



Online Brazilian Journal of Nursing

E-ISSN: 1676-4285

objn@enf.uff.br

Universidade Federal Fluminense
Brasil

Vieirade Lima, Ivana Cristina; Gimeniz Galvão, Marli Teresinha
ENVIRONMENTAL THEORY APPLIED TO THE HOME ENVIRONMENT OF CHILDREN
EXPOSED TO HIV AT BIRTH: A DESCRIPTIVE RESEARCH
Online Brazilian Journal of Nursing, vol. 10, núm. 2, abril-agosto, 2011, pp. 1-3
Universidade Federal Fluminense
Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Available in: <http://www.redalyc.org/articulo.oa?id=361441674015>

- How to cite
- Complete issue
- More information about this article
- Journal's homepage in redalyc.org

redalyc.org

Scientific Information System
Network of Scientific Journals from Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal
Non-profit academic project, developed under the open access initiative

ENVIRONMENTAL THEORY APPLIED TO THE HOME ENVIRONMENT OF CHILDREN EXPOSED TO HIV AT BIRTH: A DESCRIPTIVE RESEARCH

Ivana Cristina Vieira de Lima¹, Marli Teresinha Gimeniz Galvão²

^{1,2}Federal University of Ceará

Abstract

This exploratory and descriptive study with a qualitative approach was based on the theoretical framework of Florence Nightingale's Environmental Theory, in combination with the photovoice resource. Participants will be 10 HIV-positive mothers and caregivers to children exposed to the virus at birth and up to five years old, living in the urban region of Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil. Data collection will include the following phases: I) Obtaining of participants; II) Photographic recording of the home and peridomiliary environment; III) Completion of socio-demographic, economic, housing and family health characterization forms; IV) Delivery of disposable cameras for participants to register risky housing situations; V) Home visit to discuss the registered photographs and offer environmental education orientations. For data analysis, the methodological steps of the photovoice method will be followed: previous analysis of photographic records; review; comparison and theorization. The goal is to arouse reflections with a view to improving care delivery to children exposed to HIV and their families, based on the life reality and the expanded health concept, which includes questions related to the socio-environmental context.

Descriptors: Housing, Child, HIV-1, Photograph, Community health nursing.

PROBLEM SITUATION AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

Pauperization constitutes one of the main facets of the AIDS epidemic, which entails the possibility of unhealthy housing conditions for victims of the disease. This condition implies precarious access to water, sanitation and hygiene practices. These situations can contribute to vulnerability, especially among children exposed to the virus at birth, to health problems like diarrhea, respiratory or opportunistic infections, allergies, verminosis, dermatological and eye affections¹. According to Florence Nightingale, the health conditions of a house depend on the following elements: clean air, clean water, efficient sewage network, cleaning and illumination². This reality indicates the need for nurses to deliver holistic care to children and their families, considering not only biological, prophylaxis and disease treatment aspects, but mainly the social and environmental context mothers and children are inserted in³. Research with this focus can arouse reflections to improve care delivery to children exposed to HIV and their family, based on the life reality and expanded health concept, which includes issues related to the socio-environmental context.

OBJECTIVES

General – Get to know the home environment of children exposed to HIV at birth from an Environmental Theory perspective. **Specific** – To identify risk and vulnerability situations for the health of children exposed to the virus at birth associated with their homes' environmental conditions: To investigate, through photography, HIV-positive mothers' perception on the influence of housing conditions on the health of children exposed to the virus at birth; To propose nursing interventions aimed at the adaptation of domestic housing conditions.

HYPOTHESIS

The home environment of children exposed to HIV at birth presents risk situations for the development of health problems.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

How is the home and peridomiciliary environment of children exposed to HIV at birth and up to five years of age characterized? Does the home environment contain risk factors for the development of health problems in children exposed to HIV at birth (E.g.: Diarrhea, verminosis, respiratory infections)? How do mothers who take care of children exposed at birth perceive the influence of environmental factors on the children's health?

METHODOLOGY

This exploratory and descriptive study with a qualitative approach was based on the theoretical framework of Florence Nightingale's Environmental Theory, in combination with the photovoice resource, in which participants take pictures of a given phenomenon. Then, these pictures are discussed through an interview. Participants will be ten HIV-positive mothers who take care of at least one child exposed to the virus at birth and live in Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil. Participants will be obtained at a referral outpatient service that monitors children exposed to the virus at birth. After consent is obtained, a home visit will be scheduled to register the participants' home and peridomiciliary environment and complete the form with socio-demographic, economic, housing and family health characteristics, with a view to capturing vulnerabilities that can imply risks for the health of the child under discussion. Each mother will receive a disposable 28-shot camera and is expected to register situations in the home and peridomiciliary environment which, according to them, entail risks for their children's health. Next, another home visit will be made to clarify the meaning of the photographs the mothers took and offer orientations for environmental education. For data analysis, the methodological steps of the photovoice will be followed⁴, which are: previous analysis of the

photographs; review; comparison between photographs the researcher and participants took; theorization based on the mentioned theoretical framework. Approval for the study was obtained from the Institutional Review Board at Universidade Federal do Ceará, protocol 136/10. The ethical principles of resolution 196/96 will be complied with.

REFERENCES

1. Machado MMT et al. Condições sociodemográficas de crianças de zero a dois anos filhas de mães com HIV/Aids, Fortaleza, CE, Brasil. Rev. Bras. Saúde Matern. Infant. 2010, 10(3): 377-382.
2. Nightingale F. Notas sobre enfermagem: o que é e o que não é. São Paulo: Cortez, 1989.
3. Vasconcelos SG, Galvão MTG, Aguiar MIF, Braga VAB. A percepção das gestantes ao lidar com a infecção pelo HIV- estudo exploratório. Online Brazilian J Nurs, 2006, 5(1). Retrieved 2011-04-02, from: <http://www.objnursing.uff.br/index.php/nursing/article/view/61/19>
4. Oliffe J, Bottorff JL, Kelly M, Halpin M. Analyzing participant produced photographs from an ethnographic study of fatherhood and smoking. Research in Nursing Health. 2008; 31(5): 529-39.