The achievements added to the importance of women in society have been discussed for a long time, from their performance in war scenarios and their journey to guarantee rights. Their protective instinct and care for others is also reflected in the guarantee of maintaining the health of those with whom she lives.

The female protective instinct has persisted for years. An example of this is her performance in war scenarios in the world context that exemplify her patriotism and family protection, even facing a hostile patriarchal social context, they risked their lives in defense of their homeland.

In Brazil, for example, during the period of World War II, female nurses played a fundamental role in maintaining the health of Brazilian compatriots. The recognition as officers of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force - FEB came from a lot of effort and persistence until they could join the Brazilian armed forces, such difficulty was justified due to the social disapproval of the time that prevented the insertion of women and recognition as part of the military force. This insertion only took place after a lot of effort and persistence that guaranteed recognition and his entry into the military career, an important milestone that was the result of a painful process, but watered with a lot of persistence. Captain Olimpia Camerino’s words show such bravery.

“The role played by Brazilian nurses can be noted as those deserving of gratitude from our people. They did not lack a spirit of patriotism, nor of equally civic enthusiasm, to respond to the call of Brazil in the most serious hour of its history.” (CAMERINO, 1983, 118)

However, these efforts reflect an evolutionary milestone in female emancipation with its heroic achievements, intensifying the new role of women from then on, a more active and participatory woman in the destiny of the Brazilian nation, in addition to having a fundamental role in the family sphere as they are examples of bravery, hope and protection.

The Revista Saúde Coletiva de Barueri wishes all virtuous women its admiration, esteem and consideration.

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