INTRODUCTION
The lessons practiced and learned in battlefields during World War II and the conflict of Korea in the 20th century, showed that the care and therapeutic applied in severely wounded soldiers, led to an increase in survival of the military groups, and could be applied for the civilians with more complex health problems (VIANA, 2011).

Thus, expanding the space of the unit of intensive care/treatment, where doctors and nurses observe and treat severe patients 24 hours a day, in order to restore and maintain the vital functions, as well as increase the chances of survival, was created in December of 1953. The first Intensive Care Unit (ICU) was in Denmark and until the 60’s, there was a great development, with numerous ICUs being created in several countries with a division into sub-specialties, as: adult ICU, pediatric ICU, neonatal ICU, among others (VIANA, 2011).

In Brazil, the first ICUs were implemented in the 70’s and became specialized units, considered as high complexity. There was the need of trained professionals and also the obtainment of even more modern and sophisticated equipment (GARANHANI; et al., 2008).

The ICU is a place where recoverable severe patients are sent to receive specialized care of nurses and doctors full time. There are equipment and materials needed for life maintenance, as: mechanical ventilators, pulse oximeters, multiparameter monitors, infusion pumps, vasopressors drugs, among others. The ICU aim is to receive, treat, take care and stabilize the hemodynamics of high-risk patients, using resources for an efficient, quick and human treatment, providing safety and comfort to patients (MURTA, 2006).

Some factors contribute to the development of special methods to the care of the hospitalized patient. Searching for a better treatment to be given to the critical patient, not just for their survival, but also to their reintegration to a normal existence, with the minimum of discomfort (GOMES, 1988).

Thus, the innovation of treatments, technological development, increase in life expectancy and increasing emerge of new chronic diseases that need intensive care, favor to a quick evolution of new specialties focusing on patients safety through a continuous and accurate monitoring, so the ICU arises as a specialized support to life assistance, involving the use of technological and top therapeutic resources (FAVARIN; CAMPONOGARA, 2012).

Murta (2006), the professionals who work in an ICU must be prepared to team work, since an ICU requires a multidisciplinary group that bond the areas of Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Nutrition, Psychology and Pharmacy. Since the skills of critical thinking of these professionals allow to visualize the patient as a great board, analyzing their data, evaluating the problems that may arise from the critical environment and the determination of appropriate interventions (MORTON, et. al., 2007).

Faced with this theme, the aim of this study is to characterize the profile of patients hospitalized in the Adult Intensive Care Unit of a hospital in Cascavel-PR.

MATERIAL AND METHOD
It is a quantitative research with descriptive and retrospective documental study.

The quantitative research describe information and opinions through numbers, graphics and charts (MARCONI; LAKATOS, 2008).

The documental research is conducted through contemporary or retrospective documents, considered scientifically authentic, aiming to describe / compare social facts, establishing its characteristics or tendencies (PÁDUA, 2005).

The main objective of descriptive researches it is the description of characteristics of certain population or phenomenon or, the establishment of relationships among variables (GIL, 2009).

Retrospective studies explore past facts, and can be designed to return from the contemporary moment until certain point in the past, several years ago; or the researcher can set a moment in the past and conduct the research to the present, by documental analysis (MARCONI; LAKATOS, 2005).

The collection of material had as secondary data source, the electronic records. These were available in a computerized system (TASY), in which all information about the patient is recorded.

To data collection, a form containing seven variable questions about the study was built. Pádua (2005) defines form as a collection of questions that are asked and recorded by an interviewer. It is made of closed questions, and it is said to be a better suited research tool referring to quantification, once they are easier to code and tabulate, offering comparisons with other data related to the theme.

The Intensive Care Unit where this study was carried out has high turnover of patients, an average of 74 individuals monthly. The research was conducted with medical records from January to April of 2015, resulting in 296 records. The population of this study consisted of patients who were hospitalized in an adult ICU by private health plans in a hospital from Cascavel-PR.

Data collection was conducted in June, after the approval of the Ethics in Research Committee (CEPEH) which involves Human Beings, from Universidade Paranaense/UNIPAR, according to resolution 466 of 2012 (BRASIL, 2012). This project had approval, through the number 1.087.026 on May 28th 2015.

A formal authorization to carry out data collection was requested to the institution prior to sending the project to the...
RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

As for gender of the patients, 161 (54.39%) were male and 135 (45.60%) female. A similar study conducted by França, et. al., (2013), with 102 patients, showed that 57 (55.9%) were male and 45 (44.1%) female; a similar difference regarding this item. The demographic characteristics related to gender, confirm that nowadays, in the reality of health services in several countries, the number of men admitted in ICUs is higher than women. These evidences are seen in many countries, in which men are more commonly admitted in ICU and show higher possibility of receiving more aggressive support than women (PREITAS, 2010).

