

THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF NURSES CARING FOR REFUGEES

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INTRODUCTION

- The increasing number of refugees highlights the current humanitarian crisis and reveals significant public health challenges.
- Refugee status is a social determinant of health (1).
- Barriers such as language, cultural differences and lack of resources exacerbate these disparities.
- The close relationship between nurses and patients enables nurses to identify needs, promote health, and advocate for accessible care.
- Nurses' voices are underrepresented.

OBJECTIVE

To explore the experiences of nurses taking care of refugees.

METHODOLOGY

Keywords: nurses, lived experience, refugees, migrants, challenges.

Inclusion criteria

- Qualitative studies, literature reviews.
- Experiences from the nurses' point of view

Exclusion criteria

- Studies focused on specific pathologies
- Refugees' perspectives about nursing
- School nurses
- Undergraduate nurses

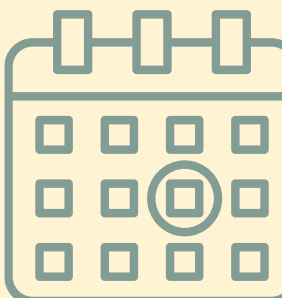
Blocs of terms	Lived experiences OR Experiences OR Perceptions OR Attitudes	A N D	Nurses OR Nursing OR International Nurse	A N D	Refugees OR Camps refugees OR Displaced OR Forced Refugees
Mesh Terms	“lived experiences”		“nurses”		“forced refugee”



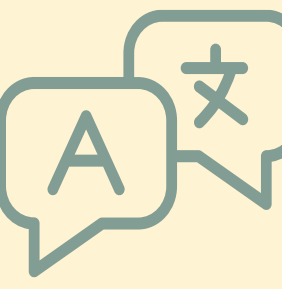
Qualitative review



CINAHL
PubMed
PsycINFO



5 years



English
Spanish

RESULTS



9 SELECTED ARTICLES

Nurses' psychological impact

- Profession demanding physical and emotional resilience.
- Personal and professional motivations leads nurses to take on responsibilities that extend beyond their formal duties
- Increase stress, emotional exhaustion and burnout
- Impact professional identity and quality of care, highlighting a crisis in nursing on both personal and professional levels (2).

The challenges faced by nurses

Communication

- Language barriers → most reported difficulty.
- Affects patient safety, treatment and trust (3).
- Lack of medical interpreters → relay on informal and improvised solutions (E.g. translation apps), → not always effective.

Cultural Differences

- Gender preferences may restrict the effectiveness of interventions
- Cultural practices → harmful depending on the host country. (E.g. Breastfeeding)

Healthcare Access

- Migrant status is a health determinant
 - Reduced access to health
 - Social isolation
- Systemic barriers
 - Bureaucratic and legal frameworks
 - Disparities in healthcare access.

Nurses' implementations

- Implementations to anticipate challenges, enhance quality of care and alleviate the emotional burden (4).
- **Health education** → chronic diseases, vaccinations, and other essential topics.
 - **Specific protocols** → practical tools, specific training to nurses → identify public health issues and patterns related to trauma or violence.

CONCLUSION

- Caring for refugees presents significant challenges that can lead to stress and burnout among nurses impacting the patients as well.
- Health education + specific protocols → deal with complex situations.
- Future research → identify effective strategies to improve nursing education and support systems within these high-demand environments.

REFERENCES

