

International conference on nursing scientific communication

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A new working plan was presented at the BIREME to strengthen the Nursing Health Virtual Library (BVS Enfermagem). Its international scope is in line with the network of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Latin America and the Caribbean. This project was a partnership between the School of Nursing of the Federal University of Minas Gerais (EE/UFGM) and PAHO.

The International Conference on Nursing Scientific Communication aimed at: providing a space for technical and scientific exchange of nursing scientific communication in Latin America, the Caribbean, Portugal and Spain; encouraging exchange between editors of scientific journals and institutions dedicated to the dissemination of nursing knowledge in order to discuss strategies that favour systematization and dissemination of nursing literature; presenting the BVS model of technical cooperation in order to promote the systematization and the dissemination of knowledge in health and nursing; proposing strategies and actions aimed at improving access and visibility of nursing technical and scientific knowledge; establishing principles, policies, priorities, responsibility assignment matrix aligned with sustainability of innovative processes for the development of scientific communication through the BVS Nursing Network; and establishing guidelines and collaborative proposals for the creation of BVS Nursing in the Americas.

The conference was organized by the UFGM School of Nursing in partnership with the PAHO/Washington Human Resources Advisory. It took place between the 10th and 11th of November 2015 with the participation of scientific communication leaders from Brazil and Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico and the United States. Representatives from PAHO/Washington, the Ministry of Health, the Brazilian Nursing Association, ALADEF (Latin American Association of Nursing Schools), editors of Nursing scientific journals, SciELO, BIREME/PAHO/WHO, BVS *Enfermería* coordinators from Uruguay, Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil, in addition to professors from Nursing post-graduate programs and *sensu stricto* graduate students were also present.

The programme comprised round tables, experience panels and thematic discussion groups followed by plenary sessions. The activities focused on the discussion of the BVS model of technical cooperation and on showing the participants the possibility of implementing the initiative in their own country, increasing thus, the access and visibility of nursing technical and scientific knowledge in the Americas.

The round table "Indexing journals in bibliographic databases" was an opportunity to get acquainted with indexing challenges and strategies of national and international publishers for achieving quality and improving the scientific impact of nursing journals. The set-up of a discussion group dedicated to publishers enabled the development of common strategies in an international context.

The panel on scientific communication of experiences from Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Argentina and Cuba aimed at technical and scientific exchange. It enabled the sharing of successful ongoing strategies, such as forums and specific meetings directed to researchers and publishers.

The round table "Scientific Communication Process" brought together experts in the field of knowledge management. The activity highlighted the main sources of information,

as well as nursing communication strategies and the thorough analysis of the impact of scientific communication conveyed by magazines in major international databases and the bibliometric indicators of such production.

The last plenary session brought together proposals on strategies, policies and actions to systematize acquired knowledge and increase its visibility and availability. The BVS Nursing is the platform to preserve and disseminate nursing information assets. The session's main results were:

- support to the development of a network of international institutions collaborating with nursing scientific communication. The conference engineered strategies aimed at the development of national BVS Nursing networks, including graduate programs, publishers, associations, government agencies, PAHO and the Ministry of Health. The guideline converges to a model grounded in technology proposed by BIREME. In addition, it is worth emphasizing the need for coordination with international nursing networks under PAHO/Advisory Human Resources for Health;
- dissemination of innovative experiences in research and processes of scientific communication in health and nursing. Virtual meetings to be held throughout the year and an annual presential meeting were proposed in order to assess present-day strategies and, in particular, to organize dissemination and training plans directed to developing countries;
- definition of sources and flows of nursing scientific data from technical literature in Latin American, the Caribbean, Spain, Portugal, and other Portuguese speaking countries; construction of the BVS International Nursing matrix of responsibilities: Nursing Database (BDENF) and LILACS are the convergent platforms of major sources of information (indexing of journals, theses and dissertations, manuals and clinical protocols, international scientific conference proceedings and reports and official documents);
- increase in the number of American countries participating in the BVS *Enfermería Internacional*: the attendance of national coordinators of BVSs already in operation was very important to boost a major international articulation, the flagship of the conference; representatives from Cuba and Colombia, for instance, were interested in the creation of a BVS.

Considering the participants' involvement and enthusiasm, the project will have a considerable impact on the nursing community. In addition, it generated the following proposals:

- acknowledge the contributions of the Federal University of Minas Gerais to the construction of the BVS Nursing and its management of scientific communication in an international context in partnership with BIREME;
- establish the BVS *Enfermería Internacional* as a platform for the unification and preservation of nursing knowledge;
- maintain current national networks and create new ones, expanding internationally and integrating new institutions to feed and disseminate information, increasing, consequently, their visibility. BIREME and UFMG will support such initiatives and generate technical reports to assess the process;
- establish a working group dedicated to the construction of a nursing glossary and expansion of Health Science Descriptors (DeCS) using nursing terminology;
- approve the recommendation that each country should make a diagnosis on communication processes being developed; map data sources; and define content approval criteria in order to integrate information sources;
- recognise national autonomy as an important guideline for the development of national networks in the region;
- recognise BDENF and LILACS as preferred nursing databases, using national and international criteria;

- carry out specific projects to evaluate journals, accelerate indexing, assess the quality, and recommend improvements in order to achieve more influential reference bases.

The proof of the conference's impact resides in the decision to expand regional meetings using distance tools; strengthening the yearly international meetings of BVS *Enfermería* as part of Enfermería PAHO networks; and organization of new biannual editions of the International Conference on Nursing Scientific Communication, enlarging its scope in order to include new players – teachers, researchers, graduate students and nursing professionals..

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