Long Institutions for Elderly Staying (Ilpi) in Brazilian Reality: Short Communication

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Introduction

Long-term care institutions for the elderly, older than 60 years, operate in Brazil as spaces of social support for the elderly who have nowhere to live, in conditions of freedom, dignity and citizenship. Shelters should operate in accordance with specific standards established by regulatory agencies responsible for population health.

Development

Long-stay institutions for the elderly - ILPIs is the expression adopted by the Brazilian Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology (SBGG) to denote alternative spaces for housing, living and health care for the elderly aged greater than or equal to 60 years of age, governmental character or non-governmental. These locations are best known for nursing homes or abrigos [1]. In fact, the house in the old residence is a situation that must be preserved and encouraged by all the family, whether it is an obligation as described in the Statute of elderly [2].

This transitional housing, the family environment to these locations, causes changes in the routine of the elderly, causing major changes in nutritional status and may undermine the health of this population [3]. A study of Minas Gerais shows that 66% of the sample of six elderly NHs region have a chronic disease, demonstrating the need for more care in this population over time [4].

These institutions should maintain housing standards compatible with the needs of the elderly, provide them with regular food and essential hygiene to vigentes' health standards.

According to Silva et al. [4] in Brazil, ILPIs are not considered health services. Are services of “social assistance” to the elderly. This classification is considered by the authors as a way of contributing to the underreporting of many problems that afflict the elderly. The health conditions of the elderly is not always recorded in the medical records, which should be part of any routine ILPI.

These locations do not work anyway. There is a regulation of the National Health Surveillance Agency (Resolution No. 283 of September 26, 2005) for standardization of these sites, which deals with minimum criteria for the operation and evaluation and monitoring mechanisms of long-stay institutions for Idosos [5].

This technical regulation also deals with food characteristics of the elderly who live there. So, they must be guaranteed:

- at least six meals a day, respecting the local cultural aspects;
- The handling, preparation, fractionation, storage and distribution of food should follow the provisions of RDC. 216/2004 which provides for Regulation of Good Technical Practice to Food Services;
- The institution shall keep available technical standards and routines as cleaning and decontamination of food, food storage, food preparation with focus on good manufacturing practices, good practices for prevention and control of vectors and the packaging of waste [5].

References


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