

**TRAINING IN FORENSIC  
SCIENCES FOR NURSING  
PROFESSIONALS IN  
FACING VIOLENCE  
AGAINST THE ELDERLY  
PERSON**

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**Abstract:** This article aims to propose and articulate training for the Nursing professional in Forensic Sciences for a better confrontation of violence in the Family Health Strategy (ESF) against the elderly. In this sense, how can the professional contribute to the confrontation of violence against the elderly? Therefore, with the training, the professional will feel more secure in the identification, approach, notification, collection of traces, prevention, reception and restoration of health problems, a consequence suffered during violence. The specific objectives are to clarify the forensic technical skills of the Nursing professional in the detection of violence against the elderly and to employ the importance of using the Notification of Violence by the professional, because in addition to not being offered at graduation, they do not feel safe in the approach. At this moment of a pandemic, it is believed that the Nurse, with training, will be able to contribute in a qualified way to minimize violence and provide holistic and humanized care.

**Keywords:** Forensic Sciences, Violence against the Elderly, Nursing.

## INTRODUCTION

When it comes to human rights involving the dignity of the human person, all the specialized competences in the control of violence against the elderly cannot be neglected or omitted as to their office, bearing the burden on the professional and society. In this sense, Nursing that lives constantly aggregated in the community, acting as a professional, knows the problems of the family life of each one that covers its area of work. Therefore, this professional has a lot to contribute to the control of intrafamily violence against the elderly through identification, notification, collection of traces, prevention, reception, qualified health care and in the restoration of injuries suffered by violence. In this sense, the

problem observed to compose this research is, how can Forensic Nursing contribute to minimize violence against the elderly in the scope of the Family Health Strategy (ESF)?

This research is of paramount importance for science and society in order to contribute in a qualified way, incorporating new knowledge in the areas of Law, Education, Health and Public Security. The main objective of this is to propose training in Forensic Sciences regarding violence against the elderly and as specific objectives: 1. To clarify the forensic technical competences of the Nursing Professional in the detection of violence against the elderly, and 2. To use the importance of Notification of Violence by the Nursing professional. With the advancement of technologies and quality of life, it resulted in an increase in the life expectancy of the population, especially in developing countries such as Brazil. Research assumes that by 2040 we will have 24 million people aged 60 or over, representing 23% of the Brazilian population (GUIDOTTI, 2015). With this, we must look sensitively at public policies and professionals who are on the front line.

## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### NURSING AND FORENSIC SCIENCES

Nursing is the science of health care. The term care goes beyond their responsibilities and competences, because to take care it encompasses not only the technique, but the sensitivity that the professional conducts his assistance. Any medical science has this characteristic, the touch. With the evolution of Nursing science, it went from a vocational image to one still under construction, with new challenges, but based on ethics and professional principles. (SANTIAGO; CARVALHO, 2009). It is in this humanized, ethical and competent sense that Forensic Nursing fits into the gaps in the various areas of knowledge.

Its beginning is recent, it was highlighted when 70 nurses, in Minneapolis - USA, in the summer of 1992, gathered for the first national convention of sexual abuse examiner nurses. Their reports have had a major impact on forensic science and health care. (GOMES, 2014a). From then on, new experiences were disseminated and pulverized, actions that the professional felt he was able to perform, but was not within his competence. In Brazil, it regulated the need for specialization with COFEN RESOLUTION 389/2011 and with COFEN RESOLUTION 556/2017 its technical skills, noting that the first specialization offered in Forensic Nursing was in Recife - PE 2016, consolidating its importance in the criminal area.

Despite the historical evolution of contemporary societies, the conquest of Human Rights, the Federal Constitution - 1988, the Elderly Statute (Law Number 10,741/2003), the National Policy for the Elderly (Law Number Health (SUS), we still find remnants of family groups with primitive and remote ways of living with characteristics of the various types of violence. This way, we identified in the elderly, a greater vulnerability that represents the probability of extreme suffering, despite comorbidities and limitations, that is occurring in the family environment. They are psychosocial, economic, educational and health unstructured families, which deserve attention from the government and a different look from health professionals and others. The study in question is aimed at elderly people with comorbidities, bedridden and with limitations who live in these families or are lonely. Forensic Nursing has filled a void in the justice system and in the care delivery system, this new field brings an alliance between Nursing professionals as providers of health services and the legal reinforcement of Forensic Sciences, which

presents new perspectives in resolution of violence. (GOMES, 2014a).

According to Gomes (2014a), the foundation of Forensic Nursing was developed to:

- Meet the needs of a special population: victims of crime, aggressors, victims and aggressors who have mental disorders;
- Awareness of the increase in violence and the concepts associated with violence, and,
- Provide support to victims of violence (dead or alive): assess and provide care to victims, identify signs of abuse and neglect and recognize the need for intervention with the victim.

It is in this context that the Nursing professional, with training and updating in Forensic Sciences associated with health care and participating in a multiprofessional team, through the Family Health Strategy (ESF), will be able to articulate actions to confront and control the violence that occurs with people. vulnerable elderly women within the family.

