

SRICTO SENSU GRADUATION IN NURSING AND THE FORMATION OF RESEARCHER NURSES

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Nursing is historically recognized as a social practice related to the care services that encompass the different dimensions of the human being, both individually and collectively, including the commitment to its integrality in its different complexities⁽¹⁾.

In recent decades, this approach has expanded by incorporating more complex and holistic concepts. Nursing must establish innovative strategies for the changes promoted in its practice is consistent with the new realities of thought, technologies, and social transformations⁽²⁾.

This process engenders the search for more effective and concrete practices of knowledge production and dissemination, above all, capable of articulating the potentialities of confronting the diversity that surrounds the knowledge of this profession. It is also essential to establish causal relationships based on scientific knowledge and anchored in constructivist perspectives and interdisciplinary nature⁽³⁾.

Given the characteristics of the field of knowledge in Nursing, Graduate Studies in Nursing in Brazil are largely expanding given the increase in the number of courses and programs, students, and scientific productivity with the publication of articles in impact journals in the area.

Despite the advances, such an expansion has not been reaching the entire country homogeneously since, beyond the Southeast region, there are places devoid of incentive programs and lacking in doctors in nursing. From 2014 to 2016, for example, there was a decrease in the proportion of programs, especially in the Southeast region.

The country currently offers 75 *Stricto Sensu* Graduate Programs in Nursing, accredited by CAPES, of which 42 are Academic Masters Programs, 24 Doctoral Programs, and nine Professional Masters Programs. In the state of Minas Gerais, there are only five Academic Masters Programs in Nursing (UFMG, UFTM,

UFJF, UFSJ, and UNIFAL) and three Doctorate (UFMG, UFTM, UNIFAL), which is insufficient for training research nurses in the state.

Among the difficulties and concerns within the area, the sustainability of these programs is prominent, mainly due to the lack of regular funding. Equally equivalent to the need for establishing a budget conducive to the promotion of research in an expansive and equitable manner is the importance of encouraging the reflection of values added to the authority of investigative practice and scientific knowledge in the transformation of social practice. The sustainable development of Graduate Programs in Nursing is essential for training research nurses capable of producing and disseminating knowledge regarding diversity, the free debate of ideas, the elevation of quality of life and health, and the effective exercise of citizenship.

Nursing has improved and has been self-sustaining as a profession based on science, through the search for technological innovations in health care, and social growth. Its visibility and international insertion have gradually occupied spaces for collaborative experiences and projects of the highest relevance given its qualifications, at an advanced level, to raise the quality of life and health of the population and the scientific prominence of the country.

Based on the advances and challenges of the Nursing Graduate Program, its qualitative expansion is envisaged with a reduction in regional asymmetries, a greater regional and national visibility of the profession as a producer of knowledge, to consequently obtain a greater qualification of the professionals inserted in the labor market, with technology development and innovation, as well as the consolidation of the basic premises of the Unified Health System (SUS), thus contributing to the training of human resources, multi and interdisciplinary innovation and practices for the individual and collective care and health service management.

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Como citar este artigo:

Guimarães EAA, Gontijo TL, Rodrigues SB. Stricto sensu graduation in nursing and the formation of researcher nurses. Revista de Enfermagem do Centro Oeste Mineiro. 2019;9:eEditorial. [Access_____]; Available in:_____. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.19175/recom.v9i0.3602>