

# Ethics Applied in ICU For Rehabilitation Care in Users with Oncological Disease and Compromised Renal Function



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## Abstract

Renal rehabilitation based on early body movement in intensive care units that has been expanding its fields of action from the areas of health promotion, disease prevention, maintenance and rehabilitation of people from the center of study human body movement applied in comprehensive care in intensive care units, which leads to reflection on a reflective theoretical discernment process of conceptual elements that lead to understand the ethical vision of the concept of body and movement in a hospitalization context from the renal environment where key aspects such as pain, care, dysfunctions, limitations and disabilities resulting from the immobilization process are articulated in the bioethical principles from the praxis of human movement.

**Keywords:** Ethics; Renal Insufficiency; Intensive Care; Rehabilitation.

## Introduction

The body movement induced in renal rehabilitation within its conception indicates a historical and contemporary vision immersed in some gender norms that are strongly intertwined in corporal representations during their professional training cycle [1]. In recent years, renal rehabilitators have shown increasing interest in defining their professional identity and in responding to their fundamental role on the concept of the body from practice [2,3]. With some notable exceptions, the body is conceived from a philosophical / theoretical perspective from a construction that has been almost totally outside the profession offering a socio-historical critique of the role that the body has played in the practical definition from the clinic. [4].

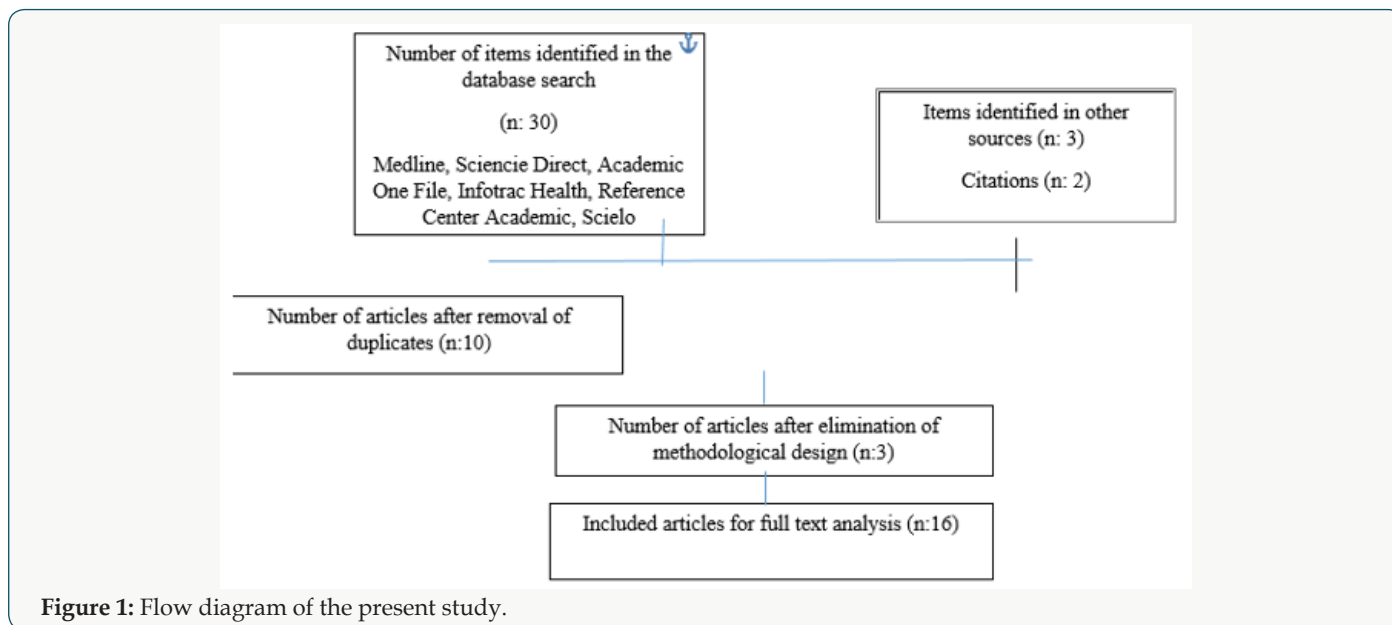
Thus, corporeity expresses itself as the materiality of human existence with its potentialities and wear and tear; an organic, anatomical and morphological materiality on which the health-disease processes relapse. Corporality goes beyond

the mere biological, physiological and technical explanation of body movement; this concept has been extended to incorporate its sensitivity, sensory and sensitivity; both speak of personal experiences and existences. With this idea the understanding of meanings, imaginaries, representations and expressions of the body and movement is introduced. Palliative care, as a set of medico-social measures aimed at improving the quality of life of terminally ill patients and supporting their family, has undergone a very significant development in the last 10 years. Its strengthening has exerted a remarkable positive influence on health institutions and social services not only because it has generalized that when it cannot be cured, it is possible to alleviate frequently and always comfort, but because it has given origin and strength to a solidarity movement in favor of a better terminal condition [5].

Physiotherapy in terminal care does not seem to have a well-defined endpoint. It can be applied throughout the continuum of care from the moment of diagnosis until the end of life and can

involve both psychological and physical aspects [6]. Although the objectives of the intervention in critical care have been constituted in a clear decision-making based on scientific evidence, some results inherent to the therapeutic modalities regarding the condition of their musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, are still unknown. pulmonary and integumentary cardiovascular within its intrahospital management [7,8].