The Elderly Statute, Article 19 (Law Number 10,741/2003) deals with the communication of suspected or confirmed cases of abuse against the elderly by health professionals to the police authority, the Public Ministry, the Health Surveillance, municipal, state and national councils for the elderly. It is essential that the health team is attentive, with a holistic view, to all clinical manifestations of physical, financial, sexual, psychological abuse, neglect and general manifestations, related to the caregiver and responsible, as well as the elderly person, through conduct with legal precepts and a preventive and therapeutic approach. (BRAZIL, 2003).

### **OBLIGATION TO USE THE VIOLENCE NOTIFICATION**

According to Nascimento (2019) Law Number 13.931/2019 corresponds to the mandatory Notification of Violence, it will be

communicated within 24 hours to the police authorities, by health professionals as well as recording in the patient's medical record. It is a protocol of responsibility of Nursing care, to record any manifestation, follow-up/evolution and discharge of the patient.

The Systematization of Nursing Care (SAE) is a tool that performs data collection (anamnesis), diagnosis, planning, implementation and evaluation of the action being performed on the patient. All the evolutions of the same must be inserted in the charticle (WILKINSON, 2010).

Through this systematization, when collecting data, it is mandatory to fill in the Individual Notification/Investigation Form, Domestic, Sexual and/or Other Interpersonal Violence of the Ministry of Health or a record prepared by the health team, according to the characteristics and needs of the community. Thus, violence needs to be understood in all its visible and invisible facets through the reception, accountability and resolution that the system offers, considering the scope and its specificities. (BRAZIL, 2011).

According to BRASIL (2011), the notification is covered by technical standards of the Ministry of Health, such as the Technical Standards for Humanized Care for People in Situations of Sexual Violence with records of information and collection of traces, in Ordinance Number 104 of 01/25/ 2011, which defines the list of diseases, injuries and events to be reported, where it is found in order 46 with the following definition: a) Violence: domestic and/or other violence, b) Violence: sexual and suicide attempt.

It also states, BRASIL (2011), that every professional must notify, it is mandatory according to the legislation and is not restricted to this or that professional, thus making it an act of caring and protecting. Another relevant factor is that Nursing professionals do not feel safe to perform this

task, both in identifying and filling in the form, as they consider its use as a complaint and not as an epidemiological record, (RIBEIRO; SILVA, 2018), thus constituting an infringement.

In this sense, it is important that the health professional understands the need for updating and training in Forensic Sciences and in the means of accessing the instructions of the Ministry of Health, through VIVA (Accident and Violence Surveillance System - Decree MS/GM Number 1,356 of 06/23/2006) and VIVA/SINAN (Notifiable Diseases Information System - Decree MS/GM Number 104 of 01/25/2011). (BRAZIL, 2016). Always focusing on the well-being of the elderly person and their family.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This research aimed to provoke a reflection on how Nursing can contribute to the confrontation to minimize violence against the elderly in the scope of the Family Health Strategy (ESF), using what we have in our favor, which is training. in Forensic Sciences, in this sense, the research is classified as applied, as it seeks to solve specific problems in a given community.

The study was carried out in a bibliographic way in works by authors such as Albino Gomes (2014) in Forensic Nursing, Judith M. Wilkinson (2010) in Fundamentals of Nursing: Theory, Concepts and Application, Legislation such as: Statute of the Elderly (2003), The National Policy for the Elderly (1994), Resolution Number 389/2011, which updates, within the scope of the Cofen/Coren system, the procedures for registering lato and stricto sensu graduate degrees granted to nurses and lists the specialties, Resolution Number 556/2017 that regulates the activity of Forensic Nurses in Brazil, ORDINANCE Number 104, OF JANUARY 25, 2011, which defines the terminologies adopted in national

legislation, in accordance with the provisions of the International Health Regulation 2005 (RSI 2005), the list of diseases, injuries and events in public health of compulsory notification throughout the national territory and establishes flow, criteria, responsibilities and attributions to professionals and health services, an article in *Jornal da Unicamp* and 3 articles.

In the bibliographic method, it was necessary to use exploratory research, which includes providing greater familiarity with the problem. (GIL, 2010). The author also explains that its planning tends to be quite flexible, as it is important to consider the most varied aspects related to the fact.

## **RESULTS**

As Forensic Nursing is a science under construction, there is a need for more research methods and techniques, both to strengthen it and to contribute experiences to other sciences. In this sense, it is necessary to add multidisciplinary knowledge for the construction of new values, in the sense that knowledge is not static, it is universal. Based on these statements, it was observed that the Nursing professional is still not acting in a way to contribute to the control of violence safely. As researched in the current databases, some factors were listed: first: the professional is not trained or updated in Forensic Sciences and in the constant updates available on the Ministry of Health websites and in legislation; second: the professional feels insecure, afraid of carrying out the Compulsory Notification of Violence, due to threats and living in the community.

The research is not conclusive, we need to study new ways to face intrafamily violence against vulnerable elderly people with comorbidities who suffer violence from their caregivers and family members.

## **FINAL CONSIDERATION**

According to the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) it considers violence a concern of public policies and society. The technological present, at the same time that it has brought people together, has potentiated the problems of humanity and violence is the apex of human behavior, being studied by all sciences for the construction of peace. It is in this sense that Forensic Nursing, as an evolving science, makes its work and partnership available to a multiprofessional, intersectoral and multidisciplinary team, to face, approach and control the intrafamily violence of vulnerable people such as the elderly person in a situation of comorbidities, in order to contribute for a better quality of life, therefore, a good death.

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