

COVID-19 and the impacts of a multidimensional phenomenon



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The World Health Organization, in front of COVID-19, declared a Public Health Emergency of International Importance aiming at global cooperation and solidarity to stop the spread of the virus. However, in March 2020, the pandemic was characterized by COVID-19.

This pandemic, as a multidimensional phenomenon (biological, environmental and social), required interventions to contain its transmission and its treatment. Even so, it had an impact on the political-economic-scientific-social dimensions, including the areas of health and education.

These consequences, amid the restructuring of social security in Brazil, have historically resulted from deficits in health systems, in addition to factors such as

fiscal austerity, cuts in research and development investments, weakness in global and regional governance and lack of trust between countries and local governments.

Although the need for preventive measures to protect the health of the population is evidenced, the lack of resources and effective vaccination contributed to the occurrence of many predictable deaths, especially of those belonging to the risk group, who had difficulty accessing the health system or living in conditions of vulnerability. With the pandemic, inequality in the country became more evident, and inequalities increased.

On the other hand, modern hospitals and antiviral drugs combined with the technological innovation of biotechnology, genomics, big data, artificial intelligence, geolocation, telemedicine, among

others, were used according to the economic and management capacities in the globalized world.

Considering that this accumulation of resources by nations allows for different potentials for confronting and overcoming the pandemic, the reconquest of social and economic standards will possibly also happen in an unequal way.

Thus, authors agree that economic policies for allocating resources to essential areas of health, science and technology, education and social protection should be revised in order to increase the protection of the population, recover employability and stop the deterioration of socioeconomic inequality from the mobilization of global, national and regional plans. ■

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