

68 - CURRENT SITUATION OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV IN BRAZIL

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INTRODUCTION

AIDS arrived in Brazil in the early years of the 80, initially seen as a disease of wealthy gays, passing several years until it was officially accepted as a serious public health problem (Santos et al, 2002). We know today that any individual can be reached by it, regardless of personal characteristics or social. The growth rate of the epidemic today is, as in many countries, higher among women than among men. As a consequence, there is an increasing number of AIDS cases in children, reflecting the progressive involvement of women (Guilherme et al, 2000).

The incidence of cases infected by mother-child transmission in Brazil, has been overshadowed by low coverage of the prophylactic measures for prenatal care (Dempsey et al, 2000). Moreover, antiretroviral therapy has prolonged survival of infected children, increasing the number of those without the development of the classic case of AIDS. In Brazil, since the early 80's until June 2008, were notified by the Ministry of Health, 391,827 cases of AIDS. Of this total, 138,482 are for adult females and 13,014 individuals under 13 years of age. These results confirm the current status of the epidemic in Brazil, characterized by heterosexuals and women and increased vertical transmission (BRAZIL, 2008).

For cases reported in children, the data are still lacking, due to a lack of systematic monitoring by the system monitoring and notification of the delay in closing cases, however were reported in Rio Grande do Norte (RN) the period 1998 to 2006, 43 cases in children. Of these, 22 were reported in Natal (SESAP, 2008).

The National STD/AIDS of the Ministry of Health has developed and implemented in recent years, policies aimed at strengthening prevention, promotion and assistance in HIV/AIDS Network of the Unified Health System (SUS). The formulation of these policies following priorities, among which are deployed to guarantee access to antiretroviral therapy, to educational activities for children and adolescents in schools and promotion of mechanisms for improving the quality of care for people living with HIV/AIDS, and improving management mechanisms that enhance the efficiency of the shares and the exercise of citizenship rights (BRAZIL, 2010).

Given the above, this study aimed to discuss the scientific literature by the current situation of children and adolescents with HIV/AIDS in Brazil, as well as public policies and programs for health, targeted to them.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This is a descriptive study integrative literature review. The integrative review is a method that aims to synthesize results from research on a particular theme in a systematic and orderly manner, in order to contribute to the knowledge of the subject (ROMAN and Friedland, 1998).

In designing Cooper (1989), integrative review together the results of primary research in view of the same subject, aiming to synthesize and analyze this information to develop a more extensive explanation of a specific phenomenon.

For Roman and Friedlander (1998) integrative review can still be cited as one that enables the person to recognize who investigates a matter most, their fields as well as their most significant contributions, allows to separate the scientific finding of opinions, to describe knowledge in its current state and to promote research on the impact of professional practice. Lets also make generalizations of subjects studied by many researchers in different places and times, keeping these researchers updated and facilitating changes in daily practice as a result of research. Offers a methodological approach to be followed, prevents errors or misstatements and directs the researcher toward known.

The purpose of the integrative review is to interconnect isolated elements of existing studies. It is integrative because it gives emphasis to broader information about a particular event, from data taken from previous searches without historical connotation mandatory (KIRKEVOLD, 1995).

For the collection of information on the topic was conducted a literature review, using the articles LILACS databases, books and online information, seeking information through the keywords, AIDS, HIV, child; and adolescent health policies in a meaningful time of the last 10 years. During the process of analysis and integrative synthesis, was fundamental to establish open relations with the text, enabling the researcher to integrate the text-context.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After reading selective and integrative review of findings in the literature, we identified in the literature about the current situation of children and adolescents with HIV/AIDS in Brazil, as well as public policies and programs for health, which is described below.

Current situation of children and adolescents living with HIV The literature on children and adolescents infected and affected by disease or death from HIV/AIDS is still small, being even smaller one that is dedicated to discussing the situation of children and adolescents with HIV.

The last PN-DST/Aids Bulletin reports that in 1980-2005, there were reported 10,404 AIDS cases in children under five years, 3,905 cases between five and 12 years and another 8,075 between 13 and 19 years. After the peak in 1997 (926 cases) and 1998 (943 cases), children under five years show fewer notifications. Moreover, cases of children (5-12 years) and adolescents (13-19 years) have been reported since 2002 (BRAZIL, 2008).

Incidence rates have behaviors similar to those of absolute cases. In the first situation, the decrease in cases is due largely to advances in prevention of vertical transmission of HIV (MARINS et al, 2003). In the second, there may be more child and adolescent survivors of HIV/AIDS because of the free and universal access to antiretroviral regimens (Ayres et al, 2006).

