

Interactions between Quality of Life at Work and Family: Integrative Review

REVIEW

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Abstract

Background: The family is one of the most important components of people's quality of work life (QWL). This study aims to identify the production of knowledge in national and international journals about the interactions between QWL and family relationships.

Method: This is an integrative review of literature, carried out from 2011 to 2016, in the databases: Medline, LILACS, Index Psychology - scientific technical journals, BDEFN-nursing, SciELO.ORG, CINAHL, EMBASE, SCOPUS, PubMed and Web of Science. Full-text articles in Portuguese, English and Spanish were available for free in these databases.

Results: The corpus of analysis consisted of 83 articles, where 95% of the researchers focused their studies on: a) concepts and dimensions; B) conflicts and balance; C) influence of work in the family; D) health; E) diagnosis; and F) enrichment.

Conclusions: There was a lack of studies on the influence of the family and the family environment on work and the possible correlations of QWL and family functionality, denoting the need for future research on these two aspects, aiming to deepen understanding for the improvement of QWL Organizations.

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Introduction

In all institutions, public or private, industrial, commercial institution or care institution, with or without profits, there will always be goals, resources and staff and internal organization. In these places, which we call "work environment", the employees will establish routines,

Keywords

Quality of Work Life; Family;
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process and social relationship, in a constant interaction with their hierarchical superiors, co-workers, clients, patients and others people groups.

The "job" is frequently the subject of studies of several researchers, as well as a number of factors that might increase or decrease the quality of people's life at work. There are lines of researches about occupational medicine, ergonomics, physical therapy, and management among several others.

The Quality of Work Life (QWL) is still broadly studied in knowledge fields like psychology and sociology, and one of its greatest challenges is to overcome the fragmentation of the lines of research and the dissemination of production in different areas of knowledge such as administration, health, law, and engineering, among many others [1].

The human searches identity and reason in their work life. More than the company profits, the statistic goals, the quality or the population service, people desire further than the balanced financial support, they want to make of their occupation a source of personal satisfaction and fulfillment. Thus, the QWL is directly related to the individual well being, approaching all aspects of the life of this worker. Because of its complexity, the human being must be always assessed in a whole way, widening the views even for the social field [2].

However, the social questions are much more embracing and subjective than it looks like. One of the facets of the human being is the importance of conviviality in the family system and their perception of this functionality. Considering that the person is the result of a group structure, named family, this social unity becomes one of the variables to be studied. The relationship of belonging to a group comes from the family process where it is learned the group structure that will give you support base for coexistence with other groups [3].

Similarly to the QWL, the family also presents large diversity of concepts to the more diverse sciences and disciplines. Nonetheless, since it is important to establish a structure which allows us a more ac-

curate study, we have chosen to adopt a model of structure of family assessment, which helps to organize a massive amount of information apparently disparate, also providing focus of intervention.

In the area of health, it can be observed several studies related to the family, representing an evolution when it is established the systemic understanding of families with experience problems lived by them. In this area it can be found the Calgary Family Assessment Model (CFAM), which is based in theoretical fundament involving systems, cybernetic, communication and change. The model is a multidimensional structure that consists in three main categories: structural, development and functional [4].

The *structural analysis* refers to the internal, external and contextual family structure. Thus, it is possible to assess the family composition, the bond among its members and others significant elements like the extended family or broader systems, as the context where the family is inserted in. Here it is analyzed internal aspects as gender, sexual orientation, growth order, the existent subsystems and the family boundaries. The external features refer to broader systems of the family. In the context ethnicity, race, social class, religion, spirituality and the environment where the family lives are checked [4].

The *development analysis* makes it possible to comprehend the exclusive phenomenon of the family, such as its growth and functional, structural and interactional level evolutionary trajectory. In this way, it is possible to analyze the stages, tasks and bonds in the family [4].

The Calgary model allows yet the *family functional* assessment, which features the way the family members interact one with another. The Instrumental Functioning focuses on the daily activities of the family, while the Expressive Functioning focuses on the interaction patterns, subdivided in nine categories: emotional communication; verbal communication; non-verbal communication; circular communication; problem solving; roles; power and influence; beliefs; alliances and unions. These interaction

processes seem to have bigger effect on the family health status than on its structure and function [4].

We have considered in this study the third dimension, because we understand that the functional analysis is consequence of the others, representing the "status-quo" of the studied family.

