

The challenge of nurses in the face of communication in pediatric palliative care

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ABSTRACT

Pediatric palliative care is a challenge, especially for nurses, as they demand emotional balance. This care begins at diagnosis and can be offered concomitantly with therapy aimed at the underlying disease. It is a care that must be based not only on the child, but also on the family, psychological and professional bosom, establishing effective communication. The objectives of this study were to analyze the challenge of communication between nurses, patients and family members during pediatric palliative care, and to identify the main challenges of nurses in communicating with patients and families in pediatric palliative care; and to propose a model of effective communication strategy between nurses, patients and family members in pediatric palliative care. This is an integrative, qualitative and descriptive literature review with bibliographic search found in the Medline/Pubmed, LILACS, BDENF, BVS, Scielo databases in the last ten years between 2013 and 2023. The sample of results and discussion consisted of 11 publications, which showed that the challenge of communication is one of the greatest difficulties among nurses, patients and family members. Nurses are important professionals in the palliative care of pediatric patients and communication is a daily challenge, as bringing the diagnosis of this care brings many doubts, pains and fears. Studies have shown that this communication can be effective and humanized when ludic means such as therapeutic games are used, as a way to soften this moment for the patient and their families. There are many difficulties in communication between nurses, patients and family members in relation to pediatric palliative care, and this study brought a proposal to use the ludic environment to humanize and effectively care for this patient at this time when emotions are confused between fear, apprehensions and doubts about the treatment.

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