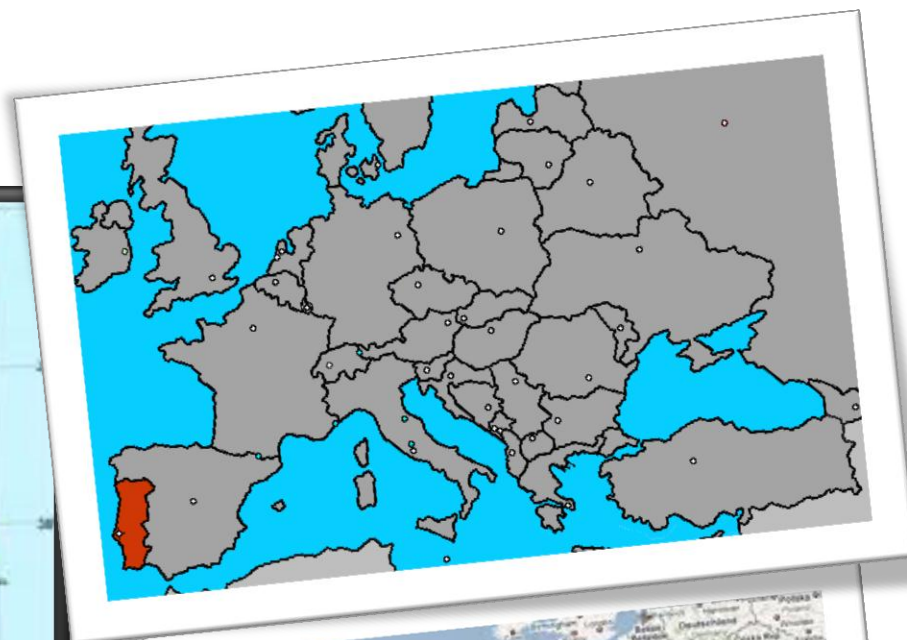




Ordem dos Enfermeiros
Portugal

PORTUGUESE ISLANDS OF AZORES: A SPECIAL KIND OF REMOTE NURSING EXPERIENCE

Lucília Nunes
President of Board of Nursing





definition of «remote»

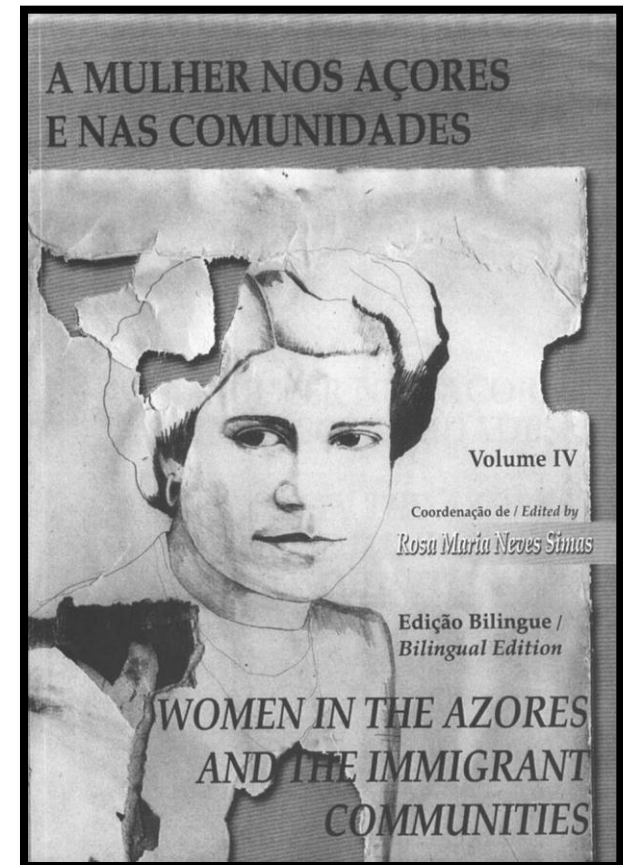
...a different kind, in the
middle of Atlantic Ocean

insularity phenomenon



A kind of timeline

- First half of XX century:
Communicable disease prevention, control and eradication. Focusing in the disease. In the Azores, no nurses.
- Very high tax of infant mortality
 - 174,1‰ in 1952
 - 148,6‰ in 1956
 - Sixties – 111,6 ‰
 - Seventies – 74,16‰
 - (continental Portugal: 87,2‰)