Thus, focusing on the family functionality, we have searched a collection instrument capable of translating this functionality under the perception of the individuals of this research.

One of the instruments used to check the family functionality level is the family APGAR. This research instrument, which was developed in 1928 by Smilkstein, is composed by five questions that allow to measure the family members' satisfaction related do five basic components in the unity and functionality of any family: adaptation, partnership, growth, affection, and resolution [5]. The Family Apgar was validated, translated and adapted to our culture, for this it was used the transcultural adaptation methodology [6].

The Family Apgar is one of the instruments most used in Nursing in studies that include the assessment and intervention in the family [7]. It is useful to point out the way a person realizes the functioning in their family in a determined moment [8]. In addition, it has advantages such as reduced number of items and ease of application.

It is defined by the acronym APGAR due to the utilization of basic parameters: Adaptation; Participation; Growth; Affection; Resolution. It is constituted by five questions relate to the family function components: satisfaction with the attention given to the family when something bothers the worker, satisfaction with the way the family expresses affection and reacts in relation to the feelings of anger, sadness and love of the worker and the satisfaction with the way the worker spends time with the family.

Due to the importance of the QWL as well as the family relations, it is asked: How is knowledge production configured in national and international

journals about the interaction between QWL and workers' family functionality?

Trying to answer that question, it was intended with this work: to perform an integrative review in order to identify the knowledge produced in national and international journals about the interaction between the QWL and the family functionality of these workers.

Methods

It is an integrative review of literature, construction of an extensive literature review, contributing to discussions about methods and results of researches, as well as reflections on the accomplishment of future studies [9].

The integrative review is defined as instrument to the access, identification, analysis and synthesis of literature of a determined theme, allowing broad vision about the issue, applied methods and result of publications [10]. With this method it is possible to synthesize and produce conclusions about the knowledge produced by studies about determined phenomenon, using guiding question in the search to this literature [11].

In order to perform integrative review it is necessary: problem definition, through the object of the presented review in question or primary hypothesis form; selection of samples after inclusion criteria has been defined; characterization of the studies (the characteristics or information to be collected are defined by means of clear criteria, guided by an instrument); result analysis (to identify similarities and conflicts) and presentation and discussion about the findings [10].

For this study the review guiding question was based in the *Population, Intervention, Comparison and Outcomes* strategy, known by the abbreviation PICO [12] (P: Population-workers; I: intervention of the family functionality in the QWL; C: workers positively and negatively influenced by the family functionality; O: positive and negative influence of

the family in the QWL). So, the guiding question was: How does the family functionality interfere in the QWL?

The selection of the sample was established in March 2016, by online access to the health database available at the web portals *Periódicos da Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior: Capes* (www.capes.gov.br) and Bireme – Biblioteca Virtual em Saúde (BVS).

At Capes portal, we have found the following database: SciELO, CINAHL, EMBASE, SCOPUS, Web of Science and PubMed. 1) SCIELO - Scientific Electronic Library Online – it is a model for cooperative electronic publishing of scientific journals on Internet, it is developed to respond to the need of scientific communication in developing countries and particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean. 2) Cumulative Index for Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), database with more than 3,2 million of records since 1937, which provides the full text of more than 700 nursing and health journals indexed in its database. 3) EMBASE, with relevant and accessible biomedical information, it has more than 30 million summary and indexes of publishing, peer reviewed biomedical literature, printed publishing and conferences. 4) Scopus has 55 million records of 21,915 titles of 5,000 editors; it is considered the largest database of journals, books and annals of scientific events, communication of knowledge produced around the world in the fields of science, technology, medicine, social sciences, arts and humanities. 5) The Web of Science platform is a database that serves more than 7,000 academic and research institutions, national governments, development organizations and publications organizations in more than 100 countries around the world. 6) PubMed base includes more than 24 million citations to the biomedical literature of MEDLINE, journals of science and life, and online books. The citations include links to access the full text of PubMed central publications and publisher websites.

