

VULNERABILITY OF THE BLACK POPULATION IN RELATION TO HIV INFECTION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AIDS: AN INTEGRATIVE REVIEW

Maria Eduarda Nakade Silva

Faculdade IMEPAC de Itumbiara

Itumbiara – Goiás

<https://lattes.cnpq.br/3755854235870297>

Karen Rodrigues de Souza

Faculdade IMEPAC de Itumbiara

Itumbiara – Goiás

<https://lattes.cnpq.br/5669801067265317>

Millene Ferreira Paula

Faculdade IMEPAC de Itumbiara

Itumbiara – Goiás

<https://lattes.cnpq.br/5591262040010742>

Amanda Silva Resende

Faculdade IMEPAC de Itumbiara

Itumbiara – Goiás

<https://lattes.cnpq.br/6309863873275414>

Carolina Andre Castro Godoi

Faculdade IMEPAC de Itumbiara

Itumbiara – Goiás

<https://lattes.cnpq.br/7056512605023301>

Iara Guimarães Rodrigues

Faculdade IMEPAC de Itumbiara

Itumbiara – Goiás

<https://lattes.cnpq.br/2711137345406594>

All content in this magazine is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution License. Attribution-Non-Commercial-Non-Derivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0).



Débora Vieira

Faculdade IMEPAC de Itumbiara

Itumbiara – Goiás

<http://lattes.cnpq.br/5835180584555110>

Abstract: Through a literature review, the objective was to identify the vulnerability of the black population in relation to HIV infection and the development of AIDS. The following guiding question was formulated: what are the possible factors that show the difference between white and black people being HIV positive and developing AIDS. Through databases, articles published between 2007 and 2022 were selected, reaching a final number of 09 selected articles. The PubMed platform, Scielo, BVS, Google academic, DECS was used as a means of research, after reading the selected articles, it was observed that the evolution of black patients to AIDS is due to socioeconomic reasons, where white people have a greater access to treatment and more information about it, in addition to the implications of structural racism in health care, thus confirming the vulnerability of the black population with the HIV virus. During the study, it was observed that there were few recent articles on the subject, thus understanding that it is necessary to develop more research of this nature in the country, since HIV is a disease with a high presence in the Brazilian scenario.

Keywords: HIV, AIDS, Vulnerable populations, Black population, Sexually transmitted diseases.

INTRODUCTION

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is responsible for the epidemic of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), a disease that corresponds to the last stage of untreated infection (BRASIL, 2022). Since the 1980s, the infection persists on the world stage, fortunately, nowadays, there are treatments to prevent the AIDS phase of the disease from reaching the AIDS stage, which has reduced the number of deaths (SOARES et al., 2017).

However, the disease has always affected

more vulnerable groups such as the black population, homosexuals, men who have sex with men (MSM), drug users and sex workers (ARAÚJO et al, 2010). Vulnerability, according to Mann et al. and Ayres et al. (1993; 2003; apud GARCIA and SOUZA, 2010) “allows you to translate the complexity of individual and collective aspects related to exposure to HIV and illness from AIDS”.

This way, it is important to know the main vulnerable groups so that prevention measures and effective treatments are established, in a more specific way for each scenario. Therefore, it is worth highlighting the impact of racial inequality in cases of the disease as an important factor for its aggravation.

According to Albuquerque, Moço and Batista (2010), “The vulnerability of the black population to HIV infection would also be a consequence of the structural violence that affects the group more perversely, especially in poor communities.” This also implies less access to health programs and treatments, causing an increase in the number of injuries. Therefore, health in different racial groups is different and reflects, in the case of HIV/AIDS, in a higher number of deaths in the black population (MATOS and TOURINHO, 2018).

For this, the present article aims to carry out a review of materials from the scientific literature that analyze the vulnerability of the black population in relation to HIV infection.

GOAL

The objective of this work is to demonstrate how important the recognition of the factors that lead to the vulnerability of the black population to the development of AIDS is to improve the care and access to health for this group, in addition to its relevance for the knowledge of students and health professionals. Therefore, knowing the failures of the system is the best way to know where to

act to correct them.

