

J Nurs UFPE on line. 2021;15:e244374 DOI: 10.5205/1981-8963.2021.244374 https://periodicos.ufpe.br/ revistas/revistaenfermagem

ENFERMAGEM ONCOLÓGICA: INTEGRAÇÃO UNIVERSIDADE-COMUNIDADE NO PROCESSO DE ENSINO-APRENDIZAGEM

ONCOLOGY NURSING: UNIVERSITY-COMMUNITY INTEGRATION IN THE TEACHING-LEARNING PROCESS

ENFERMERÍA ONCOLÓGICA: INTEGRACIÓN UNIVERSIDAD-COMUNIDAD EN EL PROCESO DE ENSEÑANZA-APRENDIZAJE

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RESUMO

Objetivo: descrever os aspectos operacionais e as vivências de discentes do curso de Enfermagem em um projeto de extensão universitária em Enfermagem Oncológica. *Método*: trata-se de um estudo descritivo, tipo relato de experiência relacionado a um projeto de extensão em Enfermagem. *Resultados*: dividiu-se o projeto em três etapas, incluindo a oferta de curso livre na área de oncologia, atividades extensionistas na comunidade e pesquisa em oncologia. Compôs-se a equipe por oito discentes, cinco docentes e quatro enfermeiras. Revela-se que, nas atividades de ensino e extensão, participaram 103 estudantes e 120 pessoas da comunidade, entre profissionais de saúde e outros residentes do município. Produziram-se 12 trabalhos científicos apresentados em eventos com abrangências local, regional e nacional. Permitiu-se, pela vivência dos discentes no projeto, a aproximação com a prática de Enfermagem Oncológica, consolidando os princípios de integralidade das ações de saúde na formação universitária. *Conclusão*: demonstrou-se, pelo estudo, a aplicação de um modelo de ensino-aprendizagem na Enfermagem que busca integrar universidade e comunidade, contribuindo para a abordagem de temas ainda pouco trabalhados na formação profissional e suscitando possibilidades de práticas interdisciplinares, com a reflexão crítica do ser "enfermeiro" nesse campo de atuação.

Descritores: Enfermagem; Enfermagem Oncológica; Relações Comunidade-Instituição; Práticas Interdisciplinares; Aprendizagem; Educação em Enfermagem.

ABSTRACT

Objective: to describe the operational aspects and experiences of students in a university extension project in Oncology Nursing. *Method*: it is a descriptive study, like an experience report related to an extension project in Nursing. *Results*: The project was divided into three stages, including offering a free course in oncology, extension activities in the community, and research in oncology. The team consisted of eight students, five teachers and four nurses. It is revealed that

103 students and 120 people from the community participated in the teaching and extension activities, among health professionals and other residents of the municipality. There were 12 scientific papers presented in events with local, regional and national scope. Through the experience of the students in the project, the approach to the practice of Oncology Nursing was allowed, consolidating the principles of integrality of the health actions in the university education. *Conclusion*: The study demonstrated the application of a teaching-learning model in Nursing that seeks to integrate university and community, contributing to the approach of themes still little worked on in professional training and raising possibilities of interdisciplinary practices, with the critical reflection of being a "nurse" in this field of action.

Descriptors: Nursing; Oncology Nursing; Community-Institutional Relations; Interdisciplinary Placement; Learning; Education, Nursing.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: describir los aspectos operacionales y las experiencias de los estudiantes de la carrera de Enfermería en un proyecto de extensión universitaria en Enfermería Oncológica. Método: se trata de un estudio descriptivo, tipo de relato de experiencia relacionado con un proyecto de extensión en Enfermería. Resultados: el proyecto se dividió en tres etapas, que incluyeron la oferta de cursos gratuitos en el área de oncología, actividades de extensión en la comunidad e investigación en oncología. El equipo estaba compuesto por ocho estudiantes, cinco profesores y cuatro enfermeras. Se revela que, en las actividades de docencia y extensión, participaron 103 estudiantes y 120 personas de la comunidad, entre profesionales de la salud y otros vecinos del municipio. Se produjeron 12 trabajos científicos presentados en eventos de alcance local, regional y nacional. A través de la experiencia de los estudiantes del proyecto, fue posible acercar la práctica de la Enfermería Oncológica, consolidando los principios de integralidad de las acciones de salud en la educación universitaria. Conclusión: el estudio demostró la aplicación de un modelo de enseñanzaaprendizaje en Enfermería que busca la integración de la universidad y la comunidad, contribuyendo al abordaje de temas aún poco trabajados en la formación profesional y generando posibilidades de prácticas interdisciplinarias, con reflexión crítica de ser un "enfermero" en este campo de actuación.

Descriptores: Enfermería; Enfermería Oncológica; Relaciones Comunidad-Institución; Prácticas Interdisciplinarias; Aprendizaje; Educación en Enfermería.

