







Trabalhos Científicos

Título: Evaluation And Notification Of Child Neglect At Emergency Room: A Literature Review

Autores: NICOLE DE SOUZA EBERLE (UNISINOS), ANNA CAROLINA PEDRAZANI RODRIGUES (UNISINOS), MATHEUS BITTENCOURT DA SILVA (UNISINOS), MICHELE TEJADA

POERSCH (UNISINOS), SILVIO BAPTISTA (UNISINOS)

Resumo: In Brazil, 62,019 cases of child neglect (CN) were reported in 2019. Due to the difficulty of establishing CN in the context of social vulnerability, it is essential to provide proper professional diagnosis in emergency situations. Understood as a multifactorial phenomenon, CN is a major cause of reported child abuse at the emergency department (ED). For this reason, the purpose of this article is to define the types of child neglect, point out protocols for handling suspect cases and identify what Brazilian legislation establish to guarantee children safety. This article is a literature review whose guiding question was 'How is the evaluation and notification of CN done in pediatric emergencies?' Research was conducted, in March 2023, at PubMed and SciELO databases, using the terms "Child abuse AND neglect NOT violence NOT dentistry NOT nursing NOT dental NOT consequences NOT covid". Legal documents such as "Estatuto da Criança e do Adolescente" (ECA) and the Brazilian Constitution were used for the identification of legal regulation. Then the articles were submitted to the inclusion criteria: addressing the topic of CN, written in English or Portuguese, being published between 2013 and 2023, being published with free access. A total of 839 articles were found at PubMed and none at SciELO. After a selection guided by Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses (PRISMA), 25 articles remained. At last, the studies were compared to compose this review. There is a range of classifications related to CN such as educational, emotional, medical, abandonment and mixed neglection. These terms avoid generalization and thus physicians can accurately diagnose the problem when they are properly trained to recognize the signs of abuse. Caution is also essential when dealing with overreporting and underreporting of CN cases, especially with socially vulnerable patients. Brazilian legislation determines that it is everyone's duty to prevent threat or violation of a child rights, what should make health institutions have qualified professionals that recognize and report situations of crimes against minors to the Guardianship Council (GC). Knowing how to identify and characterize each of the spheres of CN is a responsibility of the health professional in the ED. However, the lack of more objective protocols makes it difficult to distinguish negligence from social vulnerability. One of the limitations of this article is the fact that the database was composed of free studies and reviews, excluding all paid publications. In

addition, there were several studies discarded because they were directed to negligence in pediatric dentistry or focused on maltreatment, themes that are not suitable here. Therefore, considering the results and limitations presented, studies are encouraged, specifically at a national

level, to validate objective tools for determining CN.