On the Bireme portal – Virtual Library in Health (BVS), we found the following database: Medline, LILACS, Index Psychology– scientific technical journals, BDNF-Nursing. 1) Medline (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online) is an online database which offers free access to references and summaries of scientific magazines of biomedical area. Approximately 5,400 periodicals from the United States and 80 countries are indexed on this base. 2) Latin-American and Caribbean Literature in Health Science (LILACS), it is considered the most important and comprehensive index of scientific and technical literature in Latin America and the Caribbean. 3) Index Psychology - Scientific technical journals, it is a database that brings together the technical-scientific literature in Psychology published in journals, with access to the full text when available on a recognized portal with more than 42,000 articles. It is maintained by the Brazilian Library Network of Psychology Libraries ReBAP and coordinated by the Virtual Library of Psychology of Brazil. 4) BDNF-Nursing – it is a database of thematic bibliography specialized in the field of Nursing for the access and propagation of nursing publications, usually absent from the national and international bibliographies available in the databases of the Health Science area. It includes bibliographic references and summaries of conventional and non-conventional documents, such as: books, theses, manuals, leaflets, congresses, periodicals and journals, generated in Brazil or, written by Brazilian authors and published in other countries, also including retrospective documents.

In order to assure broad search of primary studies, the controlled descriptors (search terms) were combined in different ways, using Boolean Operators OR and AND: Descriptors in Health Science (DeCs): (Quality of Life) AND (Work) AND (Family Relations OR Family Relation OR Family Relationship); and in the *Medical Subject Headings* (MeSH): (Quality of Life OR Life Qualities OR Life Quality) AND (work) AND (Family Relations OR Family Relation OR Family

Relationships OR Family Dynamics OR Family Dynamic OR Family Relationship).

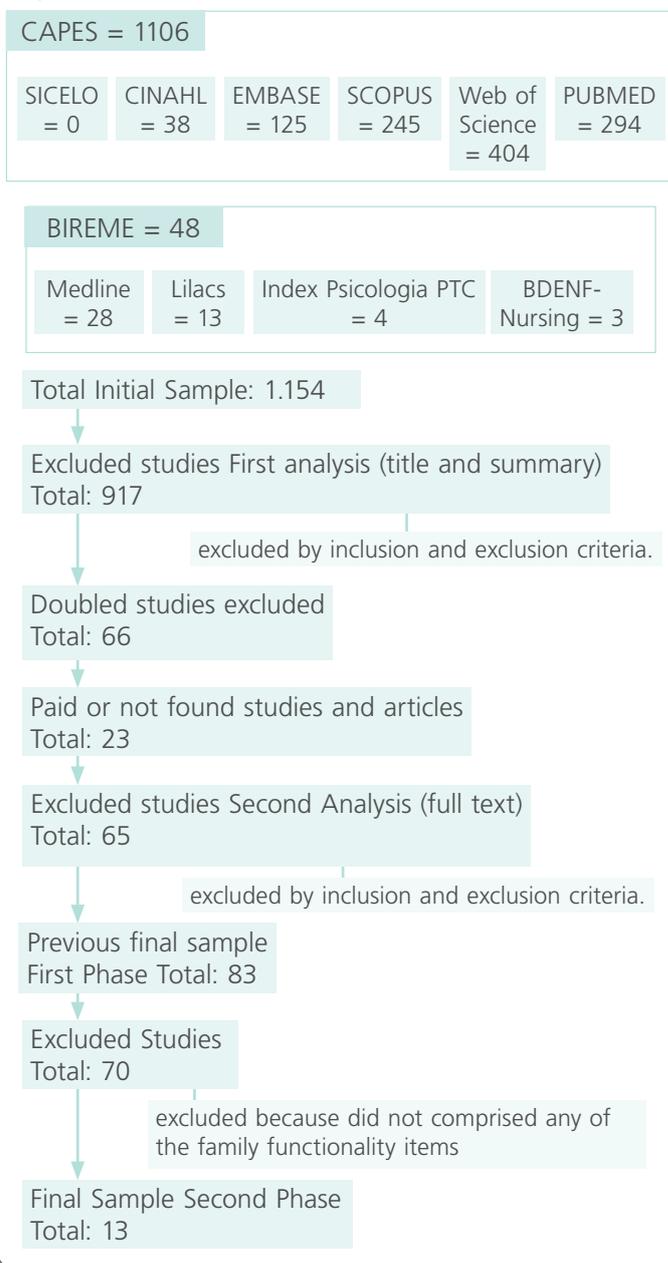
For these surveys, librarians assisted in the elaboration of the search strategy and in the bibliographic survey.

For the systematization of data, we developed a collection tool with the data related to the authors and publications, dividing in two important steps to better deepen the subject: 1) survey of all articles that included the interactions between QWL and family relations and 2) survey of all articles that include any of the items that make up the family functionality, as described in the family APGAR, and verify how they interfere in QWL.

