

## Experiences and coping strategies in a family with chronic sick with cancer

### Abstract

The family of a patient with chronic-cancer disease becomes ill with his member family. They find themselves emotionally shaken and needing time to comprehend this disease. This article analyzes impact of illness and coping strategies with a family with chronic ill with cancer. The sample consisted of five individuals, family members and caregivers, aged between 16 and 70 years. For data collection semi-structured interviews were applied, and for the data treatment was used content analysis, creating categories and subcategories. The more experienced difficulties were the questions grouped in the following categories: relational/social, psychological, legal, geographical and financial displacement. As family coping strategies beyond those mentioned categories, it was identified the religious quest. One can see that the whole family goes through changes in their dynamics, as if everyone was sick, but realized the search of adaptation and coping strategies from your member of illness.

*Key-words:* Hospital psychology; Chronic diseases; Coping; Cancer; Family.