METHODOLOGY

The article is an integrative review, a method that provides the synthesis of knowledge, which aims to synthesize results obtained in research on a topic or issue, analyzing previous research studies, with the objective of understanding more about a given subject. The study was carried out from the selection and identification of the theme, establishment of inclusion and exclusion criteria, analysis and interpretation of the presented results.

The first phase of the study was the elaboration of a guiding question, the second phase with a search or sampling in the literature, the third phase with data collection from the selected studies, the fourth phase with a critical analysis of the included studies, fifth phase with the discussion of the results and the sixth phase reserved for the presentation of the results.

INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA

The established inclusion criteria were: articles published from 2007 to 2022, available online, published in databases such as Scielo, Google Scholar, BVS, Pubmed, which portrayed the vulnerability of the black population with HIV. The established exclusion criteria were: articles published before the year 2007, and that did not address the theme chosen for the integrative review.

From the DECS platform, the following descriptors were predetermined: HIV, AIDS, AIDS, vulnerable populations, black population, sexually transmitted diseases.

RESULT

The articles used were selected during searches in the following databases: Scielo (n=90333), BVS (n=454), Google Scholar

(n=202,000) and Pubmed (n=279), resulting in a partial total of 211,766.

After this initial search, 136011 items were excluded, as they did not have full texts available, were more specific to the theme or were other types of document.

Continuing the selection, 75,631 were excluded for not answering the guiding question. Finally, 115 texts were excluded for presenting a duplicate or year of publication prior to 2007. Therefore, the final sample has 09 articles for use.

Of the 9 articles included in the study, 05 were found in the Scielo database, 02 in VHL, 01 in Google Scholar and 01 in Pubmed. All were published in the last 15 years (2007-2022), a longer-than-usual time span chosen for integrative reviews due to the scarcity of more current materials.

The flowchart shown below demonstrates the article selection process:

Table 1 below presents a description of the findings, with their titles, scientific journals in which they were published, objective and summary of results for each one of them.

After reading all the articles, it was observed that in each of them there were important points to be highlighted, which contribute to the theme of the present study. This way, the discussion will be based on the points that were highlighted in each article.

According to Garcia and Souza (2010), younger and more educated individuals have more information about STIs, this information is highly relevant to the vulnerability of the black population to HIV, since they are marginalized and receive less access to education, thus implying less information about Sexually Transmitted Infections. This difference is portrayed by Lopes, Buchalla and Ayres (2007), when they find that: "About 70% of black women had not reached the corresponding grades of high school, while less than half of non-black women were in a

similar situation"

During the readings, two black men also reported the association between disease and hygiene, in which taking care of hygiene eliminates the disease (GARCIA; SOUZA, 2010), a statement that is somewhat mistaken and does not protect against infection. This scenario explicitly shows the impact of low access to education on the vulnerability of this population.

Therefore, when observing the forms of transmission of the virus, Lopes, Buchalla and Ayres (2007) found the following data: When analyzing the sexual route of infection, the proportion of black and non-black women infected by "unprotected sexual intercourse with an infected partner per woman" was very close (40.1% versus 33.9%), whereas non-black women had a higher percentage of infection by "injecting drug user partner" (33.5% versus 23.3%), while black women were the most contaminated with ignorance of how their partner had become infected (20.5% versus 14.8%).

When analyzing the study by Araújo (2010), there are data that explicitly demonstrate an increase in the number of AIDS cases, in the year 2005, among black and brown men, which went from 33.4% to 37.2%, while cases for the white population decreased. In addition to these data, Matos and Tourinho (2018) point out that more deaths from HIV/AIDS occur among blacks than among whites. This makes the impact of vulnerability on this population even more relevant and concrete.

The findings described above, associated with the studies of the other articles in the present study, point out that the vulnerability of the black population to HIV infection and subsequently to the development of AIDS is an issue that reflects structural racism. According to Albuquerque, Moço and Batista (2010), racial inequality is a factor that influences the place of the individual in

