

EDITORIAL

Publishing a scientific periodical requires the fulfillment of various indispensable criteria in order to maintain the quality established and expected from its editors, authors, consuming community, and national and international databases. Attending such basic requirements – among which are: satisfying the deadlines for publication and distribution, according to the previewed periodicity; maintaining the graphic quality; organizing an agile and quality peer-evaluation process; maintaining adequate communication with the authors involved; assuring quality of content, norms, scientific relevance and timeliness; scope (regional, national, and international); and innovating vehicle information – represents a challenge that the editorial staff must face with each edition up for publication.

The stages which involve the editorial process, from submission of manuscripts to publishing the last article, require thorough, committed, and miniscule work. The quality of the entire operation, permeated by many “invisible” facets, is evaluated indirectly by the consumers of knowledge it releases and by the experts who compose the selection/evaluation committees of database periodicals, whose real object of evaluation is “the product”, or the articles published. Indexing in databases with national and international levels of recognition promotes acceptance within the scientific community. Consequently, the periodical gains visibility, especially when it is associated to an open access policy.

Thus, each scientific periodical fulfills a fundamental role in constructing and disseminating knowledge, considering that “the flow of scientific communication includes formal publication of research results, information recovery, access to published literature, and informal communication and exchange among researchers. It is a continuous flow, for knowledge published and assimilated give way to new knowledge, research, and publications, governed by a specific dynamic, influenced by relationships with society.”^{1:58}

Text & Context Nursing Journal, in print since 1992, has had a great qualitative differential in being a thematic publication, taking on important questions for Brazilian Nursing in each edition, consistently seeking varied perspectives and different angles.²

Since its inception it has gone through (and will continue to go through) transformations during its existence, seeking to accompany the growing evolution of production and flow of reporting scientific communication. The trajectory of this periodical has been punctuated by the continued efficiency of its editorial and administrative processes, which culminated in a quarterly publication as of 2003 in order to attend to the increasing offer of articles submitted for publication and consequent need for increasing the opportunity for knowledge dissemination. In 2006, Text & Context Nursing Journal was accepted into *Scientific Electronic Library Online* (SciELO), with open access to our entire collection since 2007.² Our most recent achievement of note was inclusion in the ISI index - Web of Science®.³

Every effort has been undertaken so that Text & Context Nursing Journal is able to contribute more and more towards advancing scientific knowledge in the area of health care and especially nursing, seeking to improve its access to the scientific community. Thus, after 18 years (1992-2009), focusing upon a specific theme for each edition,⁴ we extend away from this characteristic as of Volume 19 in 2010. This change hopes to accompany the vertiginous growth in solicitations for publication in recent years and expands the possibilities for socialization of scientific information originating from the diverse areas of health care and nursing. There will no longer be a thematic restriction so that knowledge produced in a determined area or specialty may be submitted for publication, once approved for publication, upon concluding all the stages therein, from peer evaluation to final revision of the manuscript.

The edition in your hands innagurates this new phase of Texto & Contexto Nursing as a multi-thematic journal, contemplating its readers with 20 articles (16 original research articles and

4 theoretical reflections) which deal with themes such as: women's health, mental health, elderly health, pre-hospital care, primary health care, health care services administration, care technology, nursing education, and philosophy.

We understand this to be yet another step in the continuing evolution of a scientific periodical aware of the needs of its field of knowledge and its actors. We hope, as such, to continue to contribute to strengthening Brazilian Nursing.

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