Qualitative studies have brought to light accounts of adolescents living with AIDS and caregivers of teens about problematic situations for the rights to health, education and physical and mental integrity, as documented by Ayres et al (2006).

Other studies have shown that the AIDS epidemic impacts the quality of life of children and young people, who can undergo successive losses of living with his parents and possibly their relatives, and of their own health. AIDS orphans, for

example, have increased risk of malnutrition when compared to children living with their parents, and may suffer stigma and discrimination related to their HIV status or that of their parents, among other unfavorable (Foster and Williamson, 2000; Leandro-Merhi et al, 2000; Souza e Silva, 2003).

Souza et al (2003) points out that for the child living with AIDS may represent an experience of intense psychological distress, as well as able to limit their daily activities such as play, run and express themselves - through the consequences of physical weakness caused by opportunistic diseases, can promote or discriminatory attitudes overprotective of the people who give you care. Socially these children are seen as victims of AIDS, since there practicing high risk behavior, which transfers to parents blame attributed to the disease can lead to serious disruptions in the family unit.

Studies conducted in developed countries show that children and adolescents with HIV have a higher risk for psychological adjustment problems, depending on the variety of stressors, such as the maintenance of secrecy about the diagnosis, change in daily routines and the presence of multigenerational losses. Difficulties in dealing with the daily need to take medications, feelings of anger, frustration, loneliness and low self-esteem were also identified in some studies. Added to this the fact that many of these children and their families live in poverty, with poor access to medical and social resources (Lewis, 2001).

Regarding Brazil, very little is known about the difficulties and the adverse factors that are affecting children and adolescents living with HIV / AIDS and their families, despite efforts to systematize experiences relating to institutional care for these patients, conducted by organizations civil society, many with government support and international agencies (Fontes, 1998).

Studies in Brazil have shown that the number of school-age children and adolescents living with HIV in services is increasing as a result of increased survival time, depending on the evolution of antiretroviral therapy, clinical management of general and universal access to these resources on public health services (Matida, 2002). However, there are still many children in health services that are reaching adolescence without having complete information about its history, even if the recommendation is predominant in the literature to establish a continuous dialogue between the health team, child and family, so as to bring them, gradually, from the moment of revelation (Wiener, Battles and Heilman, 1998; JOHANN-LIANG LEE and 1996; HOFFMAN, Futterman and Myerson, 1999).

In Sao Paulo and Santos, a study with adolescents living with HIV/AIDS, said the fear of stigma and discrimination postpone disclosing it for yourself and others. Such factors impacting access to health care, as well as other areas of their emotional, sexual, social and educational services, increasing their isolation and vulnerability to AIDS, as well as other human rights violations (MARINS et al 2003).

Instone (2000) emphasizes the importance of creating, by the care services to children and adolescents infected with HIV in Brazil to establish and hone a clear policy on disclosure of diagnosis, including young people infected in their teens, on sexual transmission or use drugs. It also proposes that the revelation to occur in effective and appropriate, we must establish an ongoing discussion with caregivers and professional staff, about the criteria that each family will take to elect the best time and manner of performing the revelation. Despite the success of prevention initiatives, Brazil still has a large contingent of children living with HIV/AIDS, which should be helped by recent findings in the research and treatment for this population. Recent studies evaluating the clinical profile and genotype of children accompanied by a referral service and streamline the necessary steps to provide these children a longer survival and better quality of life (SECOND et al 2006).

Currently, Brazil has one of the most advanced legislation in the field of the rights of children and adolescents. Approval of the Statute for Children and Adolescents is a legal advance in this field. The focus on the holistic development of children and adolescents requires that policies, interventions and programs to expand their spectrum of activity and spend to look this child and this father is potentially capable, with skills, abilities, and above all rights.

Health policies aimed at children/adolescents living with HIV Considering the current situation of AIDS in the country and the conditions of social vulnerability of children and teenagers face the epidemic, the Brazilian STD/AIDS outlined three broad goals that guide their actions. They are: reducing the incidence of HIV / AIDS and other STDs, increase access to diagnosis, treatment and care, improving its quality with regard to HIV / AIDS, and strengthen public and private institutions responsible for Control of STDs and AIDS (FONSECA, 2005).

These goals formed the basis for guiding policies and strategies of the Brazilian STD / AIDS and their components, which are: the promotion, protection and prevention, diagnosis and assistance, and institutional development and management (BRAZIL, 1999).