## Methodology



**Figure 1:** Flow diagram of the present study.

In order to define the limits of publications on unique ethical issues for the practice of rehabilitation in intensive care units from the component of human body movement and also to define the major issues of ethical interest; an extensive literature search was carried out using search engines such as: Medline, Science Direct, Academic One File, Infotrac Health, Reference Center Academic, Scielo, in English, Spanish, and Portuguese in a preponderant manner with search terms: physiotherapy, renal failure, neoplasia, ethics, critical care, rehabilitation, movement, which was limited to the last 10 years. We managed to recover 30 articles, but only 16 articles were relevant for the reflection of ethical issues from the physiotherapy that are taken into account for the area of care in the user with chronic kidney disease in relation to the concepts of user care in terminal state, end of life, ethics, palliative care, health services articulated with the principles of autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and justice to determine important actions and challenges of renal rehabilitation in intensive care units (Figure 1).

## Results

When reviewing the literature, it is evident that the prospect of being in the developed world, the end-of-life treatment usually focuses on the patient's comfort and assumes less aggressive therapies [11,12]. This is evident in the concept of professional autonomy that is defined as a social contract based on the trust of the public to which the discipline is directed with the objective of satisfying a social significance [13]. Now we identify the four

The exercise of the rehabilitation of the critical care units evidences an important exercise in the professional autonomy that is based on the ethical aspect in the decision making based on the significance of the social need articulated with the current inherent needs of the practice based on the evidence that allows to review current models of physiotherapist care in intensive care units [9,10].

basic principles of bioethics that must condition the behavior of the physiotherapist in critical conditions and that serve to give a methodological value in the decision making, as they are established in the work of Beauchamp and Childress [14] where the following ethical principles are established in praxis: The non-maleficence, which requires not to harm others (*primun non nocere*) and to perform our professional work correctly.

It is translated into protocols that reflect the requirements of good clinical practice. The treatment must provide more benefit than risk or danger to the patient. This principle is violated when a treatment is applied to a patient that is not indicated, which causes an avoidable complication, damage or any type of injury. It is not uncommon for intensive care units to arrive at a time when interventions do not actually act to prolong an acceptable life, but rather prolong an inevitable death process. Thus, for example, administering antibiotics for an infection in patients in irreversible coma or perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation maneuvers in terminal patients is to avoid a painless death to prolong an agonizing situation that, often, is accompanied by pain and lack of dignity.

Justice, which obliges us to provide all people with the same opportunities in the social order, without discrimination, segregation or marginalization and the correct administration of health resources, mostly public. The principle of justice requires that the distribution of resources be equitable: for this reason, administering unlimited or uncontrolled resources to

unrecoverable patients can exclude, and undoubtedly do, others in more need. Although the obligation of justice is the responsibility of the health authorities and managers, the scarcity of resources is not enough to justify the decisions of limiting the therapeutic effort, but it is our responsibility or subsidiary.

Autonomy, which is the ability of people to perform acts with knowledge of cause, sufficient information and in the absence of internal or external coercion, that is, the "informed consent". A competent user has the right to accept or refuse medical treatment or to delegate his decision to someone acting on his behalf when he cannot do so [15,16].

The beneficence, which forces us to do well, according to the criteria of the possible beneficiary. The health professional must help the patient to cope and reduce the impact of the disease. Because of this principle, the doctor has to take responsibility for fulfilling the objectives of the discipline in the rehabilitation scheme [17,18], which we can summarize in treating the patient as best as possible, restoring his health, preserving his life and alleviating his suffering. Sometimes these concepts may conflict. In the ICU, not everything technically possible is beneficial for the patient, and sometimes submitting to certain procedures can be harmful, thereby violating the previous principles.

These ethical principles are normative criteria of behavior, which introduce the guarantee of an argumentative rationality in the decision making in the physiotherapist, but by themselves they are insufficient [18,19]. Conflicts that arise at the end of life can be resolved with prudence, which consider it as the central concept in palliative care and even in all health care of the interdisciplinary team [20,21].

## Discussion

Professional ethics as a cornerstone in the care of people with cancer in intensive care units generates an important debate to know conceptual elements that should be permeated in the training curricula and their transition in clinical practices in the care of the user with illness Oncology to be able to consolidate in the integration of competences from the understanding, analysis, of the ethical concepts in the physiotherapeutic diagnosis from the limitations, dysfunctions and disability to which they are confronted in the stays of the intensive care units from the interprofessional dialogue [22-24]. In the study of human body movement rehabilitation, it is essential to approach the user from the sensitive moral perspective articulated with the ethical situations faced by health system organizations and levels of society where they are developing their professional work [25-27].

It is recognized as an identified problem the determination of the objectives and the limits of the treatment that is established in the user, in those situations where the professional supports the Oncological and renal Rehabilitation team, being an important factor the physical emotional relationship of the therapist attention - patient where the quality of care with humanization are key to

the adherence in the intervention from the human body movement [28,29]. Evidence-based practice must be analyzed from a critical-reflective point of view given that the various research results in applied works are able to observe an ambiguity in the ethical principles assumed from the proposed scientific methodology that are sometimes conflict and implications in the clinical practice [30].

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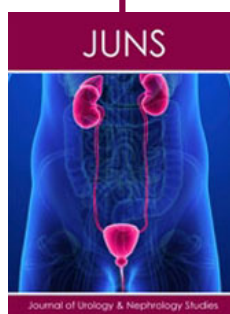
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