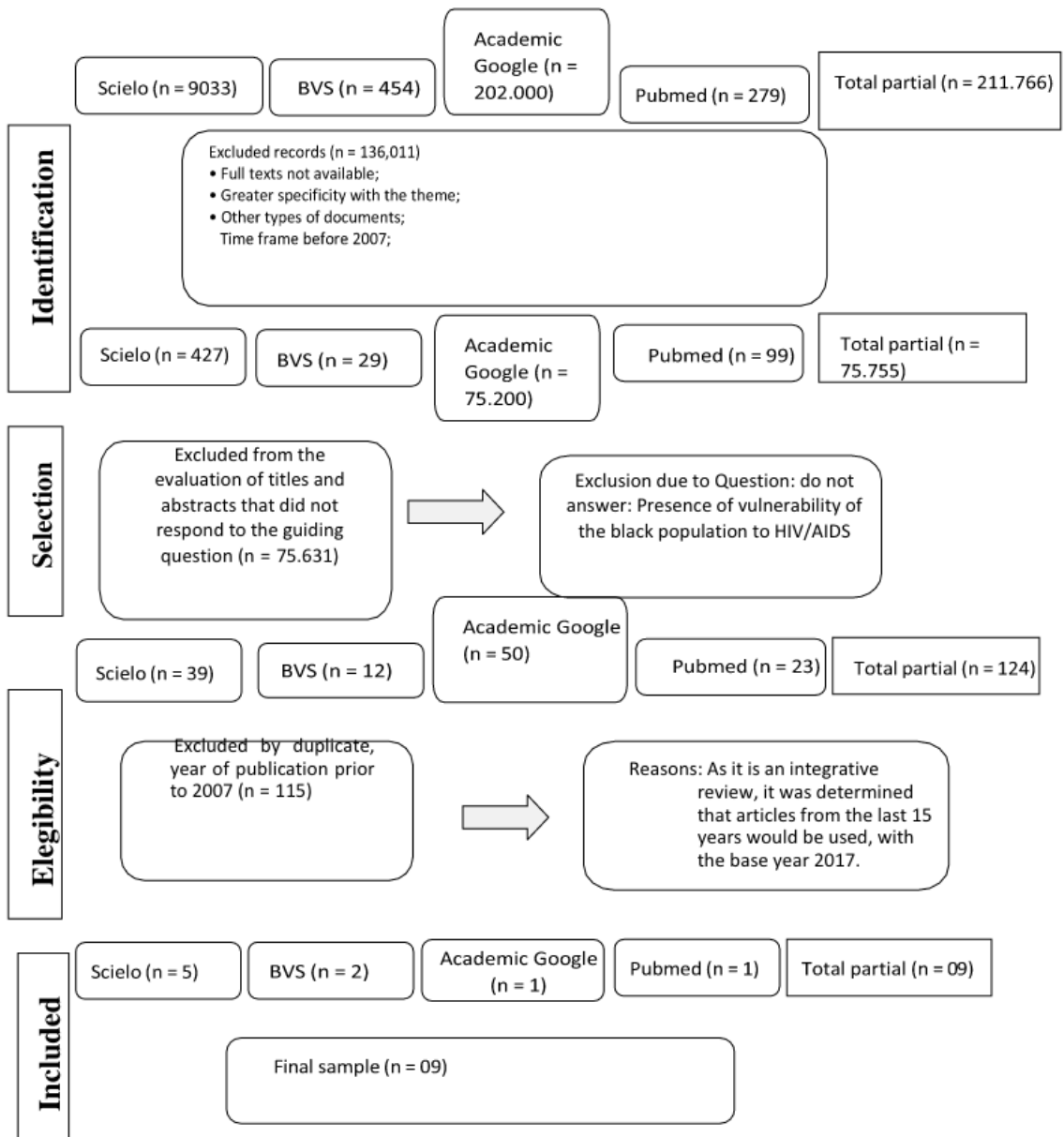


Figure 1. Flowchart of the steps taken in the selection of articles.

Source: Prepared by the authors.

