

EDITORIAL

THE CONTRIBUTION OF SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PHYSIOTHERAPY

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Physiotherapy in Brazil is a young profession, with only 45 years of existence and its place in the scientific world is still young, only 18 years.⁽¹⁾ The first master's degree in physiotherapy was authorized in 1996 by CAPES, beginning the first class in 1997 in the Federal University of São Carlos (UFSCAR). Today there are 12 programs in rehabilitation and physiotherapy in the country, which are in the health knowledge area and of physical education sub-area. These programs educate masters and doctors and, consequently, physiotherapy researchers, generating knowledge in physiotherapy, scientific production and insertion of physiotherapists as professors in disciplinary, interdisciplinary and related areas in Brazilian post-graduate programs. Then came the need to create journals for the dissemination of this knowledge, which now drive the development of science in physiotherapy, also stimulating the development of clinical practice based on best evidence.^(2,3)

The Brazilian physiotherapy researcher has high research productivity, with 2.78 articles published per year by physiotherapists doctors compared with other areas such as medicine, which has index of 1.28. This ratio is especially high when this indicator correlates with the numbers of mentees and investment values received for the development of projects by funding agencies.⁽⁴⁾ This scenario points to the need for recognition of the high potential contribution of physiotherapy to human health. Also points to the need for support from institutions, teachers physiotherapy, regulatory bodies, funders, managers and peers. It is essential to recognize the effort that has been made by the physiotherapists Brazilian doctors supporting the development of science in the area of human health in our country. Will this development that will open doors for the market of physiotherapy from a technical, scientific perspective and innovation.

Brazil has 0.92 researcher for every thousand workers - well below average 6-8 researchers per thousand workers of the G7 countries, the group of the most industrialized nations of the planet. We know that the development of a profession depends on qualified scientific production that can demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of the diagnosis, prognosis, adopted the behaviors and outcomes of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation protocols.⁽⁵⁾ For this, we have to stimulate the formation of researchers in the field, which occurs within the post-graduate studies programs. Programs, in turn, are evaluated by a complex and multidimensional system of CAPES, and scientific output indicator with the greatest impact in the notes of these programs. Therefore, publication in journals becomes even more relevant for the sustainability of training courses for therapists and researchers, therefore, for the development of the profession.

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Much research has been carried out by physiotherapists by intrinsic factors of the profession that presents varying physical resources and high development of diagnostics and kinetic-functional treatment in different specialties.⁽⁶⁾ From the bedside, physiotherapists encounter daily observable phenomena that generate honest questions and require methods for solving problems that affect arthrography and osteocinematic movement. And physical therapy researcher is aware of its responsibility in finding solutions to problems relating to the needs of society are related to prevention, health maintenance or rehab.

In this scenario, the research emerges naturally and empirical attempts at scientific or clinical practice in higher education institutions (HEIs) are conducted daily. In these attempts IES generate completion of course work (TCC) at all levels of academia - graduation, specialization, masters and doctoral degrees. Many of these knowledge products generated are of scientific interest and should reach the target audience, however, many therapists do not feel encouraged to take this information to the community for different reasons. One of these reasons is the perfectionism that limits physical therapists in submitting their findings to journals available. But you must understand that editors and reviewers are partners and who has the responsibility of making the evaluation of manuscripts process an opportunity to contribute to the training of physiotherapists. Therefore, the rejection of articles submitted should always be accompanied by comments or indications of how to improve the work that authors can re-submit them later.

We understand that every phenomenon that causes a real question should be investigated and once investigated, should be reported for the development of science occurs. Information is the main driver of science, technology and social development.⁽⁷⁾ More developed countries are producing more knowledge. Therefore, it is necessary that the knowledge gained through intellectual production is disclosed. Investigated reports of problems are usually reported in scientific

publications and events.⁽⁶⁾ The intellectual output in scientific journals is increasingly demanded by civil society and scientific world, especially in healthcare, but the clinical evidence-based practice is a requirement of users, managers, clinicians and especially academia and regulatory bodies.⁽⁸⁾

Scientific journals have been identified as the main vehicle of communication of intellectual production.⁽⁸⁾ However, the growing volume of reports to be communicated is causing problems of delays in the review of articles in scientific journals, which motivated the development of systems that could support the reviewers and editors of this evaluation and publishing⁽¹⁾ process. Technology has come to meet the scientific communication and computers and internet started to carry the process of traditional publishing to electronic media, with the possibility of managing the entire process as well as the magazine itself.⁽⁷⁾ The electronic periodical appeared most likely to respond with precision and speed demands of different segments of society through reports, statistics, transparency and quantitative and qualitative data from surveys conducted.

Journals exist in Pubmed Database 102 indexed journals in the field of physiotherapy. In Brazil found 13 journals in the field and 12 courses stricto sensu graduate programs.⁽⁸⁾ The scientific production in the area is increasing,⁽⁹⁾ being required increasingly more professional clinical work based on the best scientific evidence⁽³⁾ and a proactive stance by Brazilian teachers in the development of research in the area.⁽⁴⁾

The RPF was born in 2011 with a mission to contribute to the development of science and dissemination of scientific knowledge of physiotherapy and related fields. The policy of RPF involves open access to unpublished manuscripts, blind assessment by peers, speed and transparency in all processes. Therefore, the recommended performance has increased by CNPq (IBICT) and CAPES (Stratum B4 in the interdisciplinary area in WebQualis 2013) indicators. These indicators demonstrate the systematic effort to advance the professionalization, internationalization and seeks

to meet the criteria for indexing the RPF in the current data bases. It is a virtual publication that prioritizes scientific content with the potential to receive quotes and expands the possibilities for dissemination of scientific knowledge in the knowledge (www.bahiana.edu.br/revistas/fisioterapia) sub-area.

The RPF was born in the physiotherapy course of Bahia School of Medicine and Public Health (EBMSP) by means of a long investment in research of this traditional institution, with 62 years of existence. Titration of its faculty, the creation of research groups and the inclusion of these teachers in multidisciplinary programs of post-graduate studies helped in the development of research in the area. Doctors teachers will guide undergraduates in scientific research projects and TCCs, guiding masters and doctoral students with enhanced quality, leading international publications with high impact and forming physiotherapists with expertise in research which are currently absorbed by international centers such as UFRJ, USP, Harvard University and University of Madrid. (4) The involvement of some teachers in advisory committees, in reviewing manuscripts for national and international journals, in evaluating projects for funding agencies, coordinating programs, the pro-rector of graduate studies and research in disciplines and methodological development of research groups involving undergraduates, masters and doctoral degrees; began to generate awareness of the need for progress in the production and responsibility for dissemination of knowledge in the area, making the RPF a key for this element. Part of a group of editors responsible and value recognized in the national and international levels, the RPF seeks to contribute to the development of physiotherapy.

We know that the road is long to meet all international standards and achieve indexing in PubMed, however, is the daily work based on ethical criteria, with responsibility, focus on results, strategic planning, international cooperation and interdisciplinary expected progress toward achieving one day this great vision.

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