Therefore, in the first step, the criteria of inclusion adopted were: available articles related to the research object, in Portuguese, English or Spanish, originated from national and international journals, indexed in the referred databases from 2011 to March 2016. As articles exclusion criteria the following topics were adopted: informal workers, instrument validation, disease-related quality of life, non-work quality of life. A total of 1,154 articles were found in the databases, of which 83 were established as a prior analysis body according to the flow chart of **Figure 1**.

Having all the articles resulting from the first step that contemplated the relations established between QWL and family relations, it was verified the absence of works using the family APGAR, or even that included all the items that make up the family functionality, according to the reference used (CFAM). In the second phase, to re-analyze the 83 articles, the new inclusion criteria adopted were: available articles related to the research subject, in Portuguese, English or Spanish, originated from national and international journals, indexed in the referred databases from 2011 to March 2016, which comprised at least one of the items considered for the study of family functionality, 13 articles being established as final analysis body as shown in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: Flowchart of study selection.



Results

The articles, which made up the final previous sample from the first phase, are distributed per publication year according to **Table 1**, being the biggest prevalence in 2014 with a quarter of the body of the sample.

The articles selected in the first phase contemplate the world scenario as the places where the researches were developed can be verified in **Table 2**.

Table 1. Distribution per year of publication.

Year	Frequency	%
2011	8	10
2012	18	22
2013	14	17
2014	21	25
2015	16	19
2016	6	7
Total	83	100

Table 2. Distribution of publication per study place.

Country	n	Country	n
USA	17	Turkey	2
Brazil	9	Germany	1
Australia	8	Austria	1
Multi *	7	Finland	1
China	6	France	1
Poland	5	Iran	1
Canada	4	Japan	1
Spain	3	United Kingdom	1
Italy	3	Czec Republic	1
New Zealand	3	Slovenia	1
Taiwan	3	Sweden	1
India	2	Switzerland	1

*: multicenter studies that include researches in more than one country

Table 3. Distribution of publication per type of study.

Type of research	n	%
Quantitative	69	83.2
Qualitative	10	12.0
Development of theoretical model	1	1.2
Quanti-quali	1	1.2
Opinion article	1	1.2
Systematic review	1	1.2
Total	83	100.0

As demonstrated in **Table 3**, according to the type of research, at the end of the study phase, we observed the prevalence of the quantitative researches (83%).

It is possible to observe that the theme is comprehensive and multidisciplinary, by analyzing the distribution of the articles according to the themes

addressed by the journals in which the articles of the first phase were published, according to **Table 4**.

Table 4. Distribution of publication from the first phase per journal theme.

Area	n	%
Medicine and biological sciences	18	22
Psychology and psychiatry	16	20
Management	12	14
Social sciences	9	11
Health - several	8	10
Public Health	5	6
Nursing	5	6
Work	4	5
Quality of life	3	3
Child and family	2	2
Interdisciplinary	1	1
Total	83	100

Table 5. Distribution of publication from the first phase per themes covered.

Theme	n	%
Conflicts and balance	27	33
Health	15	18
Enrichment	11	13
Influence of Work in the family	10	12
Diagnosis	9	11
Concepts and dimensions	6	7
Influence of the Family in the work	4	5
Family functionality	1	1
Total	83	100

Among the studies reviewed in the first phase of this work, after broad reading of the full texts, we found researches that seek to interpret the interactions between the QWL and the family of the worker. In **Table 5** we quantified the articles included in the review, per theme, under the perspectives outlined by the authors.

In the second phase of the study, it was sought to interpret the works found, from the point of view of family functionality, and few papers included the items that make up the family APGAR, as shown in **Table 6** below:

Through the **Table 6** it can be observed that there is no consensus regarding to the direct or indirect influence of the family, their intentions or to their functionality in the labour environment and, consequently, in the QWL.

Table 6. Relation of articles resulting from the second phase.

