POPULATION-BASED SURVEYS AND INFORMATION FOR ANALYZING AND MONITORING THE BRAZILIAN POPULATION'S HEALTH

INQUÉRITOS POPULACIONAIS E INFORMAÇÕES PARA ANÁLISE E MONITORAMENTO DA SAÚDE DA POPULAÇÃO BRASILEIRA

ENCUESTAS DE POBLACIÓN E INFORMACIÓN PARA EL ANÁLISIS Y SEGUIMIENTO DE LA SALUD DE LA POBLACIÓN BRASILEÑA

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Health information reduces uncertainties and is useful to analyze the health situation of a given population. This is because it helps discover important concern areas in health, showing indicators that contribute to planning actions, changing models and making decisions.

Health information is fundamental for planning, scheduling, monitoring and managing individual and collective health interventions. Nationwide surveys are programmatic strategies that support management of the national health system. All the information obtained through these surveys is essential to know, evaluate and monitor the population's health profile, the distribution of risk factors, their trends and the inequalities in health. In addition, they can support public policies and improve performance of the health system, individual and collective health, and equality in health care. Given the importance of these instruments, this supplement to *Revista Mineira de Enfermagem* (REME) presents unpublished results from national research studies and inquiries, such as the National Health Survey (*Pesquisa Nacional de Saúde*, PNS), the National School Health Survey (*Pesquisa Nacional de Saúde do Escolar*, PeNSE), the Mortality Information System (*Sistema de Informação em Mortalidade*, SIM), the Surveillance of Risk Factors for Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases (Vigitel), and the ConVid - Behavioral Survey, with a focus on noncommunicable diseases and health problems (NCDs).

PNS is a home-based survey conducted in 2013 and repeated in 2019 and represents the most comprehensive survey on health and its determinants ever carried out in Brazil. It addresses the Brazilian population's health situation and lifestyles, as well as its health care, access to and use of the services, preventive actions and care continuity. Furthermore, the 2013 edition innovated by incorporating collection of biological material (blood and urine), anthropometric measurements (weight, height, and waist circumference) and blood pressure in a sub-sample of approximately 9,000 adults in the five major regions of the country, conducted in 2014/2015.[1] In this supplement, one of the articles presents unpublished results from the PNS laboratory tests, which shows the creatinine and glycated hemoglobin reference values (RVs) for the Brazilian population. The study can guide the clinical practice and update the RVs to identify the best parameters for the diagnosis of diabetes and kidney disease in the national context, according to the demographic, ethnic and racial

characteristics of our country. These data show the potential in the production of knowledge about the Brazilian population's health situation.

In turn, the objective of PeNSE is to estimate the prevalence values of the risk factors and health protection among schoolchildren in the country and to monitor the trends over time. The target population of PeNSE consists of students from public and private schools in the Brazilian territory. 4 editions of the survey have already been conducted (2009, 2012, 2015, and 2019) and, in this supplement, unpublished data from the 2019 edition were presented, addressing risk factors for chronic noncommunicable diseases (CNCDs), physical, sexual and traffic violence, alcohol use, sexual and reproductive health, and mental health in adolescents. Some comparisons are made with the 2015 edition, which assesses changes in the Brazilian adolescents' health during this period.

Another inquiry addressed in this supplement refers to the ConVid - Behavioral Survey, which innovated by collecting, during the pandemic in 2020, data on adherence to the social distancing measures, economic losses, CNCDs, changes in lifestyles, and the state of mind of Brazilian adults and adolescents. Data were collected from approximately 45,000 adults and 9,000 adolescents, and a qualitative survey was conducted among adolescents, which allowed deepening on topics about behavioral changes among adolescents during the pandemic - especially in the deterioration of mental health indicators among adolescents.

It is expected that the unpublished results presented in this supplement may contribute to supporting health managers and professionals, Nursing professionals and society in general in the orientation of public health policies, in addition to highlighting the importance of inquiries and surveys in Brazil. Overall, the findings reinforce the importance and the need for strategic maintenance of these inquiries and surveys to proceed with advances in the evaluation of Brazilians' health and of the public policies in progress. With this supplement, REME highlights its important role in knowledge production and in dissemination of science.

REFERENCES

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