Regarding the age, there was a variation between 12 to 96 years. It was found that the largest share of hospitalization was between 70 to 74 years old with 38 hospitalizations (12.83%), followed by 65 to 69 years, 37 hospitalizations (12.50%); 75 to 79 years, 37 hospitalizations (12.50%); 80 to 84 years, 32 hospitalizations (10.61%); 55 to 59 years, 27 hospitalizations (9.12%); 60 to 64 years, 25 hospitalizations (8.44%); 50 to 54 years, 24 hospitalizations (8.10%); 65 to 69 years, 14 hospitalizations (4.72%); 45 to 49 years, 13 hospitalizations (4.39%); 90 to 94 years, 12 hospitalizations (4.05%); 20 to 24 years, 9 hospitalizations (3.04%); 40 to 44 years, 7 hospitalizations (2.36%); 30 to 34 years, 6 hospitalizations (2.02%); 35 to 39 years, 5 hospitalizations (1.68%); 25 to 29 years, 3 hospitalizations (1.01%); 10 to 14 years, 3 hospitalizations (1.01%); 95 to 99 years, 2 hospitalizations (0.67%); 15 to 19 years, 2 hospitalizations (0.67%).

In this study, it was reported that the elderly population was more prevalent, being 197 (66.55%) patients over 60 years old, who were hospitalized during the study. The World Health Organization defines as elderly the person of 65 years or older. For developing countries, as Brazil, this definition applies for people from 60 years and more (ALVES, et. al., 2009).

This population has an expressive use of health services, especially in intensive care units, and may correspond in more than 50% of admissions in this hospital sector. The demand of elderlies for care in critical units tends to happen because of population aging, mainly in developing countries, which has been a topic of discussions in the areas of planning and health politics (SIQUEIRA et. al., 2004).

Of the researched sample total, it was found that 157 (53.04%) of the individuals hospitalized, are from Cascavel-PR, followed by Medianeira-PR with 14 (4.72%); Ubiratã-PR also with 14 hospitalizations (4.72%); in Cachoeira do Sul-PR, there were 12 (4.05%) hospitalizations; in Marechal Candido Rondon-PR, there were 9 (3.04%) hospitalizations; Toledo-PR, 8 (3.04%) hospitalizations; in Palotina-PR, there were 7 hospitalizations; Quedas do Iguaçu-PR, 6 (2.02%) hospitalizations and other cities 68 (22.97%), among them, one patient was from Paraguay and another from Mato Grosso. Thus, it is possible to assert that the admissions from individuals coming from different cities, state and country, is due to the complexity of care and the existing specialties in the hospital, as well as the necessity of an advanced support, this is great reference in the region.

Regarding the time of stay, it was found variations since the minimum of 1 day to the maximum of 79 days. The majority of the patients remained in ICU for 1 day. The distribution was: 1 day, 104 patients (55.13%); followed by 2 days, 57 (19.25%); 3 days, 34 (11.48%); 4 days, 10 (3.73%); 5 days, 27 (9.12%); 6 days, 6 (2.02%); 7 days, 7 (1.68%); 8 days, 8 (2.70%); 9 days, 6 (2.02%); 10 days, 6 (2.02%); 11 days, 3 (1.01%); 12 days, 4 (1.35%); 14 days, 1 (0.33%); 15 days, 1 (0.33%); 16 days, 3 (1.01%); 17 days, 2 (0.67%); 19 days, 4 (1.35%); 20 days, 1 (0.33%); 22 days, 3 (1.01%); 24 days, 1 (0.33%); 27 days, 1 (0.33%); 28 days, 2 (0.67%); 30 days, 2 (0.67%); 35 days, 2 (0.67%); 71 days, 1 (0.33%) and 79 days, 1 (0.33%).

It is shown that, due to procedures such as cardiac catheterization and angioplasty, which need constant vigilance for 24 hours, after this period without complications, the patient is released to the ward. Thus, it is justified in this study the prevalence of a day for the time of hospitalization. In a similar study conducted by Melo; Menegueti; Laus (2014) with 479 patients, it was seen that regarding the days of hospitalization in ICU the majority of the patients hospitalized in 2009 remained in the unit for only 24 hours (13.4%), representing a higher percentage of this variable.

Corporating with the study, it was seen that the time of stay at ICU was an average of 8 days, varying between 2 and 52 days. In 51.7% of the admissions, the patients remained for a period of 1 to 5 days. Continuities between 6 and 7, and higher than 10 days were found in, respectively, 15.7% and 32.6% of admissions (DUCCI, et. al., 2004).