Seq	Article	First author	Population	Study object	Identified functional item (APGAR)	Interaction of the family functionality with the QWL	Does family influence the QWL?
1	Influences of Work-Family Interface on Job and Life Satisfaction	Simone S	427 Italy public administration workers	To test a model that includes positive interactions between work and family as predictors of satisfaction with work and the life. It examined the role of some potential moderators (organizational support, family support and engagement at work) of these relations.	Attention	The factors involved in the work-family interactions directly and indirectly influence the satisfaction with life, work and the commitment to work. The influence of the interface family-work in the satisfaction with life occurs in a lower level than the interface work-family influence in the satisfaction in work.	Yes
2	Burnout and demographic characteristics of workers experiencing different types of work-home interaction	Merecz D	533 Polish citizens with several professions	To explore the configurations of positive and negative interactions between work and family and its relation with the burnout and demographic characteristics	Time	The various interactions (positive or negative) may reflect cultural differences between groups, expressing different attitudes in work and family life, besides the different values attributed to people to manage the roles associated to these two areas. The impact and the direction of the interactions may depend on the domain that is the most important to each individual (work or family). In the studied sample, people did not allow that the private problems interfered negatively in the occupational life, in an attitude of protection to the use of the private sphere. People with positive interactions family-work reported high professional efficiency.	No
3	Stress amongst nurses working in a healthcare telephone-advice service: relationship with job satisfaction, intention to leave, sickness absence, and performance	Farquharson B	152 Nurses from Scotland	It was assessed the stress among workers, including indicators of satisfaction at work and conflicts work-family.	Discussion and problems solving.	The stress depends on the resources acquired to face the competition of the work and family demands, taking into consideration that at work there is less tolerance about bad functioning of the person. "Family-interfering at work" did not find significance to be considerate as predictor of satisfaction at work and the intention of leaving the current job.	No

Seq	Article	First author	Population	Study object	Identified functional item (APGAR)	Interaction of the family functionality with the QWL	Does family influence the QWL?
4	Beyond the body: A systematic review of the nonphysical effects of a surgical career	Oskrochi Y		To evaluate and analyze the global impact of a surgical career examining the non-physical effects of surgeons and their families. Systematic review.	Discussion and problem solving.	The family support and satisfaction at work are factors protective from the burnout. Both genders were more likely to solve conflicts work-family in a way that served both personal and professional responsibilities. The studies presented inconsistency regard to satisfaction at work when related with the marital status and children.	Inconsistency
5	The relationship between work-family enrichment and nurse turnover	Russo M	179 Nurses from Italy	To test a model in which the enrichment of work-family is associated with lower levels of turnover of professionals through higher levels of satisfaction at work and professional commitment. It examines modifiable workplace factors and other stress factors associated with the burnout, psychiatric morbidity, and quality of life.	Enrichment family-work	The enrichment family-work is not significantly related to the results related to work nor to the turnover. The enrichment family-work is positively related to the work satisfaction and to the professional commitment. The professional commitment is mediator of the work-family enrichment.	Yes
6	Cancer surgeons' distress and well-being, II: modifiable factors and the potential for organizational interventions	Guest RS	72 oncological surgeons from USA	It examines modifiable workplace factors and other stress factors associated with the burnout, psychiatric morbidity, and low quality of life.	Marital problems.	Workers stressed by marital problems or by the work-family balance are more likely to the burnout. The time seems to be a specific stress factor to the family, being associated to the burnout. The relationship with the wife and the time available for the family are strongly associated negatively with the quality of the workers' life.	Yes
7	Purpose in life and work-related stress in mariners. Mediating role of quality of marriage bonds and perceived anxiety	Peplińska A	210 mariners from Poland	It verifies the relation between the stress perceived by the workers and their life-purpose sense, altogether with the mediator role of quality levels of the marriage and anxiety.	Satisfaction with the married life.	Threats related to the profession practiced and the determination of high levels of perceived stress are associated with low levels of satisfaction with married life (family). High levels of satisfaction with married quality life are the necessary condition to the neutralization of the negative effects of stress. This neutralization occurs as a type of regenerations of each one's resources, by the compensation of what have been sacrificed for the professional life of each one or by bringing important emotional resources. Despite the low levels of satisfaction with the marriage, it may still neutralize the stress	Yes

