

Scientific production of the Revista Gaúcha de Enfermagem and research priorities in nursing

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Nursing is a social and humanistic discipline, where the development of care technologies focuses on changes in society resulting social, political, economic and historic determinants. These conditions define priorities and establish guidelines for the production of knowledge aimed at the health needs of different population groups and specific contexts.

This editorial aims to analyze the alignment of scientific production published in the Revista Gaúcha de Enfermagem (RGE), volume 35, numbers 1, 2 and 3 of 2014, with research priorities in nursing discussed and proposed in the National Nursing Research Seminar held in 2013⁽¹⁾.

The goal of this brief analysis is to illicit reflection on the trends and gaps in the production of nursing knowledge, considering the National Agenda of Priorities in Health Research (ANPPS) defined as a Ministry of Health management instrument⁽²⁾.

The objectives of the ANPPS⁽²⁾ include: identifying the primary national and regional health research needs with a view to formulating social policies; guiding promotional initiatives through the population's health needs; guiding researchers and funders to produce studies related to national requirements and measure the impact of national research on health.

The ANPPS defined 24 sub-agendas that address priority research topics in different disciplines of knowledge⁽²⁻³⁾. Based on these sub-agendas, and considering state of the art nursing research, Oliveira⁽⁴⁾ proposes guiding themes to define research priorities in nursing, as follows: nursing care and its subjects; cross-cutting national problems; professional skills; and research objects strengthened by induction to establish nursing research priorities. These guiding themes go beyond morbid processes and clinical problems, since they focus on the health-disease process as a whole. Of these, eleven topics have characterized the development of research in the area⁽⁴⁾.

The present study considered 54 original articles in the RGE that were classified according to these topics.

Analysis of the articles identified alignment with the following topics: 4 (7.41%) with Topic 1 Health, the Environment, Work and Biosecurity in Nursing; 8 (14.81%) with Topic 2 Evaluation of Nursing Technology and Health Economy; 2 (3.70%) with Topic 3 Clinical Investigation in Nursing; 5 (9.26%) with Topic 4 Health Education and Work Management; 3 (5.55%) with Topic 5 Health Policies and Systems; 2 (3.70%) with Topic 6 Nursing Care in Elderly Health; 5 (9.26%) with Topic 7 Nursing Care in Women's Health; 7 (12.96%) with Topic 8 Nursing Care in Child and Adolescent Health; 4 (7.41%) with Topic 9 Nursing Care in Mental Health; 2 (3.70%) with Topic 10 Nursing Care in Communicable Diseases and 7 (12.96%) with Topic 11 Nursing Care in Non-Communicable Diseases. Among the articles analyzed, 5 (9.26%) were related to professional training and therefore did not fall under any topic.

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This assessment of production published in the RGE shows that the direction of nursing research is in line ANPPS premises and the guiding themes for nursing research priorities proposed by Oliveira⁽⁴⁾. However, it also pinpoints the need to consider the issue of professional training as a guiding theme in research priorities.

This scenario confirms the fulfillment of the RGE's mission to contribute to disseminating knowledge in the field of health by publishing scientific production pertinent to Nursing and attests to its commitment to developing science and technology in caring for people.

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