

Dr Fernanda Serpeloni

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Research interest

- Evidence based interventions for individuals suffering with psychological consequences of violence
- Impacts of family and community violence on mental health
- Prevention of domestic violence against women and children
- Multigenerational transmission of trauma
- Epigenetic responses to early adversities
- Heart rate variability in response to traumatic stress

Education and Training

- 10/2012 – 11/2016 **Dr. rer nat Psychology and Neuroscience (*summa cum laude*)**, Interpersonal violence and epigenetic modifications: the impact of prenatal and lifetime stress across three generations (Prof. Thomas Elbert), University of Konstanz, Germany.
- 2011 **Training in Narrative Exposure Therapy**, University of Konstanz and vivo international, Germany.
- 03/2007 – 10/2009 **MSc Clinical Psychology**, Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo, Brazil.
- 2003 **Specialization in Hospital Psychology**, University Hospital of Londrina, Brazil.
- 03/2000 – 02/2005 **Dipl. Psychology**, State University of Londrina, Brazil.

Working Experience

- 03/2017 – present **Postdoctoral researcher and project coordinator**, Public Health - Department of Violence and Health Studies, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Rio de Janeiro (BR). Post-doctoral grant from FAPERJ (Research Support Foundation of Rio de Janeiro). Main projects: Transgenerational impact of violence: a longitudinal approach, and Effectiveness of Narrative Exposure Therapy with trauma survivors living under ongoing threat of violence in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (RCT; DRKS00017843).
- 10/2018 – present **NET supervision**, Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) supervision of therapies in public health centers and Fiocruz in Rio de Janeiro.
- 05/2020 – 07/2020 **Supervision of online psychosocial service**, supervision of psychological online service during Covid-19, Fiocruz, Brasília.
- 02/2019 – 03/2020 **NET supervision**, Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) supervision and implementation of a continuous blind evaluation system of NET counselors, on-site in Senegal and online supervisions.
- 06/2019 – 07/2019 **Research assistant**, Project: “Narrative Exposure Therapy for survivors of sex gender biased violence in North and South Kivu”. Activities: project evaluation.
- 03/2012 – 11/2017 **Project coordinator**, Multigenerational epigenetic effects of violence in three generations of survivors of violence. University of Konstanz (European research Council), Germany.

- 10/2012 – 11/2016 **Doctoral researcher**, University of Konstanz, Germany.
Research focus: impact of domestic and community violence on mental health, epigenetic effects in children whose mothers and grandmothers were exposed to trauma and violence during pregnancy (Funded by European Research Council, and CAPES/DAAD).
- 03/2013 – 02/2016 **NET Therapist**, Outpatient clinic, Center of Excellence for psychotraumatology, University of Konstanz, Germany. Diagnostic interviews and NET Therapies with refugees and victims of sexual violence.
- 06/2012 – 07/2012 **Intern**, Project: Investigating the developmental and relational consequences of war and trauma on parent-child dyads (Prof. Elizabeth Wieling, University of Minnesota), Uganda.

Teaching

Workshops

Narrative Exposure Therapy, treatment of trauma-related disorders. Public health services and Fiocruz (Family doctors, psychiatrists, psychologists and nurses), 2018 and 2019.

Lectures

Graduate programs

Child and adolescent development under vulnerability, at the National School of Public Health and at the National Institute of Women, Children and Adolescents' Health, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), 2017 and 2018.

Conceptual basis of violence, National School of Public Health, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), 2018, 2019 and 2021.

Impacts of violence on health, National School of Public Health, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), 2020 and 2021.

Psychosocial care and mental health during the Covid-19. Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brasília, 2020.

Development of Online Course Materials

Specialization courses

Psychosocial care and mental health during the Covid-19. Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brasília. National emergency training in Mental Health and Psychosocial Care during the pandemic (> 60k students from all regions in Brazil), 2020.