Seq	Article	First author	Population	Study object	Identified functional item (APGAR)	Interaction of the family functionality with the QWL	Does family influence the QWL?
8	Varying Responsibilities Across Job & Home Domains and Employee Well Being	Rasool H	291 workers in the service sector	To study the effect of the facilitation and conflict work-family in the satisfaction of the employees	Family satisfaction.	If the family-work levels of interference are high, persons might not be satisfied with their house, but may be satisfied with their job. No relation between the work-family interference and the family satisfaction reveal that the family satisfaction is a different phenomenon if compared to the work satisfaction. The negative relation of work-family facilitation with the satisfaction at work and facilitation family-work satisfaction at home, which was inconsistent in previous studies, was observed.	No
9	An Investigation into the Relationship between Hospitality Employees' Work-Family Conflicts and Their Leisure Intentions	Zhao X	271 complete service hotels' workers in China	To analyze what the impacts of interface work-family and interface family-work over the work tension and the relaxation intension are.	Satisfaction	The levels of interface family-work are lower than the interface work-family. Interface family-work has positive effect on the work tension. Interface work-family and interface family-work may have different patterns of relation with the intention of relaxing and social. The workers' family boundaries are more permeable than those of work, that is, their job demands are more likely to interfere in the family life than their family life invade their labour responsibilities. When excessive job demands interrupt family obligations, the individuals seek for relaxation. But when the family interfere with the work the workers redouble their effort at work, perhaps for fear that satisfaction in social activities and relaxation will prevent them from achieving satisfactory results at work. Leisure activities, by itself, do not solve problems of work-family conflicts.	No
10	Commitment to life roles and work-family conflict among managers in a post-socialist country	Mihelič KK	413 organizations managers from Slovenia	To examine antecedents and results of work-family and the work-family conflict between managers in a pre-socialist country.	Marital satisfaction. Support, Love, care, time.	The marital satisfaction influenced significantly the career satisfaction. The family-work conflicts related to time are associated to the rising of satisfaction in the career, but not the ones related to efforts. The workers avoid transmitting symptoms of tension caused by family demands to the professional environment. They should show demonstrate capability to find different ways and strategies to face conflicts between person and professional life. In Slovenia, to solve conflicts work-family is considered a personal obligation. Recognizing problems in family may harm your image toward the coworkers about your competency or influence negatively on possible opportunities of advancement in career. Marital commitment influence in the satisfaction with the marriage, but not related to the conflicts FW. The engagement in the family role affects the individual functioning more positively than negatively by conducting for satisfaction more directly than the rise of conflicts. The culture questions must be assessed such as the woman role in the society.	Yes

Seq	Article	First author	Population	Study object	Identified functional item (APGAR)	Interaction of the family functionality with the QWL	Does family influence the QWL?
11	Attachment Styles, Relationship Satisfaction, and Well-Being in Working Women	Towler AJ	209 several women from USA organizations	To propose and test a model that associated styles of relationship of women, quality of the intimate relationship, relationship with the supervisor, at workplace and well being.	Consensus, satisfaction and cohesion between partners.	The several styles of relationship differ according to each individual. Styles of relationship are associated with family satisfaction. Women with secure style are more likely to have relationship more satisfying at home, at work and with the supervisor, taking into account their strong social skills that allow them to function effectively in both environments (family and work). High quality of the family relationships is positively associated with the satisfaction at work and negatively with conflicts at the labour environment.	Yes
12	Factors influencing the levels of work engagement in physicians from Poland, Serbia and Bulgaria	Wilczyński KM	417 physicians from Poland, Serbia and Bulgaria	To assess the influence of the family life and other factors about the levels of engagement of work and risk of depression	*** not identified	The family life seems to have little or no influence over their involvement in work and the risk of burnout. The negative influence of the work at life might increase the risk of depression, and this effect is not susceptible to any positive or negative interaction of family life with work. The relation between the family and work life has a very bad effect on the level of work engagement. The family life may act just as a protection factor. Contrary to the view that high demands for work and lack of adequate rest can cause reduced engagement, it seems that if family life prevents effective leisure and increases demands, the worker can "escape" in his duties, which is seen as a slight increase in engagement at work.	No
13	Quality of work life and family functioning in faculty members of Islamic Azad University	Bonab MB	310 University professors in Iran	Investigate if there is a relationship between what happens in the work and the family environment. If the work environment can be extended to non-work environment.	Problems solving, affection.	There is a significant relation between the professor attitudes, depending on their university degree and the QWL and family functioning. The family functioning influence is greater on the QWL for the professors who are members of small branches of the university. There are significant differences among the four interviewed groups in terms of attitudes towards "family functioning" with regard to the comparisons of groups of professors from different branches of the university	Yes, depending on the investigated group (partial)

Discussion

The objective of this study was to identify the main interactions between QWL and the family environment and to verify if the family functionality can influence the levels of QWL, composing the body of knowledge production in the literature in the last five years.

