

Prenatal diagnosis of malformations incompatible with life: psychological implications and possibilities of intervention

Abstract

Technological advances have allowed access, increasingly, to informations about fetuses, as well as allowed in detecting fetal malformation, that can have serious psychological impact on parents and families. Regarding it, this article aims to discuss about the diagnoses of fetal malformations incompatible with life, in three topics: psychological implications of these diagnoses on pregnant women and families; critical issues in prenatal care: revelation of diagnosis and legal interruption of pregnancy; possibilities for psychological intervention at prenatal care service. It is expected that this work can provide subsidies that stimulate reflections and discussions about this topic and contribute to the professionals who work with families that live in this situation.

Key-words: Fetal malformation; Psychology; Prenatal.