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How to cite this article

Dominguez RGS, Barros EPT, Freire ASV, Silva SS, Cardoso LS. Oncology Nursing: university-community integration in the teaching-learning process. J Nurs UFPE on line. 2021;15:e244374 DOI: https://doi.org/10.5205/1981-8963.2021.244374

INTRODUCTION

Cancer represents a set of diseases with clinical and epidemiological importance and is considered a serious public health problem in Brazil, ranking second among the main causes of death in the country. Despite the advances in diagnosis and treatment, numerous physical, emotional and social consequences are produced that require attention and support from the multiprofessional team.

In this way, the nurse manages the patient-centered integral care in all phases of health care, which requires technical-scientific knowledge, clinical practice and human skills. To do so, one must think and build the professional qualification from graduation in such a way that educational institutions can train nurses capable of recognizing and intervening on health problems, which presupposes articulation of theory with practice and social transformations.²⁻³

Professional training is positively impacted by teaching with reflective and qualified Nursing practices. This should be the guide for the changes, knowing that the student can become a multiplier of improvements when he/she starts to act as a professional in care, teaching or research.³

The experience of scholars in extension projects is crucial to this process, since it tends to bring students closer to a significant reality that is relevant to their work in the various scenarios presented. The processes that structure the conception and practice of the Extension Guidelines in Higher Education are established as an integral part of the promotion of initiatives, under the social commitment of higher education institutions, in the areas of communication, culture, human rights, education, environment, health, technology and production and work.⁴

Thus, the indissociability between the teaching, research and extension spheres is presented as an interaction responsible for transforming the various social contexts as well. Understanding the relevance of the insertion of the university extension in the integrated professional formation, the proposal of curricularization of the extension in the university context is highlighted. Thus, new challenges for higher education institutions are pointed out, seeking to provide insertion experiences in daily, political, social and economic reality through experiences with the community, with a new approach to practices.⁵

In this context, university extension is an important link in the improvement of academic learning and extension projects contribute to the application of the knowledge acquired during

graduation, also working to improve the self-confidence and learning of the student in the chosen area.⁵

OBJECTIVE

To describe the operational aspects and experiences of students in a university extension project in Oncology Nursing.

METHOD

It is a descriptive study, of experience report type, about a university extension project linked to the Nursing course of the Federal University of Recôncavo da Bahia (UFRB), with focus on teaching-learning and practices of Oncology Nursing. The project was carried out in the municipality of Santo Antônio de Jesus, Bahia, from July to December 2018, in three stages, involving teaching, extension and research activities.

A team composed of seven students from the Interdisciplinary Health Baccalaureate (IHB)/
Nursing Matrix, one student from the Nursing course, five teachers from UFRB and four nurses from
other institutions, three of them specialized in Oncology and one inserted in the Family Health
Strategy (FHS) was constituted for its operationalization.

It is noteworthy that the educational institution follows the cycle model, being the 1st cycle in IHB and the 2nd cycle in Nursing, which allows the participation of IHB students in projects in their area of professional training, providing critical-reflexive experiences that meet the needs of the community and the health system. Included in the target public of the course were students and health professionals from internal and external communities, totaling 147 participants evaluated according to their attendance in the course and score in post-tests.

For the construction of this experience report, the data from the partial and final project reports with the quantitative and qualitative description of all actions as well as the Revised Standards for Quality Improvement Reporting Excellence guide were analyzed. The teaching activities took place in the university auditorium, while the extensionist actions used the space of Family Health Units and a public square in the city center.

RESULTS

It is explained that the Nursing in Oncology extension project aimed to create a space for study, discussion and production of knowledge in the oncology area, valuing the principles of integrality in health care and interdisciplinarity expressed in face-to-face activities with professionals and students from different areas. The development of educational activities in the community aimed at the prevention of the most prevalent types of cancer in the municipality of Santo Antonio de

Jesus was also sought. Scientific production in oncology was also encouraged, contributing to the visibility of the topic and offering subsidies to strengthen the transforming potential of the university in the local context.

Three different stages have been designed for this, but they are interconnected by the thematic axis of Oncology, namely: a) offering a free course in oncology; b) intervention activities in the community and c) research activities.

Teaching: Oncology Nursing Extension Course

The course was conceived and built in ten thematic modules in Oncology, starting from the discussion of more general aspects to specific knowledge involving the practice of the multiprofessional team, with emphasis on the role of the nurse. The course was published on the UFRB website and on other digital platforms, being open to the participation of the academic community both inside and outside the university, with the active participation of nursing professionals and graduates from the Nutrition, Nursing, Medicine and IHB courses, achieving the goal of keeping the discussions in the perspective of the multi-professional team.

The topics were arranged as follows: Epidemiology of cancer, public policies and patients' rights (Module 01); Physiopathology of cancer (Module 02); Acute leukemia, lymphomas and multiple myeloma (Module 03); Principles of antineoplastic chemotherapy and oncology emergencies (Module 04); Systematization of Nursing Care in Oncology (Module 05); Patient safety and care with central venous access (Module 06); Oncology wounds (Module 07); Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (Module 08); Nursing Care in Oncopediatrics (Module 09) and Palliative Care in Oncology (Module 10).