The first component (health promotion, protection of fundamental rights of children and adolescents with HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention of STD/HIV/AIDS) is based on the following principles and concepts: vulnerability and risk (vulnerability to being little or no ability to decide on the risk), participation and social control, in order to ensure the citizenship rights of those who own or live with someone with AIDS, human rights (to combat discrimination and prejudice against people infected), and communication social changes needed to operationalize (FONSECA, 2005).

The second component of the Brazilian STD / AIDS is the area of diagnosis and care, which has as its main task to define and implement policies, strategies and lines of action to ensure that children and adolescents infected with HIV or living with AIDS access to diagnostic procedures and treatment quality in public health. Its activities included the distance training of health professionals in the field laboratory, the National Network of Laboratories for Quantification of Viral Load and CD4 Cell Count / CD8 (WBC) and the National Quality Assurance Laboratory Tests for STDs and AIDS.

The third and final component includes institutional development and program management, and its function is to assist in implementing the third major objective (institutional strengthening) which, in turn, provides conditions for: reducing the incidence of infection of HIV and other STD, and broaden access and improve quality of diagnosis, treatment and care of STD/HIV/AIDS, enabling thus the expected outcomes in the epidemic. This component provides the instrumental to the formulation of policies to combat the epidemic, providing the involvement of different institutions, public and private (FONSECA, 2005).

These guidelines and guide strategies, therefore, health policies aimed at combating the epidemic of AIDS in children and adolescents in Brazil.

CONCLUSIONS

The study allowed us to make an integrative review of the current situation of children and adolescents with HIV / AIDS in Brazil, as well as public policy and health care programs targeted to them.

Despite significant achievements and advances in the field of policies for HIV / AIDS, the actions of promotion and prevention in Brazil still have many challenges, especially those targeted to vulnerable populations such as children, adolescents, street children, orphans and women. Shortcomings such as lack of agility in providing HIV tests for pregnant women who present to the antenatal care; need to offer training on an ongoing basis to professionals who provide prenatal care and

childbirth, and systematic evaluation of policies, programs and implemented actions need to be filled.

It is important to emphasize that the Brazilian experience accumulated in the field of HIV / AIDS has shown that the construction of articulated public policies for health promotion and AIDS prevention should take into account poverty, violence and social and regional inequalities, as well as complexity of issues such as sexuality and drug use.

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CURRENT SITUATION OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV IN BRAZIL

ABSTRACT

This is a descriptive study integrative literature review. The survey was conducted in the databases LILACS, books and online information, taking as keywords, AIDS, HIV, child, adolescent and health policies. The research objective was to discuss the scientific literature by the current situation of children and adolescents with HIV / AIDS in Brazil, as well as public policies and programs for health, targeted to them. As a result it was found that AIDS impacts the quality of life of children and young people who may suffer successive losses of living with his parents and possibly their relatives. Studies in Brazil have shown that the number of school-age children and adolescents living with HIV in services is increasing as a result of increased survival time. Considering the current situation of AIDS in the country and the conditions of social vulnerability of children and teenagers face the epidemic, the Brazilian STD / AIDS as outlined targets to reduce the incidence of HIV / AIDS, expanding access to diagnosis, treatment and assistance, and strengthening of public and private institutions responsible for controlling AIDS. It is important to emphasize that the Brazilian experience accumulated in the field of HIV / AIDS has shown that the construction of articulated public policies for health promotion and AIDS prevention should take into account poverty, violence and social and regional inequalities, as well as complexity of issues such as sexuality and drug use.

KEYWORDS: HIV; child; health policies.

