. When correlating the profile of these aged people, they mentioned other characteristics, such as: a) low education, with expressive numbers, as the ones pointed out by A1\(^{19}\), A10\(^{16}\), A12\(^{18}\) and A13\(^{19}\), verifying it in almost 90\% of the analyzed sample; b) transmission by sexual contact, which represented almost the whole sample, only A13\(^{19}\) showed a case of transmission by drugs injection thanks to needle sharing; c) high number of sexual partners without using condom, despite knowing the risks of such a thing, according to A1\(^{19}\), A10\(^{16}\), and A12\(^{18}\).

Regarding the perceptions and experiences reported by the aged after the diagnosis of HIV, publications A2\(^{7}\), A4\(^{11}\), A5\(^{12}\) and A11\(^{17}\) pointed out it affected the relationship that they had with their family and friends, which made them feel mad and awkward about it\(^7\). Some studies highlight social isolation of aged people from family and friends and there are some reports on health professionals that did not identify their signs of depression.

**Nursing care to aged people with HIV**

The articles we mention here present nursing care as an unique measure to the care of aged people with HIV, considering it covers issues regarding health education (guidance and clarification), in addition to treatments applied in different perspectives, both in hospitals, in primary health care, in schools or business environments.

In this perspective, studies A3\(^{10}\) and A8\(^{13}\) described that aged people who attended a infectious disease outpatient clinic underwent nursing diagnoses of risks of infection, sexual dysfunction, unhealthy eating, inefficient control of treatment, insomnia, risk of unbalanced nutrition, lack of knowledge, low self-esteem caused by the diagnosis, fear and others. Regarding aged people with HIV, nursing diagnosis is the first step in nursing care.

A3\(^{10}\) pointed out “unbalanced nutrition: lower than body requirements” as one of the experienced conditions to aged people with HIV. Other diagnoses mentioned by A3\(^{10}\) include factors associated with quality of life, such as the decrease in physical activities (which influences fatigue and weakness), insomnia and sexual dysfunction, in addition to elements involving psychical and social matters.

As for the development of host groups by the nurse, it seems like a reasonable measure in the care of aged people with HIV from the diagnosis to the terminal phase. Care offered under collective perspective of care improves the reception of aged people in a space of mutual identification and exchange of experiences, contributing to a more healthy conception on what it means to have HIV in advanced ages\(^{18}\).

Articles A6\(^{13}\), A9\(^{16}\), A12\(^{18}\) and A13\(^{19}\) considered it was important for nurses to know how to use group activities wisely to avoid patients to see it as something threatening that implies overexposure, which would lead to evasion. But that encourages the performance of daily activities, in addition to the promotion of quality of life.

**DISCUSSION**

Despite the small amount of Brazilian published articles on the matter, it was possible to observe important points with the development of this study, such as the way society understands the aged people’s sexuality, which might be due to the fact that sex has been seen as a taboo by family and partners for many years. This way, authors\(^{20}\) reported that it is necessary to plan health actions regarding aged people’s sexual demands, because they are associated with the subject’s well-being and quality of life. Thus, there is need to evaluate the knowledge of aged people on HIV transmission and prevention, providing them an educational and preventive actions plan.

Studies show that this context is also common in countries of Latin America, as a study carried out in Cuba\(^{21}\) to identify the perception of older people regarding the risk of HIV infection; it concluded that the aged had knowledge on the disease but they had no self-perception about the risks of getting virus, showing high risk behaviors. A Columbian researcher\(^{22}\) points out that the clinical process of the disease in aged people is similar to the one that occurs for younger patients; however, after 65 years, it is possible to see that aged patients show higher risks of opportunistic infections because of the characteristics of aging.

Regarding the patient’s sex, we observed contradictory opinions. Some of the analyzed authors report there is an expressive number of infected men when compared to women; however, other researchers report that it is important to highlight that the difference in the ratio men/women has been decreasing. A retrospective and descriptive research carried out in Montevideo, Uruguay\(^{23}\) also noted these data, identifying the total of admitted and hospitalized with an average age of 63 years and a similar percentage for both sexes (53\% men and 47\% women). Other studies pointed out similar data\(^{24-25}\).

In Brazil, according to Boletim Epidemiológico [Epidemiological Bulletin] of 2015 “among men, it is possible to observe an increase in the detection rate, mainly among those with [...] 60 years or more in the last 10 years”\(^{26}\). On the other hand, when it comes to mortality, Epidemiological Bulletins from 2013 and 2015 prepared by the Brazilian Ministry of Health reported that, in all age groups, the mortality rate was higher among men compared to women. Among the ones with more than 60 years, we observed an increase of 33.3\% in deaths. Among aged women, with 60 years or more, we observed an increase of 81.3\%\(^{26-27}\) from 2003 to 2012.

Another mentioned issue was sexual orientation, which has been associated with the risk group in the last decades. We observed that all studies found that most people with HIV are heterosexuals, considering the number of aged heterosexuals is higher than the one for homosexuals. In addition, we noted that aged people still believe in the idea of risk groups such as: homosexuals, prostitutes and young people. This way, the disease becomes common and there is no concerns on the use of condoms\(^{28}\). The assessed studies clarify that there is no groups of risk, only behaviors of risk\(^{29-30}\).

The analysis of the results allowed us to identify that when older people attend a health service, it takes days or even a
whole year for them to be diagnosed with HIV. Many cases are limited to the secondary or tertiary network, when seen as opportunistic infections, having late diagnosis. Authors state that this situation might be associated with the socioeconomic level and low education, which would justify why some patients took so long to attend a health service

The Brazilian Ministry of Health reports that the aged population is the most affected by lack of early diagnosis.

