

Joint Event on
Neurology & Brain Injury

March 14-15, 2019 | Paris, France

Health social work and modern neuroscience: an indivisible binomial for quality psychosocial care in patients affected by neurodegenerative diseases

The knowledge of modern neuroscience has allowed identifying the origin of some neurodegenerative diseases, thus contributing to the development of more effective therapeutic and surgical strategies that are providing the affected people with greater independence and a better quality of life. In addition, this neuroscientific knowledge is providing relevant psychosocial knowledge and a better understanding of the human being, a field of action of social work. Both the knowledge of modern neuroscience and its contribution to social problems, as well as to behavioral phenomena and to the human condition at large, have important consequences for mental health and social well-being. It is therefore essential knowledge for the practice of health social workers. Such neuroscientific knowledge provides a new way of examining and addressing problems and can help them to improve their interventions with the different people they assist. Health social workers are the health field professionals who deal with the psychosocial aspects of patients; in this case, patients with neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Multiple Sclerosis, Neuromuscular Diseases or ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). Therefore, it is essential that they have training on the most basic aspects of the human brain, such as: structure, functioning, how, the influence of psychosocial factors develops how it becomes ill or the treatments that can be used. The pairing of health social work and modern neuroscience means having more efficient and better trained professionals, and therefore, offering a higher quality psychosocial care to patients with neurodegenerative diseases.

Biography

Míriam Sánchez Reyes was graduated in Social Work from the Complutense University of Madrid (Spain) in 2002, obtained her Master's degree in Community Social Work, Management and Evaluation of Social Services (2007-2009) and Doctorate (PhD) degree in Social Work in 2016. She is a Specialist in Neurosciences from the University of Salamanca (Spain) and Specialist in Public and Private Management of Health Services by the European University Miguel de Cervantes. She currently works as a Hospital Social Worker in the Sureste University Hospital in the Community of Madrid (Spain). She has been the youngest person to receive the International Award for Excellence in Social Work in the framework of the III World Summit of Social Work held in Medellín, Colombia in 2016 and has received the XX Scientific Award DTS (Documents in Social Work) in the modality theory and practice in 2016. She is a Life Member of the World Council of Social Work - OITS (International Organization of Social Work), belonging to the academic council, and Member of the Board of the Spanish Scientific Society of Sanitary Social Work.

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