The interactions between the QWL and family

Initially, the interactions which emerged from the present study were grouped in eight thematic axes, according to the analysis and perspectives of the researcher, namely: a) Concepts and Dimensions; b) Conflicts and Balance, c) Health, d) Roles Enrichment, e) Influence of Work in the Family, f) Diagnosis, g) Influence of the Family on Work and h) Family Functionality.

In the grouping of *Concepts and Dimensions* are the articles that describe and discuss the fundamental concepts of QWL, its dimensions and domains in the worker's life that must comprehend those related to the subjective well-being, always including the family relations in the referred contexts [13-18]. Despite the divergence among researchers about how best to conceptualize QWL, the studies offer new theoretical models or at least comprehensive ways of analyzing the existing theories. In all of them, however, there is congruence in the need to expand the QWL, mainly covering family relationships and pointing out the need for studies in this important relationship and in the different roles that human represents in the various environments in which they work.

In the topic *Conflicts and Balance* all the researches that had as objective to describe the conflicts way were grouped, being the most cited: conflicts work-family and conflicts family-work. On the other hand, we also include those works on balance in these conflictual relations. Our studies revealed that there is a high number of researches with the objective of analyzing the different forms of conflicts

and the importance of to establish the balance to avoid these conflicts [19-45].

The topic *Health* covers the studies with focus on the work health, which analyzes the relations between the QWL and inserts it in family contexts. The mental diseases, including depression and suicide intentions and, mainly the Burnout syndrome are reported. The family, in these studies, is treated usually as collection tool item and emotional support source. High levels of prevalence of the Burnout syndrome among the workers seem to have led many researchers of the health area to analyze this disease, relating it to the various forms of family environment. Reported in at least 15 studies, the Burnout syndrome is known in the medicine field as occupational disease, usually triggered in stressful work environments [46-60].

In the group of the topic *Roles Enrichment* all the articles report the experiences, considered positive, and the benefits of the work-family interface, including the established relationship forms. Opportunity to add knowledge, flexibility and support at work, work experiences, financial benefits, satisfaction, work itself and conflict itself are examples of elements of enrichment at work. As for the generative elements of family enrichment, we can cite: family values, family experiences, family relationships and family support. Such elements may be used to improve the functioning of a domain in other life domains, such as work and family environment, and may occur in both directions [61-71].

The studies grouped in the topic *Influence of Work in Family* included those who main objective were to describe the various forms of influence of work in family, positive and especially negative, such as work hours, shifts, management forms and leadership in the work environment. Yet, in the topic *Influence of Family on Work* were inserted the studies which describe, somehow, the family influencing the worker or their labour environment. In these axes, 14 articles present the various influences of one domain on the other. Most of them (10) re-

port the effects of work in the family environment, mainly related to schedules and shifts, forms of management and leadership [72-81]. On the other hand, only four describe some forms of influence of the family on work. The found ones are related, especially, to the social support role performed by the family with the worker, through the emotional support [82]. We also found reports about the fact that the family would be a stressful factor for the worker, pointing it as a negative effect in these interactions [83-85].

The researches that make up the theme *Diagnosis* are those which bring the evaluation of the QWL, also characterized as job or career satisfaction, in several populations of workers, whose collection instruments contemplated some dimension of family life, but without the deepening of these issues. A relative number of studies (9) bring the diagnosis of quality of life of workers that include indicators of family life. The populational diversity of workers and organizations found enriches the literature [86-94].

The group defined as *Family Functionality* was created to comprehend articles whose purpose was to investigate and to deepen in to the family relations, characterized by the way the family members relate to each other, and their interactions with the QWL, being found only one study in an Islamic university [95].

The family functionality and their influence in the QWL

Data from the present study revealed a lack of consensus about the existence of family influence on QWL, with studies showing positive interferences, other negative ones, in addition to those that report no relationship between these two environments.

The interactions presented in some studies on the enrichment of roles point to the positive relationship with job satisfaction and professional commitment. High quality of the family relationships was positively associated with satisfaction at work and negatively with the conflicts at work environment [68].

Studies including items on marital relationships report that workers stressed by marital problems, work-family (im) balance, or dissatisfaction with marital or family life, are more likely to exhaust and reduce their quality of life at work [52]. Marital satisfaction appears to have a significant influence on career satisfaction [64]. High levels of satisfaction of marital life quality seem to be the necessary condition to neutralize the negative effects of stress [72]. This neutralization occurs as a kind of regeneration of one's resources, compensation for what has been sacrificed for one's professional life, or for bringing in important emotional resources [72]. It was observed that, despite the low levels of satisfaction with the marriage, it still could neutralize the stress.