TITLE	SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL	GOAL	SUMMARY OF RESULTS
PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS FOR HIV/AIDS IN VULNERABLE POPULATIONS: AN INTEGRATIVE LITERATURE REVIEW.	Arquivos Catarinenses de Medicina	This is an integrative review that aimed to summarize the scientific production related to the prevalence and risk factors for HIV/AIDS in vulnerable populations.	The infrequent use of condoms, a preponderant factor for the permanence of HIV/AIDS infection in the world, is linked not only to the stigma still present in relation to the positive serological status for the virus, but also to gender issues, especially among heterosexual couples. and socioeconomic situations, such as in the cases of sex workers who were previously trafficked or who suffered sexual abuse in childhood. Added to these factors, the use of psychoactive substances and the presence of other sexually transmitted diseases. Difficulty in accessing health services by sex workers, especially those who have been trafficked or entered countries illegally, keep them away from preventive actions and make them increasingly vulnerable to infection.
Black and non-black women and vulnerability to HIV/AIDS in the state of São Paulo, Brazil.	Revista de Saúde Pública	To analyze characteristics related to the individual vulnerability of women with positive serology for HIV according to skin color.	Differences between blacks and non-blacks were statistically significant in terms of: education; per capita monthly, individual and family income; number of direct dependents; opportunities to be seen by a nutritionist, gynecologist or other medical professional; to understand what the infectologist says; talking to the infectologist or gynecologist about your sex life; to have correct knowledge about CD4 and viral load tests; the sexual route of exposure.
VULNERABILITY IN BLACK POPULATIONS IN ACCESS AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS IN TWO SAES OF SÃO LUÍS/MA.	Mestrado em Saúde e Ambiente da Universidade Federal do Maranhão	To analyze, in the light of the color/race criterion by self-identification, access to and treatment of HIV/AIDS in two SAEs in São Luís/MA.	It can be seen immediately that most of the data from the results presented $p > 0.05$, which statistically constitutes the denial of the null hypothesis ($H_0: p = q$), that is, there is no statistically significant difference between the population black and non-black, thus/therefore the hypothesis was rejected in most of the analyzed data. However, the result obtained is profoundly rich in meaning, when analyzed in comparison with other realities, starting with the predominance of the sample, since 80.2% of it (198) are made up of blacks, and only 19.8% (49) of non-blacks.
Testing and Counseling Centers (CTA) in the city of Rio de Janeiro and access to HIV diagnosis among the black population: a qualitative analysis.	Saúde e Sociedade	This article aims to discuss access to HIV diagnosis by the black population of the city of Rio de Janeiro.	Most respondents did not report difficulties in accessing the anti-HIV test. The barrier identified was the repressed demand in the CTAs due to the limited offer of tests due to input and human resource issues. There was no statement that showed discrimination regarding color/race in contact with the service. Among the factors identified as facilitators of access to the test were: free test, indication or referral by professionals or health service, access to the place where the test was performed, credibility of the service, speed of service and absence of bureaucracy.

<p>Black women and HIV: determinants of vulnerability in the mountainous region of the state of Rio de Janeiro.</p>	<p>Saúde e Sociedade</p>	<p>This is a quantitative-based study whose main objective was to analyze sociocultural and behavioral components related to the process of vulnerability to HIV/AIDS based on the perception of black women in the mountainous region of the state of Rio de Janeiro.</p>	<p>The main determinants that marked the vulnerability of these women with greater intensity were associated with the following factors: low education, income and, consequently, access to goods and services, low rate of systematic condom use and gender perceptions, which reinforce less autonomy women in protective decision-making.</p>
<p>Health in the Black Population: how black and brown individuals are born, live and die in Florianópolis.</p>	<p>Revista Brasileira de Medicina de Família e Comunidade</p>	<p>Carry out a situational diagnosis of the health conditions of the black population in the city of Florianópolis (SC).</p>	<p>The results reveal, in the black population, worse educational and income conditions, higher proportion of teenage mothers, lower number of prenatal consultations, higher proportions of cases of syphilis in pregnant women and tuberculosis and lower private health plan coverage. Black patients attended proportionally more Psychosocial Care Centers, compared to attendance at Health Centers. Among the first three causes of death that shorten life, AIDS and homicide appear every year among the black population, not appearing in the white population. Perinatal causes also appear only among blacks. In 2016, suicide became the third cause of death that shortens life in the brown population. Conclusion: The worst health conditions in the black population may reflect the worst socioeconomic conditions of this population, as well as institutional racism and the myth of Brazilian racial democracy.</p>
<p>Critical race theory as a tool for understanding poor engagement along the HIV care continuum among African American/Black and Hispanic persons living with HIV in the United States: a qualitative exploration</p>	<p>International Journal for Equity in Health</p>	<p>The present qualitative study utilized critical race theory and incorporated intersectionality theory to understand AABH-PLWH perspectives on the mechanisms by which structural racism; that is, macro-level systems that reinforce inequalities among racial/ethnic groups influence health decisions and behaviors.</p>	<p>In this historical/cultural context, aspects of structural racism negatively influenced health decisions and behaviors in four main ways: 1) to the extent that health environments were experienced as excessively institutionalized and, therefore, dehumanizing; 2) distrust of medical institutions and health service providers, which led the AABH-PVHA to feel pressured to take antiretroviral therapy for HIV when it was offered; 3) perceptions that patients are excluded from the health decision-making process; and 4) an overemphasis on antiretroviral therapy compared to other non-HIV priorities. We found that although participants were located at the intersection of multiple social categories (e.g., gender, social class, AABH race/ethnicity), race/ethnicity and social class were described as primary factors.</p>