Wellbeing: Mental health in indigenous population. Oswaldo Cruz Foundation Amazonas; UNICEF, Coiab. Training for health professionals to reduce the impact of the pandemic within indigenous populations in Brazil, 2020 and 2021.

Additional Information

Selected Publications

Serpeloni, F., Narrog, J.A., Gonçalves de Assis, S. et al. (2021). Narrative Exposure Therapy versus treatment as usual in a sample of trauma survivors who live under ongoing threat of violence in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: study protocol for a randomised controlled trial. *Trials* 22, 165.

Avanci, J.Q., Serpeloni, F., de Oliveira, T.P. et al. (2021). Posttraumatic stress disorder among adolescents in Brazil: a cross-sectional study. *BMC Psychiatry* 21, 75 .

- Serpeloni, F., Radtke, K. M., Hecker, T., Sill, J., Vukojevic, V., Assis, S., . . . Nätt, D. (2019). Does prenatal stress shape postnatal resilience? An epigenome-wide study on violence and mental health in humans. *Frontiers in Genetics*, 10. 3.
- Serpeloni, F., Nätt, D., Assis, S., Wieling, E., & Elbert, T. (2020). Experiencing community and domestic violence is associated with epigenetic changes in DNA methylation of BDNF and CLPX in adolescents. *Psychophysiology*. 4.
- Serpeloni, F., Radtke, K. M., Assis, S. G. A., Henning, F., Nätt, D., & Elbert, T. (2017). Grandmaternal stress during pregnancy and DNA methylation of the third generation: an epigenome-wide association study. *Translational Psychiatry*, 7(8), e1202. 5.
- Serpeloni, F., Radtke, K. M., Hecker, T., & Elbert, T. (2016). Epigenetic biomarkers of prenatal maternal stress. In D. Spengler & E. Binder (Eds.), *Epigenetics and neuroendocrinology : clinical focus on psychiatry* (Vol. 2, pp. 177-196): Springer International Publishing. 6.
- Assis, S. G. d., Avanci, J. Q., Silva, J. C. V., & Serpeloni, F. (2017). Understanding violence through neurosciences - Aporte das neurociências para compreensão da violência Novas e velhas faces da violência no Século XXI: Visão da literatura brasileira do campo da saúde (pp. 471-497). 7.
- Assis, S., Deslandes, S. F., & Serpeloni, F. (2018). Resilience in the context of Violence. In H. Ralha-Simões (Ed.), *Resiliência - Novos olhares face aos desafios do nosso tempo* (pp. 47-72). Lisboa: Ex-Libris. 8.
- Serpeloni, F. (2018). Graphic expression of the child as a research strategy in the field of public health. *Cadernos de Saúde Pública*, 34(12).
- Kabad, J. F., Noal, D. D. S., Passos, M. F. D., Melo, B. D., Pereira, D. R., Serpeloni, F., ... & Freitas, C. M. (2020). A experiência do trabalho voluntário e colaborativo em saúde mental e atenção psicossocial na COVID-19. *Cadernos de Saúde Pública*, 36, e00132120.
- Noal, D., de Freitas, C. M., Passos, M. F. D., Serpeloni, F., Melo, B. D., El Kadri, M. R. D. A., ... & de Jesus Rezende, M. (2020) Capacitação nacional emergencial em saúde mental e atenção psicossocial na COVID-19: um relato de experiência.

Reviews

BMC Psychiatry, Pediatric Reports, Developmental Psychopathology, Translational Psychiatry, Biological Psychiatry, Brain Behavioral Research, Comprehensive Psychiatry, European Journal of Psychotraumatology, Psychiatry Research, Psychoendocrinology, Ciência e Saúde Coletiva, Revista Gaúcha de Enfermagem.

Membership

vivo international.org

Translation

Translation revision (Portuguese) of the book *Narrative Exposure Therapy, a short-term treatment for traumatic stress disorders* (Schauer, M; Neuner, F; Elbert, T). Editor Hogrefe (2021).

Languages

Portuguese, English, German