SITUATION ACTUELLE DES ENFANTS ET DES ADOLESCENTS AVEC LE VIH AU BRÉSIL**RÉSUMÉ**

Il s'agit d'un examen de l'étude descriptive littérature intégrative. L'enquête a été menée dans les bases de données LILACS I', de livres et d'information en ligne, en prenant comme mots-clés politiques, le sida, le VIH, des enfants, des adolescents et la santé. L'objectif de la recherche était de discuter de la littérature scientifique par la situation actuelle des enfants et des adolescents vivant avec le VIH/SIDA au Brésil, ainsi que des politiques et programmes publics pour la santé, à leur intention. En conséquence il a été constaté que le sida impacts sur la qualité de vie des enfants et des jeunes qui peuvent subir des pertes successives de la vie avec ses parents et peut-être de leurs proches. Des études au Brésil ont montré que le nombre d'enfants d'âge scolaire et les adolescents vivant avec le VIH dans les services est en augmentation en raison du temps de survie a augmenté, en fonction de l'évolution de la thérapie antirétrovirale. Considérant la situation actuelle du sida dans le pays et les conditions de vulnérabilité sociale des enfants et des adolescents face à l'épidémie, le Brésilien MST/SIDA qui se trouvent des objectifs pour réduire l'incidence du VIH/SIDA, d'élargir l'accès au diagnostic, au traitement et l'assistance, et le renforcement des institutions publiques et privées chargées de lutter contre le SIDA. Il est important de souligner que l'expérience brésilienne accumulée dans le domaine du VIH/SIDA a montré que la construction de politiques publiques articulées pour la promotion de la santé et la prévention du sida doivent tenir compte de la pauvreté, la violence et les inégalités sociales et régionales, ainsi que complexité des questions comme la sexualité et l'usage de drogues.

MOTS-CLÉS: VIH; enfants; politiques de santé.

SITUACIÓN ACTUAL DE LOS NIÑOS Y ADOLESCENTES CON VIH EN BRASIL**RESUMEN**

Se trata de un estudio descriptivo de revisión integradora de la literatura. La encuesta se llevó a cabo en la bases de datos LILACS, libros e información en línea, teniendo como políticas de palabras clave, el SIDA, el VIH, niños, adolescentes y la salud. El objetivo de la investigación fue examinar la literatura científica por la situación actual de los niños y adolescentes con VIH/SIDA en Brasil, así como las políticas y programas públicos para la salud, dirigidos a ellos. Como resultado se encontró que el SIDA afecta a la calidad de vida de los niños y jóvenes que pueden sufrir pérdidas sucesivas de la vida con sus padres y, posiblemente, a sus familiares. Estudios realizados en Brasil han demostrado que el número de niños en edad escolar y adolescentes que viven con el VIH en los servicios está aumentando como resultado del tiempo de supervivencia mayor. Teniendo en cuenta la situación actual del SIDA en el país y las condiciones de vulnerabilidad social de los niños y adolescentes frente a la epidemia, el brasileño de DTS/SIDA como se indica los objetivos para reducir la incidencia del VIH/SIDA, la ampliación del acceso al diagnóstico, el tratamiento y asistencia, y el fortalecimiento de las instituciones públicas y privadas responsables de controlar el SIDA. Es importante destacar que la experiencia brasileña acumulada en el campo del VIH/SIDA ha puesto de manifiesto que la construcción de articular las políticas públicas de promoción de la salud y la prevención del SIDA debe tener en cuenta la pobreza, la violencia y las desigualdades sociales y regionales, así como complejidad de los temas como la sexualidad y el consumo de drogas.

PALABRAS CLAVE: VIH; niños; políticas de salud.

SITUAÇÃO ATUAL DE CRIANÇAS E ADOLESCENTES PORTADORES DE HIV NO BRASIL**RESUMO**

Este é um estudo descritivo do tipo revisão de literatura integrativa. O levantamento de dados foi realizado nos bancos de dados LILACS, livros e informações on-line, tendo-se como as palavras-chave, Aids; HIV; criança; adolescente e políticas de saúde. O objetivo da pesquisa foi discutir por meio da literatura científica a situação atual das crianças e dos adolescentes com HIV/Aids no Brasil, bem como as políticas públicas e programas de atenção a saúde, direcionadas a elas. Como resultado identificou-se que a Aids impacta a qualidade de vida de crianças e jovens, que podem passar por sucessivas perdas do convívio com os pais e, eventualmente, de seus parentes. Estudos no Brasil têm mostrado que o número de crianças em idade escolar e adolescentes vivendo com HIV, nos serviços, é crescente, em decorrência do aumento do tempo de sobrevivência. Considerando o quadro atual da Aids no país e as condições de vulnerabilidade social das crianças e dos adolescentes frente à epidemia, o Programa Brasileiro de DST/Aids traçou como metas a redução da incidência do HIV/Aids; ampliação do acesso ao diagnóstico, ao tratamento e à assistência; e o fortalecimento das instituições públicas e privadas responsáveis pelo controle da Aids. É importante enfatizar que a experiência brasileira acumulada no campo do HIV/Aids tem mostrado que a construção de políticas públicas articuladas para a promoção da saúde e prevenção à Aids deve levar em consideração a pobreza, a violência e as desigualdades sociais e regionais, além da complexidade de temas como sexualidade e o uso de drogas.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: HIV; criança; políticas de saúde.