ABSTRACT

The Palliative Cares in Portugal are assumed as a concern, intending to respond with excellence to the specific and special needs of the children and their families, in medical consultation and hospitalized.

We have seen an increase of health plans which give a response to the paediatric palliative cares specificities; however, these plans still continue to maintain an inconsistently, diverging from adult palliative cares, therefore requiring a bigger technical and personal investment.

Paediatric palliative cares appear to be a challenge regarding the necessity of creating teams with different skills capable of sustaining the needs of the children, families and health professionals. This study intends to determine, the way in which the intra-hospital team, implemented in Centro Materno Infantil do Norte, can improve the excellence of the treatment to the paediatric population.

Bringing to this discussion the Social Workers role integrated in the multitasked team, who is intended to play an active role in the response to the children and families' psychosocial needs, as well as an auxiliary in the articulation with the designated institution, namely the Kastelo.

For this study were used statistic data, which concern the medical consultation and hospitalization of children (0-18 years) carriers of chronicle diseases, observed in Centro Hospitalar do Porto, during a 3 year period (2010-2013).

The obtained results allow to conclude that there is a population of 1800 children per year with needs of monitoring and on-going care in external medical consultation.

Therefore by the complexity degree of the medical charts regarding the chronicle diseases, it is justified the creation of an intra-hospital paediatric palliative care team, with the goal of satisfying this need and providing cares with excellence.

Key-Words: Paediatric Palliative Care, Paediatric Palliative Care Intra-Hospital Team, Social Worker