THE DRUG USER IN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM: A TRAINING PROPOSAL TO IMPROVE ACCESS AND ADHERENCE TO CARE (LINKAGE TO CARE)

Borojevic M[1], D'Angelo V[1]

Background:
The approach to PWID (People who inject drugs), in hospital settings, by nurses is often full of criticalities. The scenarios of care for PWID depend on a not very virtuous and circular relationship between the caregivers, in our case nurses, and the PWID. For the side of the nurses it is often a matter of attitudes towards this type of user, while for the PWID we refer to the concept of candidacy. In fact, the PWID demonstrates difficult to engage and subsequently retain in treatment pathways, not only in relation to issues arising directly from addiction, but also for health issues not specifically related.

Description of model of care/intervention:
Proposal of a training program aimed at influencing the attitudes, then the practices of approach, and ultimately the candidacy of this type of PWID towards the health system, specifically, as regards the world of nursing professions. This program focuses on the "career" of the PWID, as part of the biographical trajectory of a person who approaches drugs and makes it a characteristic feature of his or her existence. The training proposal is characterized by a strong experiential component, in which students have the opportunity to confront themselves with places, scenarios and professional events, and with protagonists of these events. One of the central themes of the course is the harm reduction, which we note is still in part little known and applied.

Effectiveness:
After receiving specific addiction training, participants reported being more confident in treating PWID. The students also communicated that they have received contents, strategies and practical tools, to be used in professional practice.

Conclusion and next steps:
To ensure optimal care for addicts and PWID, it is important to work on basic health education and continuing education, as well as caregiver attitudes.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:
None