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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

DYNAMICS, POTENTIALS AND CHALLENGES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF FAMILY HEALTH UNITS

DINÂMICA, POTENCIALIDADES E DESAFIOS NA GERÊNCIA DE UNIDADES DE SAÚDE DA FAMÍLIA

DINÁMICA, POTENCIALIDADES Y DESAFÍOS EN LA GERENCIA DE UNIDADES DE SALUD DE LA FAMILIA

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ABSTRACT

Objective: to analyze the process of management in Family Health Units. **Method:** descriptive study of qualitative approach, carried out in a municipality in the State of Bahia in which health professionals alternated in the assumption of managerial functions. Approved by the Ethics Committee in Research of UFRB upon CAAE nº 05314112.3.0000.0056. Nine interviews were made with semi-structured script interviews and used in the process of data content analysis technique. **Results:** it was possible to identify two categories of analysis: Dynamics of management; Difficulties, potential and challenges for managing. **Conclusion:** the results showed that the process of reorganization of the Basic Care in health care with an emphasis on the Family Health Strategy have required from managers and professionals efforts and commitment to the development of managerial actions focusing on fully functioning health actions and services. **Descriptors:** Health Services Administration; The family Health Program; Primary Health Care.

RESUMO

Objetivo: analisar o processo de gerenciamento em Unidades de Saúde da Família. **Método:** estudo descritivo, de abordagem qualitativa, realizado em um município do interior do estado da Bahia em que os profissionais de saúde alternavam na assunção das funções gerenciais. Aprovado pelo Comitê de Ética em Pesquisa da UFRB, mediante CAEE nº 05314112.3.0000.0056. Foram realizadas nove entrevistas com roteiro semiestruturado e foi utilizada no processo de análise dos dados a técnica de análise de conteúdo. **Resultados:** foram identificadas duas categorias de análise: Dinâmicas de gerência; Dificuldades, potencialidades e desafios para o gerenciamento. **Conclusão:** os resultados apontaram que o processo de reorganização da Atenção Básica e da atenção à saúde com ênfase na Estratégia Saúde da Família tem exigido dos gestores e profissionais esforços e empenho para o desenvolvimento de ações gerenciais com foco no pleno funcionamento dos serviços e ações de saúde. **Descritores:** Administração de Serviços de Saúde; Programa Saúde da Família; Atenção Primária à Saúde.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: analizar el proceso de gerenciamiento en Unidades de Salud de la Familia. **Método:** estudio descriptivo, de enfoque cualitativo, realizado en un municipio del interior del estado de Bahia en que los profesionales de salud alternaban en la asunción de las funciones gerenciales. Aprobado por el Comité de Ética en Investigación de la UFRB, mediante CAAE nº 05314112.3.0000.0056. Fueron hechas nueve entrevistas con guía semi-estructurada y utilizada en el proceso de análisis de los datos la técnica de análisis de contenido. **Resultados:** fue posible identificar dos categorías de análisis: Dinámicas de gerencia; Dificultades, potencialidades y desafíos para el gerenciamiento. **Conclusión:** los resultados muestran que el proceso de reorganización de la Atención Básica y de la atención a la salud con énfasis en la Estrategia Salud de la Familia han exigido de los gestores y profesionales esfuerzos y empeño para el desarrollo de acciones gerenciales con foco en el pleno funcionamiento de los servicios y acciones de salud. **Descriptor:** Administración de Servicios de Salud; Programa Salud de la Familia; Atención Primaria a la Salud.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the data analysis two categories were established: ♦ Difficulties, potential and challenges for managing at FHU and ♦ Management dynamics in Family Health Units, discussed below:

♦ Management dynamics in Family Health Units

Regarding the way in which management may be developed in the context of Family Health Units, it was identified that the process of managing in these area is determined by different dynamics. In this sense, the management was recognized by the interviewees as a continuous and permanent process, which could be implemented through shared practice or in the form of rotation among professionals with higher education, in this case, by the professional with a background in Nursing or with training in Odontology.

Management as a continuous and ongoing process might be perceived in the following cuts:

So if management is daily (N6); [...] we manage all the time, all the time there is a problem we should be linking sectors, seeking to know the superiors, to resolve. (N5)

In these cuts, it was observed that the management was experienced as something intrinsic, i.e. as an essential activity and inserted in the work process necessarily in FHU since in these work spaces with a population that presents characteristics, demands and peculiar problems, and also complex, pointing to the need for intersectional work together.

In addition, this way of understanding the management as a continuous and ongoing process led to the interpretation of management process as a way of learning. Therefore, as in the permanent education and continuous learning obtained with management held “every day” and “all the time”, it is configured as a dynamic, continuous process of knowledge construction, through the development of free thought and critical-reflexive consciousness, and that leads to create personal and professional commitment, empowering and often contributing to the transformation of reality.⁸⁻⁹

Management while continuous and permanent process was still related to the use of the steps in the administrative process, bearing in mind that it is cyclical, dynamic

and interactive.¹⁰ In this way, in the steps of - planning, organizing, directing and controlling - planning was the highlighted instrument:

[...] we manage according to the most urgent demands, [...] what's more urgent to solve is resolved, which can be solved in the long term we will be leaving a little more forward [...].(N9)

On this aspect, “the viability [...] depends on the ability to adapt, change and respond to the needs and demands of the environment”^{10:478}, contemplating the implementation of interventions depending on the use of an operational planning (short-term), a tactical planning (medium term) or a strategic planning (long-term). Therefore, the management dynamics while intrinsic process revealed that it is an essential action for the organization and functioning of a Family Health Unit and requires an association with the administrative function - planning - to work in the process of elaborating a new model of health care, which has focused on the development of dynamic surveillance practices and flexible enough to adapt to the complexity of the territories, as happens in the areas covered by the FHU.¹¹⁻²

The way and dynamics of the management process in the health units of the municipality studied were represented by two ways: shared and/or together management and rotation between high level professionals:

[...] I share management with the odontologist from the Unit (N3); [...] first is made an agreement with the Board of Health, the management can be done every three months or by the nurse or surgeon dentist [...] so when it detects that two people can have a good relationship management, it can be done in together [...]. (N4)

The terms “I share management”, “management can be done every three months”, “management can be done together”, referred to the use of aspects related to the management and the management of health care services. Thus, it is necessary to emphasize that this process of organization of the instances that compose the Unified Health System (SUS) is configured as actions that point to a reordering of the model of health care.

In this logic, the management process is linked to the implementation of the model of health care, once the design expanded, systemic about care model, including three dimensions: managerial dimension concerning mechanisms for conducting the process of reorganization of actions and services; organizational dimension that relates to the establishment of relations between service

account the real needs of services and consequently the population, affecting the operationalization of integrality.

CONCLUSION

This study showed that the consequent health assistance through the Family Health Strategy, has required efforts and commitment of managers and professionals to the development of organizational actions focusing on the full operation of health services and programs.

With the importance of the management process for the organization and functioning of services of BC, we point out that this study has allowed the knowledge of a municipal reality not different from others, in Brazil. Thus, it becomes relevant working on knowledge gaps about the management process and contributing to think in a professional performance on the process of managerial work in the Family Health Strategy from the needs of the population served.

This study does not terminates the need for further investigations into other realities, about new forms and dynamics of this process and about the new challenges and the various difficulties and facilities present in the daily lives of professionals who assume managerial activities and consequently of the health system.

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