

Research in nursing and new pathways based on SENPE

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Almost half a century after the beginning of nursing research in Brazil, there is still a need for investment before it can be considered consolidated. The truth of this statement can be seen in the national seminars that discuss research in the field through 17 events that present results and participation of nursing researchers and service providers.

The 18th edition of the proceedings of National Nursing Research Seminar (SENPE), conducted in the city of Fortaleza, Brazil, in 2015, adopted the following theme: *Research in Nursing: Applicability, Implications and Visibility*. This theme was based on the understanding that the production of knowledge has been legitimized in this field. Thus, these three aspects of research in nursing must be discussed in order to transcend barriers and establish nursing itself socially as a solid and necessary field of knowledge. The seminar proposed to reflect on nursing research in terms of its application, promotion of change in professional training and work contexts, social visibility, and the consumption of its products in the professional ambit and among other health professionals.

The central theme unfolded along three thematic axes: 1) What to research and why: knowledge and the consumption of scientific production in nursing; 2) Challenges in producing knowledge in nursing as a factor of changes; and 3) Social contributions of research in nursing: How the production of knowledge reaches the public and health professionals. The seminar was preceded by the Brazilian Forum for Researchers and Coordinators of Nursing Graduate Programs, organized with the intent of defining research priorities.

The 18th SENPE adopted a more participative methodology, as its theme required greater similarity with the quadrilateral problem-research-action-transformation of practice. Thus, discussions on the topic were brought forth, starting with the work of researchers who, until that time, had been isolated in their own working spaces but had relevant proposals for the advancement of knowledge. Throughout the three days of the event, a great number of seminar participants took part in the product workshop discussions, sharing their experiences, difficulties, and proposals for change in order to bring about applicability, potential for change and legitimization of knowledge via social visibility of the production of knowledge. Prior to the workshops, meetings were conducted by international nursing experts, and a round table was conducted with participating researchers. The debates concerned quantitative and qualitative advancements in national research in nursing, promoted primarily within the scope of nursing graduate programs. However, these programs still need to receive social, political, cultural, technical and theoretical investments so that production of knowledge in this field can be consolidated.

At the end of the third day, a plenary session was conducted with the recommendations set forth in the Fortaleza Charter (*Carta de Fortaleza*), which includes aspects of applicability of research in the field, implications for improving the quality of assistance and strategies for increasing the social visibility of the products of nursing knowledge.

Among the recommendations expressed via the three axes, there is special emphasis on: 1) developing research that is more closely related to the social determinants of the health-illness process, the epidemiological profile of the population and the need for health, in addition to emerging themes such as violence, diversity, vulnerability and social risks; such research would contribute effectively to improving people's quality of life and health; 2) collective voting on themes, through groups or graduate programs, including researchers from

teaching institutions, nurses, health unit managers and representatives of society, in order move research closer to the need for knowledge production related to problem solving; 3) stimulating multidisciplinary in research, showing the participation of nursing in teaching, research and extension; 4) nursing scientific journals should create lines of publications on successful experiences with innovative methodologies and research-intervention, in addition to ensuring space at nursing events for socializing such experiences; 5) making research results accessible to the general public, who are unfamiliar with scientific language, so that they can become consumers of such knowledge.

It would not be an overstatement to declare that the 18th SENPE was a milestone for nursing, considering its positive repercussions among participants and repeated affirmations that its delivery exceeded expectations in terms of advancing discussions about research, production of knowledge and possibilities for breaking barriers within the profession regarding its legitimization, consumption, and contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the field of health.

The 1,759 high-quality studies presented in the seminar in the form of electronic posters and coordinated communication, the experiences shared and e-mails exchanged between researchers with common intellectual interests, and the experience of researchers from other countries who brought to the event the certainty that we are on our way to excellence in our profession - all these factors provided us with the feeling of a mission accomplished. Is there still much to do? Certainly. Not only researchers must be stimulated, but also consumers and disseminators of knowledge in nursing for the new generation of nurses and nursing teams. Furthermore, we must show society and other health professionals that, through knowledge, we can also contribute to producing health in a country in which innovation and strategies to overcome barriers and reach objectives are still so scarce. In the 18th edition of the proceedings of SENPE, nursing is clearly and convincingly shown to be on the right path!