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## Challenges for nursing in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

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COVID 19, disease caused by the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, when reaching a pandemic level, triggered the largest public health emergency faced by the international community in decades. It brought demands in terms of population behavior, remodeling everyone's life, in the fields of work, study, social, economic, and other aspects. The impact of this pandemic is diverse and long-term predictions will show what needs to be reformed in the various spheres of daily life.

Today, the impact of the pandemic on nursing, in Brazil and worldwide, lies in the clinical practice, in the management of care and services, in teaching and in the scientific research. The International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the World Health

Organization (WHO), in 2007, already emphasized that nursing professionals need to have a broader education to provide assistance and deal with the adversities that the moment, which is now experienced, demands.

Nursing needs to think and act differently, since in the context of the pandemic the focus of health care changes at an ever-increasing rate. There are many challenges that nursing faces and will face. In the extent of assistance and management, they involve hiring, training and sizing teams, planning material resources, direct care dynamics, lack of individual protection material, precarious supply structure in assistance institutions, work overload, which reflect and will reflect on organization of new protocols and care flows, based on available scientific evidence.

In the context of educational institutions, professors, researchers and undergraduate and graduate students have had and will have to adapt and make their work procedures more flexible to maintain teaching-learning process and knowledge production, whether in a face-to-face and / or virtual atmosphere, in order to guarantee the continuity of education programs.

The profession's priorities are to maintain safe and quality health assistance without disregarding the safety of the teams that are on the front line of care. In addition, they must be able to identify new forms of immediate and long-term distress, as well as assist in reorganizing people's daily lives as early as possible, so that they can restore their social connections and interactions.

Nursing professionals, regardless of their position and occupation field, work and support each other so that the health system achieves the greatest possible success in its actions. In the context of this pandemic, professionals who are at the forefront of health care have contributed to the care inherent to the health needs arising from COVID-19, but also, they have not stopped their practices in the face of health-disease issues in other clinical areas.

These times have not been easy, in addition to the challenges mentioned, nursing professionals, active or not, are surrounded by news without technical sources, related to the treatment and cure of the disease, which arouse doubts and general malaise, and still suffer psychological and physical violence when traveling from home to their workplaces and with psychological and physical illness along with the death of peers, family members and friends.

It is absolutely necessary to consider that everyone is touched by the media repercussions and general commotion of society that promote the growth of the profession. However, it is hoped that this increased recognition will bring transformations that last post-pandemic with a respective valorization of the profession. Possibly, health care will need to be rethought to meet the old and new demands that will arise in the post-pandemic.

We invite the readers of this journal to read the reflections that nursing professionals in different work positions have brought about the pandemic in their realities, which can contribute to the practice of the profession.

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