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Contributions of spirituality to the mental health of patients in oncological treatment

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Current studies have demonstrated the significant contributions that spirituality offers to the mental health of people in oncological treatment. This study, promoted by the Núcleo de Pesquisa Multidisciplinar em Cultura, Fé e Razão (NUCFER) of the Pastoral Universitária dos Institutos Superiores de Ensino do CENSA – ISECENSA in partnership with the Psychology course of ISECENSA, has the purpose of identifying, analyzing and understanding the conceptions of oncologic patients, family members and health professionals about the meaning and influence between spirituality and mental health in Oncology. Thus, the general objective of this study is to understand the meaning of spirituality for oncologic patients during their treatment and how it can contribute to the patient, family and health professionals. The research will be qualitative, and at first a Literature Review will be carried out to expand the researchers' knowledge with updates on the proposed theme. For this, scientific articles published in the last 10 (ten) years on the subject will be surveyed, with the following descriptors: psychology, spirituality, health, cancer. Afterwards, a field research will be carried out, using a questionnaire with semi-structured questions. It is intended to apply the questionnaire to 15 (fifteen) people, 5 (five) with relatives of patients undergoing cancer treatment or who have undergone treatment; 5 (five) with health professionals and 5 (five) with people who are undergoing cancer treatment or who have undergone treatment. It is expected to promote quality of life for oncologic patients through psychology and spirituality and, at the end of the research, publish a scientific article in the Revista Perspectivas Online.

Keywords: Spirituality; Health; Cancer; Meaning of Life.

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