

Assessment of Knowledge Level and Positioning on Health Ethical Prioritization: A Review

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This is a literature review on the subject assessment of knowledge level and positioning of healthcare professionals and managers of the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS) on Ethical Prioritization in Health (EPH). The databases CAPES, Medline, Web of Knowledge, Scopus, PubMed, Lilacs and SciELO were searched, as well as the CAPES, USP, UFPR, PUC, UNICAMP, UNIFESP, UFRGS, UNB and UFRJ thesis databases, searching for papers or theses published until November 20, 2019. We reviewed 846 articles and 123 theses and none of them had as objective the proposed theme. Research on Health Ethical Prioritization is very important in Brazil. The scarcity of public resources and technical advances in healthcare and pharmacology put in doubt the universality and honesty guaranteed by Brazilian legislation.

The relevance of an ethics committee in a higher education institution in the health area: The experience of ESS-P.PORTO

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Ethics Committees arose as consequence of medical-scientific advances made in an eminent demand to extend morality and ethics to the field of biomedicine, to expand and preserve autonomy and dignity of human beings. The Ethics Committee (EC) of Escola Superior de Saúde (ESS) was born in February 2011. The importance for this unit of P.PORTO in having such a committee, for ethical and not legal imperative, came to be corroborated by law (Decree-Law no. 80/2018).

Analysing the Annual Reports, an increased number of processes submitted over the years, most of them obtaining a favorable final analysis, has been observed. Sessions to promote ethical literacy and raise awareness of current bioethical issues have become a vector for its performance, with increasing adherence. The recent implementation of a computerized platform for submission of processes will improve productivity of EC in terms of the response time. With the emergence of the Pedagogical Clinic of ESS-P.Porto, this EC will also have an important role monitoring activities, this time in the clinical scope. From the perspective of this EC and other stakeholders, the Ethics Committee in the ESS-P.Porto has been shown to contribute to the implementation of an ethical culture in academic and clinical communities.

Research Ethics Teaching: An Experience from Brazil

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The Research Ethics Committee (REC) is a collegiate, multidisciplinary, independent, normative, deliberative and educational body, and should always defend the interests of research participants in their integrity and dignity, contributing to the development of research within of ethical standards. This study aims to report REC's experience in offering research ethics classes involving human subjects to students and researchers at a medical school in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Research ethics classes are offered annually to students and researchers at a medical school in the state of Sao Paulo, Brazil. The content of the classes approaches the themes: concepts of ethics and bioethics, Brazilian resolutions that guide research in human beings in the medical and humanities and social sciences, edited by the National Commission of Research Ethics. The classes are taught in an expository, dialogic and individual and group participation. It can be concluded that the ethics classes offered contribute to the educational role of the REC, providing guidance to researchers related to the concepts of ethics and the applicability of current legislation for research developments in Brazil

The Refusal of Medical Treatment by Older Adults with Cancer

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Background: One of the principles of good care is that it should be responsive to the patients' wishes and values. Little is known about why older cancer patients decide to refuse treatment.

Objective-To search about predictive factors associated with treatment refusal by older cancer patients.

Methods: A scoping review based on three databases: Medline, Web of Science and Scopus, using the key concepts: "refusal treatment"; "cancer"; "decision making"; "elderly" or "aged". Only articles written in English or Portuguese from the last five years were included.

Results: Of 216 abstracts reviewed, a total of 26 studies were included. Only 02 articles include the elderly patients exclusively but the vast majority of the studies demonstrated elderly as a major refusal factor. Most studies focused on breast and head and neck cancer treatment decisions and used a quantitative design. Important factors for refusal cancer treatment included unmarried status, nonwhite race, to have government insurance, advanced cancer (stage III or IV), Charlson Comorbidity Index =2 and fear of side effects.

Conclusion: Some socio-demographic and clinical variables are associated with treatment refusal. More studies with elderly are needed. Recognition of these factors may help identify situations where active education and support are helpful to patients accept optimal care.