<p>Vulnerabilities to HIV/AIDS in the Brazilian Context: gender, race and generational inequalities.</p>	<p>Saúde Soc.</p>	<p>Analyze the population's knowledge about STD/AIDS, as well as discourses on condom use and sexual practices.</p>	<p>Less educated individuals, men, older people and residents of Recife were the least informed about STD/AIDS. People over 45 years of age and those with less schooling had incipient knowledge about ways of transmitting and preventing STD/AIDS. Condom use among respondents in both cities was relatively low; non-use of condoms among women in a stable relationship was attributed to the partner's refusal. Among the interviewees who declared using condoms, the type of relationship established and the stage of the relationship resulted in diversified use patterns; consistent condom use was more frequent in occasional partnerships.</p>
<p>Does AIDS have color or race? Data interpretation and formulation of health policies in Brazil.</p>	<p>Caderneta de Saúde Pública.</p>	<p>To examine the socio-political context involved in the definition of public policies of a racial nature in the field of health in Brazil, taking AIDS as a case study.</p>	<p>. Thus, even though the growth of AIDS among "blacks" has been emphasized, with regard to blacks, there has been stability in the number of cases over the years. We emphasize in this work that this fact has implications when considering the definition of contents and aesthetics adopted in prevention campaigns</p>

Table 1: Description of the selected articles with the variables: Title of the study, scientific journals, objective and synthesis of results.

society, this phenomenon makes it difficult for this population to access education, impairing access to information and consequently to prevention, in addition to education, as well decreases adherence to treatments and health programs.

Several pieces of evidence were found that highlight the difficulty of the black population in accessing health care, due to prejudice and lack of receptivity. According to Lopes, Buchalla and Ayres, black women did not understand what the infectologist was telling them in 25% of cases, while for non-black women the percentage was 8.8%. This fact has a negative impact on the treatment of these women, increasing the chances of developing AIDS in these black women.

In another study, Cruz (2009) points out that “44.9% of black individuals who intended to take the HIV test reported not receiving guidance from the health service [...]”. Explicit once again the presence of an ineffective treatment for the black population, increasing their vulnerability.

Therefore, FREEMAN, R. et al (2017) demonstrate in their study that although it is important and significant to analyze different social classes and genders, the main factor that influences negative experiences in the health system is the individual's race/ethnicity, being Black is the hardest hit.

In view of the study by Soares et al (2017), there is a prevalence of risk factors for HIV/AIDS in vulnerable populations that are rooted in cultural, socioeconomic, and political issues. In view of this, it is necessary to be aware of this vulnerability so that there are public policies aimed at this population, in addition to combating prejudice, aiming at increasing adherence to education and health of this vulnerable population.

CONCLUSION

The vulnerability of the black population in

relation to HIV infection and the development of AIDS is considered a public health problem that mainly affects these more vulnerable classes. Therefore, it is also included in socioeconomic issues and in experiences of stigmatizing situations that this group of people experience. The present study showed that HIV infection is present in all social groups, however the black population has a higher risk of developing AIDS, this is due to low education, lack of access to information, difficulty in adhering to CTAs, racism structural and service failures. In general, these factors tend to be correlated.