Regarding the index of various reasons that lead patients to ICU beds - and some of them having their lives taken – it is important to highlight that the profile of the socioeconomic conditions of these patients are not mentioned during this item. The demographic characteristics related to gender, confirm that nowadays, in the reality of health services in several countries, the number of men admitted in ICUs is higher than women. These evidences are seen in many countries, in which men are more commonly admitted in ICU and show higher possibility of receiving more aggressive support than women (PREITAS, 2010).

Regarding the evolution of ICU hospitalization, two options were taken into account: ICU release and death. During the period of research, the following results were obtained: 263 (88.85%) patients were released from ICU, while 33 (11.14%) patients died.

The deaths remained among men, being 22 deaths, and having as main causes, cardiovascular diseases, with 9 deaths, followed by oncologic; respiratory; sepsis; orthopedic; poly trauma; chronic renal insufficiency; and bariatric. 1. While among women, there were 11 deaths, and the causes were: cardiovascular diseases, respiratory, oncologic; and respiratory; 2.

From the patients who died during the period of the research, 22 individuals were over 60 years old. Thus, we can see cardiovascular diseases as main cause of death, in both, men and women where the research took place. According to a study by França et. al., (2013), with 102 patients, there were 48 deaths. From those, 23 were men and 25 women. It was found no statistic difference in mortality related to gender. There were 48 releases and 6 transfers.

CONCLUSION

Through this short study, it is understood that the aim of this research was reached, once pertinent data was searched and studied, as well as the profile of the patients hospitalized in the adult Intensive Care Unit of a hospital in Cascavel-PR.

Regarding the index of various reasons that lead patients to ICU beds - and some of them having their lives taken – it was possible to see that the same results match with the statistics of the World Health Organization, in which cardiovascular diseases are in the ranking of mortality rate. It was observed that concerning the evolution of these individuals, there was a great rate of releases; on the other hand, an expressive number of deaths, which prevalence was males and people with more than 60 years old.

Another interesting topic is that although the hospital characterize the ICU as an adult one, there were underage patients.

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La prévalence des hommes, tant quand il s'agit du nombre d'admissions à l'Unité de Soins Intensifs, comme du nombre de décès. Les principales causes d'hospitalisation; libération/décès. Parmi les principales conclusions, nous avons la spécialisation de services et les capacités de simulation.

La durée du séjour; les principales causes d'hospitalisation; libération/décès. Parmi les principales conclusions, nous avons la spécialisation de services et les capacités de simulation.

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La principal cause de décès dans les deux sexes (masculins et féminin) a été les maladies cardiovasculaires et avec une significative prévalence des personnes âgées, représentant 66,55% du total des entrées. La caractérisation des patients en Soins Intensifs peut aider dans les directives des admissions et libérations de cette Unité de Santé, car la connaissance du profil des patients critiques favorise la mise en place de critères objectifs à cet effet, contribuant ainsi à toute l'équipe multidisciplinaire.

Mots-clés: Unités de Soins Intensifs; Assistance; Soins Intensifs.

RESUMEN: La Unidad de Terapia Intensiva (UTI) surgió en el siglo XX, frente a necesidad de recuperación de los pacientes gravemente heridos. Con la expectativa de vida cada vez mayor, el aumento de enfermedades crónicas y los tratamientos de alta complejidad y los procedimientos invasivos, para lo tanto surge la UTI como soporte de vida cada vez más cualificado. Siendo la UTI el lugar apropiado para los pacientes graves que pueden recuperarse, estos necesitan de asistencia y monitorio 24 horas. Estos estudios tienen como objetivo caracterizar el perfil de los pacientes internados en la Unidad de Terapia Intensiva Adulta de un hospital de la ciudad de Cascavel/PR. Fue un estudio de carácter cuantitativo, documental y descriptivo retrospectivo. Fueron estudiados 296 prontuarios en el periodo de enero a abril de 2015. Las variables observadas en este estudio fueron: edad; ayuntamiento de procedencia; tiempo de internación; principales causas de internación; alta/defunción. Entre los principales hallazgos tenemos la prevalencia del sexo masculino, tanto no que refiriese al número de admisiones en la UTI, cuanto al número de defunciones; la principal causa de muerte tanto en el sexo femenino cuanto en el masculino fueron las enfermedades cardiovasculares, prevalentes en los ancianos, representando 66,55% de la totalidad de dimensión. La caracterización de pacientes de la UTI puede auxiliar en las directrices de admisiones en alta de esas unidades, pues, el conocimiento del perfil de los enfermos críticos favorece en los establecimientos de criterios objetivos para esa finalidad, auxiliando asi todo el equipo multidisciplinar.

Palabras Claves: Unidades de Terapia Intensiva; Asistencia, cuidados críticos.