We observed the highest proportions of late diagnosis in the aged population of 60 years and more, except in 2011. This ratio between aged people is three times higher than that observed among young people from 18 to 24 years old in October 2015 (11.9% and 38.1%, respectively)

We recognize the importance of nursing care to aged people with HIV regarding educational/preventive actions and suspicions concerning the disease. Considering the nurse is the professional who is mostly in contact with the patient contributes to the inclusion and use of the Nursing Care System (NCS), which considers consults, diagnoses, planning, execution, and evaluation as essentials; to do so, the COFEN resolution no. 358/2009 support the nurses, being a basis for the choice and determination of actions or interventions to promote a certain result, such as the promotion a quality of life

However, even when the nurse is in direct contact with the patient, these professionals still need to integrate actions associated with sexuality to help patients to overcome the disease. Studies on aged people’s sexuality and nursing care integration are still scarce

In this perspective, other studies suggest that the promotion of oral hygiene is also an assignment for nurses. These authors approach oral hygiene measures for patients with candidiasis, or that might develop it, as essential in a holistic from perspective that needs to focus on the customer. Which makes it necessary for the nurse to not only follow drug therapy, but an approach characterized by adequate and salutary guidance

When thinking about the nutrition and the quality of life of these aged people, we face issues associated with food guidelines, sexual orientation, use of drugs (antiretroviral drugs) and emotional diseases, especially when part of the patient’s family and friends discriminate them, which leads to their social isolation and the possibility of developing depression and suicide

This fact leads to nurse’s responsibility on the development of care aimed at implementing guidelines that allow the aged to have quality of life, despite the difficulties of HIV and the ones enhanced by the HIV diagnosis, according to NANDA (North American Nursing Diagnosis Association): hopelessness, changes in urinary behavior, need for resolution strategies for family stress, fatigue, ineffective management of treatments, changes in oral mucosa, changes in nutrition and risks of infection. From a nutritional perspective, a study carried out in Spain with hospitalized aged people with immunologic deficiency, such as HIV, identified that malnutrition is associated with sensory and oral cavity disorders, dysphagia, anorexia, cognitive deficit and food addiction.

It is important to highlight that the aged people with HIV approached by research are from low socioeconomic levels and have low education. In a study conducted in a Polyclinic Institute in Santiago, Cuba, also showed these results regarding education; women had primary level of education while males had the secondary level, considering that nobody reported having higher education.

Another note approaches the need to question the scope of diagnoses and nursing actions, that are usually mostly focused on individuals, as they were the only ones responsible for their health, not suggesting enough action and measures that can actually improve social inequality and the understanding of the population on the disease

Regarding these data, a study conducted in Fortaleza describes relevantly the hard work of nursing in Specialized Outpatient Services for people with HIV/AIDS, considering the users’ low education and the predominance of the biomedical model. Nurse reports show that they have difficulties in continuing nursing consults because some of their patients do not come back for it, being only interesting in attending medical consults to receive antiretroviral drugs

As for the participation of aged people in educational activities, we noted that the nurse needs to have a more active posture, conducting playful exercises and seeing the participant’s knowledge as a way of calling their attention to the problem and establishing a more close relationship that can develop even more with confidence, as many of them can see group activities as unique opportunities of expressing their fears. Such measure shows to be really useful for aged people with HIV, considering that in group exercises, they are encouraged to reflect on the meaning of the worsening of the disease, and to improve its knowledge and interrelation with the other participants. The nurse needs to use strategies that might contribute significantly with the aged people’s health, understanding that the required approach does not need to be at individual level

In addition to the group approach, care at individual level, when well administered, contributes significantly to the well-being of aged people with HIV; thanks to this approach, the nurse considers the characteristics of each subject when clarifying some basic aspects that define HIV infection, especially when it comes to the aging process

It becomes essential that the nurse’s role be performed according to a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary basis to provide a balanced and holistic care to older people with HIV, allowing a adequate response to the real needs of each patient to ensure their quality of life.

Limitations of the study

From the articles found in literature, we could observe a low number of updated articles that answered to the guiding question of this study. We noted that there is a concern on the scientific field regarding the aged people sex life. However, qualitative studies do not approach “humanized listening” and the effective participation of the nurse as a educator. We believe that trough further studies in primary health care it would be possible to understand issues on the sexuality of aged people and the difficulties of including educational actions for this group. It is worth mentioning that after the development and conclusion of the study, we analyzed the methodology and the level of evidence of the found research.
Contributions to the area of nursing, and public health

This research points out that there are many aged people infected with HIV who have multiple partners and are not using condoms. Considering the severity of the disease and its quick dissemination due to the increase in the number of infected aged people, we think there is need to develop public policies on this matter. When analyzing the Aged People Statute and the National Health Policy for Aged People, we observed that it does not approach sexuality in a significant way, maybe for both being obsolete. We also identified the lack of preparation of health professionals, including nurses, to deal with this group, which shows resistance towards the treatment and acceptance.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The literature approaches nursing care by associating it with epidemiological aspects. It shows elements that maximize the dissemination of aggravations, such as low education/instruction, or the resistance regarding the made recommendations, or within individual and collective environment. This way, texts say that the nurse can contribute more to the care of aged people by employing interventions both in group and individual level from the identification of problems associated with the diagnose of HIV that should receive more attention during the diagnose to better define the actions to be provided to patients.

However, we consider that studies see nursing care from a perspective based on NANDA’s diagnoses, from a strong and individualizing approach, almost ignoring the social aspects associated to it. Group and educational interventions seem to still be predominantly based on traditional practices, and/or techniques that do not question the context of life, the values, the culture, and the access to social policies concerning HIV.

REFERENCES