A kind of timeline

- Portugal was censored by WHO, because the taxes of infant mortality were very high
- WHO counselors said that taxes will never be reasonable, unless Portugal find a way to increase health and social assistance

1956: creation of a Social and Health Protection Plan

31.December, 1956: 16 nurses arrived

1957: Opening of the 1st dispensaries childlike-motherly



A kind of timeline

- Creation of Infant-Motherhood Protection Institute: 1957
- Opening of a Nursing School – Ponta Delgada, Ilha de S. Miguel: 1959
 - Until the end of 50's, hospital care were provided by nuns. The nurse, with education, does not exists
 - Between 1959 and 1977, the school welcomed students from all islands
 - 1977 open another nursing school, in Angra do heroísmo (Terceira)





- Decision to create a school:
 - **Reduce tax of infant mortality**
 - Implement nurse profession
- 1958: nomination of a nurse to be School Director (the first in the country). Opening in January of 1959
- Creation of infant-motherhood services protection
 - Numerous families, shortage of food
 - 1950: 38,8% illiterates
 - 1962: 41% have channelled water
 - 60,4% used lighting to oil





- Nursing interventions
 - Creation of mobile teams
 - Vaccination posts
 - Health education
 - domiciliary visitation
 - Child and pregnant consults
 - Medicines distribution
 - Prize for breastfeeding
 - Milk distribution
 - vaccination
- 1961 – 32 nurses and 15 nursing auxiliary and 32 dispensairies

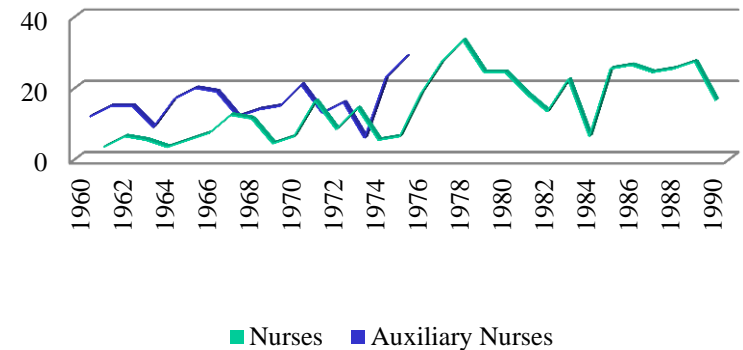




- Nursing interventions impact

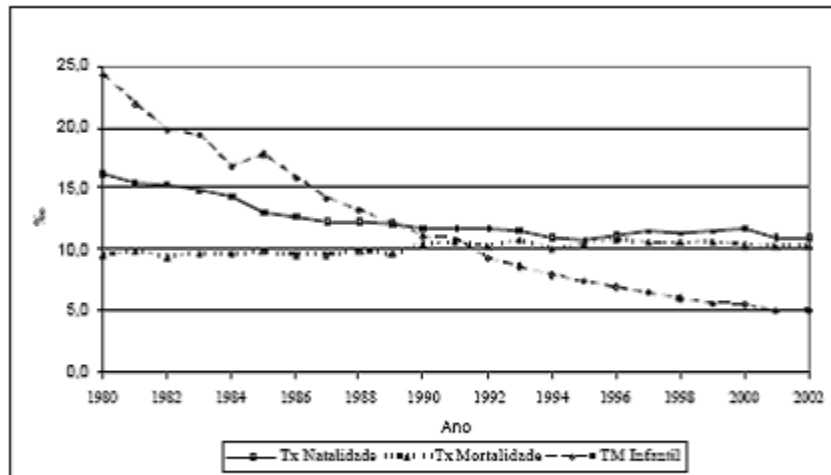
- Tax of infant mortality 1960: 111,16°/oo
- Tax of infant mortality 1970: 74,16°/oo
- Birth without assistance 1960: 40,97%
- Birth without assistance 1970: 26,99%

