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HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE: ACTIONS IN BRAZILIAN PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

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Health is a fundamental human right and cover the biopsychosocial aspects, including the socioeconomic, political, historical and cultural contexts, which interact in a complex and non-hierarchical way. From this perspective, means the disease as an individual and collective event, and thus, the dichotomizations individual-society, human-environment and human-culture are limiting. When dealing with the diversity of the illness determinants, is a task of health professionals, including occupational therapist, understand the illness-exclusion relationship and its implications in the collective. The aim is to reflect on the occupational therapist practice in the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS) as a way of ensuring the rights arising from this system. The methodology was a review of the past 10 years, from descriptors: Occupational Therapy, Human Rights, Health and Unified Health System. The SUS is one of the most comprehensive public health systems in the world who, supported by an expanded health concept, ensures full access, universal and free for the entire population of the country. For both, the professionals involved in this system are, together with other social statements, actors in the execution of the SUS directives. Therefore, the occupational therapists uses their practice in the promotion, protection and restoration spheres of the health, ensuring the operation of the SUS. Thus, examining the role of the occupational therapist in the realization of human rights, reaffirms its practice of promoting and maintaining health. The levels of population health are some of the indicators of social and economic organization of a country. So, the right to health is imbued in socio-economic context, establishing a close relationship with the expression of other essential rights to the dignity of the subject. This gives allowance to occupational therapy practice, so this can be an act of praxis, favoring the subjects to fully enjoy their rights.