The Family-Work conflicts related to the time spent with the family are associated to the increase of satisfaction in the career, but not the ones related to effort. Workers avoid transmitting symptoms of tension caused by family demands to the professional environment, and must demonstrate the ability to find different ways and strategies to face conflicts between personal and professional life. Mainly for leadership and management functions, resolving work-family conflicts is considered a personal obligation. We also found that recognizing problems in the family could harm their image to their coworkers about their competencies or negatively influence on possible career advancement opportunities [64].

Most studies, however, point to a broader range of studies, and cultural issues such as the location of the population studied (rural, urban), work area, diverse ethnicities, the role of women in society, etc. should be considered. In this way, the psychological and behavioral issues should also be extended, once it seems to influence on the results. Individual personalities and the various relationship styles may reflect directly or indirectly, since these social skills are associated with family satisfaction and relationships with co-workers, supervisors, clients, or patients [65]. The various interactions (positive or negative) may reflect cultural differences between

groups, expressing different attitudes at work and family life, as well as the different values attributed by people to manage the roles associated with these two areas. The impact and direction of interaction may depend on the domain that is most important to each individual (work or family) [58].

While some studies indicate that the commitment in the family role affects the individual functioning more positively than negatively (satisfaction versus conflicts) [64], others point out that the work may serve, inclusive, like an escape valve to the dissatisfaction in family environment [85]. Among the researches that did not find an association between the family environment and QWL, we observed that cultural issues can influence the responses. Depending on the population studied, workers may not allow the particular problems to interfere negatively in the occupational life, in an attitude of protection to the employment of the private sphere [58].

People with positive family-work interaction reported high professional efficiency, but not associated significantly to QWL, satisfaction with work or to the intention of leaving the current job [58].

If levels of family-work interference are high, individuals may not be satisfied with their home, but they may nonetheless be satisfied with their work. No relationship between work-family interference and family satisfaction reveals that family satisfaction may be a *different phenomenon* compared to job satisfaction [36]. In this sense, the limits of the family of workers seem to be more permeable than those of work, that is, their work demands are more likely to interfere with family life than their family life invades their work responsibilities [29].

We also found that when excessive work demands interrupt the family obligations, the individuals seek for relaxation. But when the family interferes with work the workers redouble their effort at work, perhaps for fear that satisfaction in social activities and relaxation will prevent them from achieving satisfactory results at work. Nevertheless, leisure activities by themselves cannot solve problems of work-family conflicts [29].

In relation to burnout, family life seems to have little or no influence on their involvement in the work and risk of the syndrome. The negative influence of work in family life may increase the risk of depression. However, this effect seems not to be susceptible to any positive or negative interaction of family life with work [85]. Stress in these studies depends on the resources acquired to face the competition of work and family demands, taking into account that at work there is less tolerance due to worse functioning of the individual [25].

The relation between family and work life has a very bad effect on the level of work engagement, and might act only as a protection factor. Contrary to the view that high demands for work and lack of adequate rest can cause engagement to be reduced, it seems that if family life prevents effective leisure and increases the demands, the worker can "escape" in his duties, which is visible as a slight increase in work engagement [85].

We observed that a shortage of complete studies on the influence of the worker's family functionality on his quality work life impairs the interpretation of this important anthropological phenomenon for two reasons. Firstly, there is no consensus about the direct or indirect influence of the family, their interactions or their functionality in the work environment and, consequently, the QWL, which is in line with the systematic review Of Oskrochi on medical surgeons [53]. Second, due to the shortage of researches those seek QWL correlations and family functionality, in its most comprehensive form. Such findings lead us to conclude that family functionality should be better investigated in future researches.

Conclusions

Most studies that present relations between QWL and family aim, mainly, to study the conflicts between the family and work environment and their consequences to the workers and family. In occupational medicine, most researchers also study Burnout syndrome and other mental illnesses. Few papers

discuss possible family influences on the worker or work environment and their results do not converge to a consensus in the literature. The scarcity of studies about family interactions and, especially, family functionality with QWL demonstrate the need for future research on these two aspects, aiming to deepen the understanding of these themes, to expand investigations and to enable the improvement of QWL in organizations and the integral satisfaction of workers.

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