Nurses, before bachelor's degree

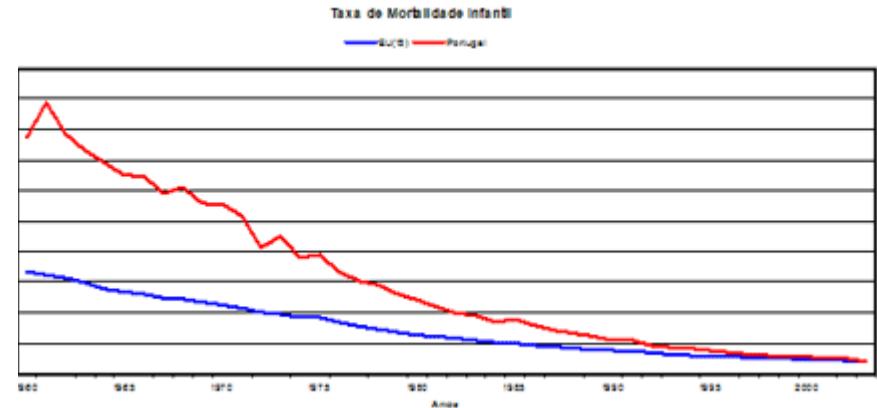


- Incentives and staff retention

- 1956: salary, accommodation and meals, holidays (by sea) in the end of first year;
- Specialized education (1 or 2 years)
- Supporting longlife learning



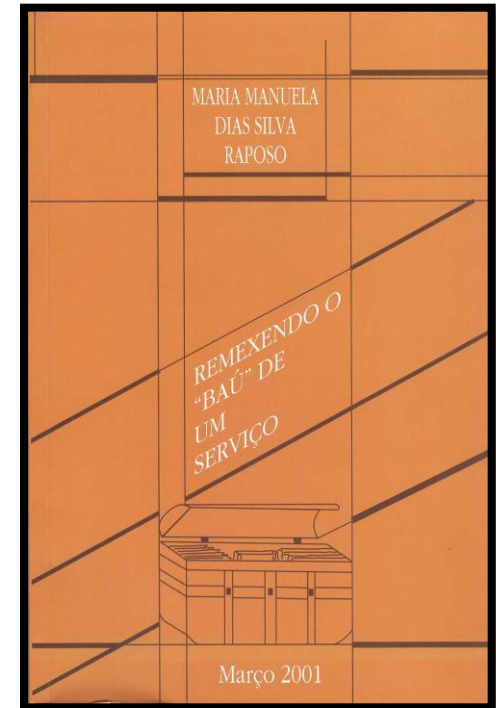
Fonte: BARRETO, A. (2000) - *A Situação Social em Portugal 1960-1999*; INE



tax of infant mortality registered a remarkable progress, making adjusting the Portuguese situation to the European standards.



- Shortage of nurses, specially specialists
- 1956: 16 nurses
- 1980: creation of Regional Health Service
- 1986: starting of specialization nursing courses
- 2000: 1.200 nurses in the 9 islands (88% in 3 islands)
 - Some islands: 1 or 2 nurses /1000
 - 3 of them: 5 to 6 nurses / 1000





A regime of incentives was established in the Autonomous Region of the Azores for the fixation of certain professionals in lack in health centers and unities of health of island.

April 2011

Subsidy of fixation

Accumulation of subsidies

-in the amount of ____ % on the respective salary





Thank you

Acknowledgments:

Helder Pereira,

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