

Editorial

Esteemed readers,

After just over three years and countless significant contributions to the journal *Psicologia: Teoria e Prática*, Profa. Dra. Cristiane Silvestre de Paula has taken on a new challenge as Associate Editor. With this transition, I assumed the position of Editor-in-Chief in August 2024, with a renewed commitment to scientific excellence and to disseminating rigorous, high-quality knowledge. At this time of change, it is essential to acknowledge the legacy historically built by the editors who have served the journal thus far. With deep respect and admiration, I express my gratitude to Cristiane and to other colleagues, whose dedication and leadership were fundamental to the structuring and consolidation of the editorial quality of *Psicologia: Teoria e Prática*. It is upon this legacy that the incoming management will seek to base its actions, aiming to increase the celerity of review processes and expand the international visibility of the research and articles published herein.

The present issue reflects the diversity and complexity of current themes in health and behavioural sciences. This edition comprises twelve articles that span psychometrics, clinical psychology, psychology and education, and public health.

The first study addresses the transition to labour inactivity. The research sought to validate the Brief Scale of Reasons for Continuing to Work in Retirement (*Escala Breve de Motivos para Continuar Trabalhando na Aposentadoria*; EMCTA-r), demonstrating that the instrument possesses psychometric soundness for investigating the motivations of workers who remain active after retirement.

Next, family dynamics are discussed. The second article analyses the relationship between co-parenting and child behaviour in different family configurations. The data show that co-parenting agreement acts as a protective factor, reducing behavioural problems, while conflict exacerbates such difficulties, regardless of the parents' marital status.

The intersection between technology and mental health is the focus of the third article. This qualitative research explores the use of social media in the treatment of eating disorders. The results point to a duality: networks act both as a source of social pressure and as a space for support and shared experiences.

Still within the field of eating disorders, the fourth article investigates the challenges faced by multidisciplinary teams. The study underscores the critical importance of the therapeutic bond for clinical success, highlighting the difficulties imposed by patients' lack of recognition of their own suffering.

In the educational sphere, the fifth article presents the standardisation of the Instrument for Brief Assessment of Reading, Writing, and Comprehension (*Instrumento para Breve Avaliação da Leitura, Escrita e Compreensão*; IBALEC). The tool proved sensitive in discriminating reading and writing skills in students from the 1st to the 5th year, validating its usefulness in school assessment.

The sixth article consists of a systematic review on the development of socio-emotional skills in secondary education. It concludes that school-based interventions are effective strategies for promoting mental health, although further studies on the efficacy of these programmes are needed.

Psychological assessment in childhood is the subject of the seventh article. Through systematic review and text mining, the study identifies the most recurrent themes in personality and temperament instruments, providing support for the development of new measurement tools.

The eighth article describes a pilot study of a psychosocial intervention for teachers. The results indicate that the developed protocol has the potential to expand knowledge about mental health and improve problem-solving skills within the school context.

The ninth study focuses on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). It evaluates a teaching procedure for recognising facial expressions, mediated by mothers and delivered via telehealth. The data confirms the effectiveness of using social stories to support the acquisition of these skills.

The tenth article reviews methodologies for preventing sexual violence against children and adolescents. The analysis highlights the importance of developing self-protection skills and the urgency of culturally adapting programmes to the Brazilian context.

The impact of the pandemic is examined in the eleventh study. The investigation of health professionals who fought COVID-19 associates monthly income and physical activity with the suspicion of mental disorders, drawing attention to occupational risk factors.

Finally, the twelfth article examines executive dysfunction in depression. The systematic review shows that these cognitive deficits are prevalent and negatively affect prognosis, suggesting the need for greater clinical attention to this aspect of the disorder.

I wish you an excellent read.

Prof. Dr. Alexandre Luiz de Oliveira Serpa

Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Psicologia: Teoria e Prática*