Scientific production of nursing

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Along with the science and technology progress, every time more researchers have assumed the commitment in publishing their research results, which represents the essence in scientific research. The advancements of researchers’ produced knowledge has transformed this knowledge into accessible information for the scientific community.

Since the appearance of first nursing journals, the number of publications has considerably grown and represents an import tool for scientific research communication and professional advancement.

In health area and, specifically for nursing, a push in the number of publications of the area is identified, that might indicate the advancement and consolidation of nursing as a discipline. The increase in the production of scientific articles also can represent the extent in the number of researchers, as well the government incentives in politics that support scientific and technology research and the preparation of human resources in research in the country.

In the production of science and technology, the National Center of Research (CNPq), in the platform Lattes, 104,669 curricula of doctors are indexed. From the total, 1,943 are of nursing doctors, among them 52 researchers, nurses and productivity grants CNPq 1A, 1B, 1C, and 1D. Accordingly to a current categorization 10 researchers are categorized as 1A (19,2%); 14 researchers as 1B (26,9%); 20 researchers as 1C (39,0%) and eight researchers as 1D (15,0%).

To know those researchers who are at the top of science and technology production chain as well as their production, allows meeting growth and development indicators of Brazilian nursing as a science and technology, assessing the impact of this production in professional practice. By assessing the researcher’s production and their research groups in nursing area as published in 2008, it is perceived that 75% of them are from public institutions, most from São Paulo State, with 34 researchers from São Paulo University and Federal University of São Paulo; five from Rio de Janeiro State; three from Santa Catarina State, and three from Rio Grande do Sul State.

This picture evidences the concentration of researchers and points the need for inclusion strategies and encouragement for research financing in other regions/areas not developed yet.

The analysis of scientific production of nursing researchers allows affirming that while nursing represents the greatest number of human resources in Brazilian health area, its scientific production does not correspond to its magnitude, and it is necessary to increase its visibility, scientific communication and expression in national and international scope.

In this perspective, the Revista Brasileira de Enfermagem has developed efforts aiming to contribute in the nursing scientific production dissemination. In 2009, the number of articles published by each issue was increased, and the submission process is occurring online. This new submission and analytical method registered 591 articles received in the last year. Currently we have 353 articles under analysis. This quantitative let us very pleased, but also concerned facing the need to attend the demand in appropriated schedule and authors’ expectation.

When the year is finishing, we thank the authors and evaluators of Revista Brasileira de Enfermagem for their contribution in offering Brazilian nursing a journal every time more qualified. We also reaffirm our commitment in the seek for innovation in order to correspond the confidence authors give to our journal.