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[Abstract Title]

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF
'CAREGIVERS': THE BRAZILIAN CHALLENGING CONTEXT

[Abstract]

The objective of this work is to reflect on issues related to the mental health and wellbeing of professionals and volunteers working in extreme situations and disasters, here called 'caregivers'. Thus, it includes Covid-19 front line health professionals/volunteers and the related vulnerabilities and potentialities involving their job routines, especially those faced in the current Brazilian context. The impacts can go beyond the possibility of virus infection, involving emotional and physiological overloads with possible consequences of secondary trauma; reduced efficiency and management of demands at work; lack of engagement with family matters and increased self-care disconnection. The Brazilian context of major political, economic and public health challenges points to an urgent need to implement public policies to guarantee not only physical care but also psychosocial multidisciplinary approaches. The context is not limited to the subjects in situation of disaster and social/economic vulnerability; it also encompasses those referred front line caregivers, frequently invisible in their urgent material and immaterial needs.

[Keywords]

Brazil , Caregivers, Covid-19, Mental Health