

**CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN
HEALTH AND SPIRITUALITY
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**SPIRITUALITY AND PALLIATIVE
CARE IN THE CONTINUING
EDUCATION OF HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS**

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OBJECTIVE

- ➡ **BACKGROUND:** One of the main obstacles to an approach that includes spirituality in palliative care has been the lack of preparation/education for healthcare professionals about these thematic.
- ➡ **OBJECTIVE:** This study evaluated the effectiveness of a continuing education module for health care professionals regarding spirituality and spiritual care for patients/families under palliative care in a public hospital, in the south of Brazil.

METHOD



- ➡ This is an intervention study with a pre and post-test design, in a convenience sample of 52 healthcare professionals. Participants completed a semi-structured questionnaire and a Spiritual Care Competence Scale - Brazilian version before and after taking a four-hour training module on spirituality in palliative care.
- ➡ Multiple teaching methods were used for continuing education intervention. Based on the recognition of the importance of using accessible tools to support educational actions on spirituality in the care of patients and families and given the unavailability of guides in Portuguese, we developed e-books for access on Smartphone by an app called Issuu.

RESULTS

- The purpose of the e-books was to provide healthcare professionals with pedagogical materials that can be quickly accessed during daily care routines. The guide provides information on belief/value systems, daily practices/symbols, diet and eating/fasting habits, dressing/hygiene habits, pregnancy and birth customs, death customs, and health-related beliefs and practices.
- the results showed significant differences were observed between pre and post-intervention in the dimensions: assessment and implementation of spiritual care, professionalization and improving the quality of spiritual care, personal support and patient counseling ($p < 0.001$) and referral ($p = 0.003$).

CONCLUSION

► The results of this study provide preliminary evidence demonstrating the positive effects of using this educational intervention in developing the competences of healthcare professionals for a comprehensive approach centered on the patient and family including attention to their spiritual needs and their participation in palliative care decision-making process

► Other research data are available in the thesis that can be found at the link below:

<https://lume.ufrgs.br/handle/10183/149601>

[https://issuu.com/nucleointerdisciplinardebioetica/docs/espiritualidade na aten o a paci](https://issuu.com/nucleointerdisciplinardebioetica/docs/espiritualidade_na_aten_o_a_paci)

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