

Virtual Library in Health - Nursing: a challenge to be won

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Virtual access to information is a current and noticed need for nursing area, both to the education of new professionals and to permanent education as well as to the consolidation of this knowledge area. The creation of virtual libraries in health area seems to be the path to face this challenge.

The Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem – ABEn (Brazilian Nursing Society), through the Nursing Research and Studies Center, has started political efforts yet in the last decade to organize with established partnership, a database that supports information needs of the Brazilian nursing community. By the same time J. Baeta Vianna Library, from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) in partnership with the Biblioteca Regional de Medicina - BIREME (Regional Library of Medicine) organized in 1988 the Base de Dados em Enfermagem - BDEnF (Nursing Database). Lately created the Sub-Rede Brasileira de Informação em Enfermagem – SuREnF (Brazilian Sub-Network of Nursing Information), part of the BIREME/OPAS Brazilian Information Network in Health Sciences, promoting a quality in storage and retrieval of publishing material of this area.

In continuity to these initiatives and aiming a very long jump in quality in information availability for the area, the development of the Virtual Library of Health - Nursing (BVS-Enfermagem) was started. Since 2003, professionals from several institutions under the coordination of Professor Francisco Lana from Nursing School of Federal University of Minas Gerais, have been congregating to consolidate this project, putting available a preliminar version of Brazilian Initiatives in Development in a section of BIREME website. The final project will be officially delivered to the BIREME head during the 57th Brazilian Nursing Congress, in Goiânia, in next November, as a realization of a hard work process.

The BVS-Enfermagem is composed by 13 linked sub-projects and coordinated by different Brazilian institutions named as follows:

COORDINATION	SUPPORT/PARTICIPATION	
Operational development of BVS-Enfermagem portal	UFMG/DTI	BIREME
Bibliographic control of national nursing literature – BDEFN	UFMG/EE	BVS Enfermagem
Cathalog of Nursing websites (LIS)	UNIFESP/DE	BIREME, UFMG, BVS Enfermagem
Nursing Terminology (Expansion of DeCS in nursing area)	UFSC/DE	UFJF, USP/EE, BVS Enfermagem
Tematical structure of nursing	USP/EE	BIREME, UFSC
Portal of Electronic nursing journals (12) – full-text	EERP/EE	Journal editors from the area
Portal of nursing thesis	ABEn/CEPEn	UFJF
Directory of events (congresses, courses, etc)	ABEn/CEPEn	BVS Enfermagem
Virtual Community of Nursing	UFJF/FE	Net and its users
Capacitation	BIREME	BVS Enfermagem
Marketing	BIREME	BVS network
Bibliometry	UFRJ/EAN	BIREME
Evidence-based nursing	UFF	UNIFESP/DE, UEM

The involved institutions have started the development of sub-projects, making them financially viable and looking for resources with partnerships and funding organizations, so preliminary results can be seen in 2006.

The availability of agile and safe information for Nursing area constitutes an important benefit that will promote a new looking to the production of these knowledge.

Congratulations to all the Work Group and the involved partner institutions in believing in this dream!