



POST-COVID-19 SYNDROME UNDER THE ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENT METHODOLOGIES

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With the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, researchers from different countries and nationalities focused on the theme, joining efforts and knowledge to fight the disease. Despite the severity and spread of the pandemic, science has achieved major acknowledgment by taking responsibility for giving answers to society about the new disease, so far unknown.

Aimed at cooperating with the production of knowledge, the Study and Research Group in Chronic Conditions of the State University of Maringá (dgp.cnpq.br/dgp/espelhogrupo/5047905384637117) attended the Notice MCTIC/CNPq/FNDCT/MS/SCTIE/ Decit N. 07/2020 - Research to fight COVID-19, its consequences, and other respiratory syndromes. In partnership with Duke University and the Health Department of the State of Paraná, it proposed the research project “Longitudinal follow-up of adults and older adults with hospital discharge from the hospital after being treated for COVID-19” and received financial resources, to investigate how the disease acted over time behavior and its challenges to the health system, mostly related to the post-COVID-19.

To submit the proposal, the United States - Brazil COVID-19 Network was created, which consists of research, teaching and extension activities, organized in a collaborative way and developed by researchers joining internationally at Duke University and nationally at the State University of Maringá, Health Department of the State of Paraná and the Federal University of Pelotas, with the technical-scientific assistance of Professor Dr. Luiz Augusto Facchini.

The project that aims to analyze the repercussions of COVID-19 in the short, medium, and long term adopts a methodological framework that will allow us to identify and understand the consequences of this disease for people who severely developed the disease, were hospitalized and survived it.

The Mixed Method (MM) was adopted for the research, since the combination of quantitative and qualitative methods that complement each other, allows for deeper investigation, making it possible to respond to the object of study in greater depth, given the magnitude of the COVID-19 and its setbacks. The MM typology adopted was sequential explanatory (QUAN → qual), in which qualitative data are sequentially collected after quantitative data⁽¹⁾.

For the quantitative design, the COHORT COVID-19 PARANÁ/UEM of state coverage was created, which will enable the investigation and follow-up of people living in the state who were discharged from hospital, after treating for COVID-19.

The qualitative path is conceptually based on the Grounded Theory, (GT) (STRAUSS, CORBIN, 2008), mainly with the first sample group consisting of patients reported as cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome by the coronavirus (SARS-CoV), who was admitted to Hospital Intensive Care Units. However, as the study evolves and respects the principles of sampling and theoretical saturation that guide GT⁽²⁾, other sample groups will be included for the development of theoretical categories and the identification of the central category, to explain the phenomenon.

Given the COVID-19 complexity, the combination of multiple methodological designs allows for a comprehensive investigation and understanding of the phenomenon under study, expanding knowledge about the disease, which may support the guidelines for clinical management, decrease in mortality and, above all, assist the health system in coping with the disease.

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