One of the limitations of this review is the absence of recent articles on the delimited topic, not having new studies on a given subject. This makes it difficult to draw up an analysis closer to the reality experienced. However, based on the risk factors of the black population in relation to the development of AIDS that were raised in the studies, it is possible to say that it is necessary to develop public policies that facilitate the adherence of this black population to CTAs and access to information.

Therefore, sex education for adolescents in schools is important, with the aim of highlighting the magnitude of the use of condoms to prevent the development of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). Therefore, it is also necessary for society, including social media, to work to combat deep-rooted structural racism. In this sense, the Government, social media, CTAs and health professionals play a fundamental and irreplaceable role.

REFERENCES

- ALBUQUERQUE, V. S.; MOÇO, E. T.-S. M.; BATISTA, C. S. Mulheres Negras e HIV: determinantes de vulnerabilidade na região serrana do estado do Rio de Janeiro. **Saúde e Sociedade**, v. 19, n. suppl 2, p. 63–74, dez. 2010.
- ARAÚJO, C. L. F. et al. Os Centros de Testagem e Aconselhamento (CTA) no município do Rio de Janeiro e o acesso ao diagnóstico do HIV entre e população negra: uma análise qualitativa. **Saúde e Sociedade**, v. 19, n. suppl 2, p. 85–95, dez. 2010. <https://www.scielo.br/j/sausoc/a/dYdBsdRW9KRZwQkMrfwGb4K/?lang=pt>
- BRASIL. Ministério da Saúde. **Aids/HIV: o que é, causas, sintomas, diagnóstico, tratamento e prevenção**. 2022. Disponível em: <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/saude-de-a-a-z/a/aids/aids-antiga>. Acesso em: 18 out. 2022.
- FREEMAN, R. et al. Critical race theory as a tool for understanding poor engagement along the HIV care continuum among African American/Black and Hispanic persons living with HIV in the United States: a qualitative exploration. **International Journal for Equity in Health**, v. 16, n. 1, 24 mar. 2017. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12939-017-0549-3>.
- FRY, P. H.; MONTEIRO, S.; MAIO, M. C.; BASTOS, F. I.; SANTOS, R. V.; Aids tem cor ou raça? Interpretação de dados e formulação de políticas de saúde no Brasil. **Cad. Saúde Pública**, Rio de Janeiro, mar, 2007. Disponível em: <https://www.scielosp.org/article/ssm/content/raw/?resource_ssm_path=/media/assets/csp/v23n3/02.pdf>. Acesso em: 28 set. 2022.
- GARCIA, S.; SOUZA, F. M. DE. Vulnerabilidades ao HIV/aids no Contexto Brasileiro: iniquidades de gênero, raça e geração. **Saúde e Sociedade**, v. 19, n. suppl 2, p. 9–20, dez. 2010. Disponível em: <<https://www.scielo.br/j/sausoc/a/jGCLV8Ms8gfv3DDwCpj7k3x/abstract/?lang=pt>> Acesso em: 28 set. 2022.
- LOPES, F.; BUCHALLA, C. M.; AYRES, J. R. DE. C. Mulheres negras e não-negras e vulnerabilidade ao HIV/ Aids no estado de São Paulo, Brasil. **Revista Saúde Pública**, 2007. Disponível em: <<https://www.scielosp.org/pdf/rsp/v41s2/5952.pdf>>. Acesso em 28 set. 2022.
- PEREIRA, A. **UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO MARANHÃO PRÓ-REITORIA DE PESQUISA E PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO MESTRADO EM SAÚDE E AMBIENTE**. [s.l: s.n.]. Disponível em: <<https://tede2.ufma.br/jspui/bitstream/tede/1908/2/AlexandroCruz.pdf>>. Acesso em: 4 out. 2022.
- PREVALÊNCIA E FATORES DE RISCO PARA O HIV/AIDS EM POPULAÇÕES VULNERÁVEIS: UMA REVISÃO INTEGRATIVA DE LITERATURA**. Disponível em: <<https://revista.acm.org.br/index.php/arquivos/article/view/126/216>>. Acesso em: 28 set. 2022.
- Vista do Saúde da População Negra: como nascem, vivem e morrem os indivíduos pretos e pardos em Florianópolis (SC)**. Disponível em: <<https://rbmfc.org.br/rbmfc/article/view/1706/914>>. Acesso em: 17 out. 2022.