The modules were taught by professionals with experience in teaching and in the thematic areas of the course. Priority was given to didactic methods that encouraged the active participation of those enrolled, using audiovisual resources such as videos, expository and dialogue classes, case studies and practical demonstrations. At the end of each module, post-tests of applied knowledge were carried out in which participants had to obtain at least 80% of the grade in order to receive approval and certification in the module. Another evaluation criterion was the general attendance in the course, which should also be equal or superior to 80%, the participant being subject to elimination for absence.

Initially, through online registration for the Oncology course, an estimated audience of 148 participants was revealed. It was noticed, however, that in the first module of the course, whose absence of the inscription had an eliminatory character, the total number of presents corresponded to 67 participants, despite the confirmation of anticipated presence; Of these, 20 (29.9%) were students of IHB-Nursing; 16 (23.9%) of Nursing; ten (14.9%) of IHB-Nutrition; eight (11.9%) of IHB-

Medicine; eight (11.9%) of IHB; one (1.5%) of IHB-Psychology and four (6%) are health professionals. At the end of the course, 32 (47.8%) participants were approved, considering the criteria of attendance and evaluation in the post-test, with a majority of Nursing students, being six (19%) students from other Higher Education Institutions and 14 (43.8%) from UFRB's IHB-Nursing, which highlights one of the great challenges of maintaining the regularity of the public in face-to-face extension courses promoted over a long period of time.

Thematic modules were carried out every fifteen days, with a four-hour workload, in the afternoon shift. The meetings took place in the auditorium of the Health Sciences Center of UFRB, being chosen due to the sufficient space for the number of enrolled in the course.

In addition, a technical visit was made to an outpatient service specialized in Oncology, with the presentation of the flow of care, welfare protocols, consultation with Nursing and other team members (doctor, nutritionist, pharmacist), home monitoring and palliative care. The nurses of the service also conducted training on the technique of totally implanted catheter puncture aimed at the participants.

At the end of the course, the application of forms containing objective evaluation of the following criteria was chosen: programmatic content; performance of the facilitators; location; methods and general satisfaction. It was presented positive feedback by the aspects evaluated, highlighting the diversity of speakers as something quite acceptable by the audience, as well as the programmatic content and methods used, which was reinforced as a point facilitator and energizer in the presentation of the proposed topics.

Only one question was negatively evaluated by the participants, regarding the location of the course, due to the lack of comfort due to the high temperature in the room and non-padded chairs, revealing the need to review the choice of space. However, despite the lack of infrastructure, the general satisfaction of the participants was considered as optimal.

The experience in monitoring the extension course was particularly challenging, given the circumstances experienced during the period. The contact with students from different courses encouraged the maturation of the students in the development of negotiation and interpersonal relationship skills, with fundamental importance both for the execution of the course and for the improvement of professional practice.

The course also allowed the integration between teaching and extension, since the establishment of these relations bases the plurality of health care, making use of humanization as a propeller for the provision of a quality service that values the individual through its particularities, as well as the respect for his/her autonomy. It has also provided students with a space to share and

acquire experiences that are intrinsic to the formation of a health professional based on the practice of integral care.

In this way, the participation in the course became essential for the construction of all the project activities carried out throughout the period, providing theoretical support both for the application of the themes addressed in the communities and in the exercise of knowing how to listen to the demands related to oncology coming from the external and internal communities and, thus, think and do health together.

Extension in the community: preventive and health promotion actions

The second stage of the project culminated with the realization of educational activities aimed at the community, which were developed by surveying the types of malignant neoplasia most prevalent in the municipality from the analysis of secondary data obtained from the Hospital Information System (HIS) and Mortality Information System (MIS) available at DATAUHS.

Thus, two activities were organized, the first aimed at primary and secondary prevention of breast cancer and promotion of women's health, and the second focused on the campaign to combat child cancer promoted nationally by the Ministry of Health. The first moment was conceived and executed in the form of a health fair held in a public square in the center of the city called "Integrated Action for Pink October: prevention, control and palliative care in oncology", developed in partnership with the research group CRIAI, the Academic League of Pathology of UFRB (LACAP) and the Municipal Health Secretariat. The team was composed by thirteen undergraduate students of IHB, Medicine and Nursing, two teachers and the rotating audience of 115 people in four hours of activity.

Strategies for primary prevention of breast cancer were approached and knowledge about palliative care was disseminated through dynamic and educational activities with the purpose of bringing the community closer to the topics mentioned, promoting discussions and exchange of knowledge and experiences among participants.

It is pointed out that the community actively participated in the event, answering questions and sharing experiences with the students, understanding the importance of debating about the issues addressed. The participants demonstrated their understanding of breast cancer prevention and control strategies, which were presented through the demonstration of breast palpation techniques for self-examination in anatomic models. The event also contributed to the greater visibility of the university and on the subject of palliative care, reiterating its importance. Blood pressure measurement and blood glucose testing services were also available in order to strengthen health promotion actions.

Among the facilities, we can mention the location chosen for the event, which allowed great circulation of people and interaction with the public, obtaining a positive and significant response on the proposed activities and topics addressed by the team. One of the difficulties faced regarding the organization of queues to attend and inform the public is due to the large number of people.

The second moment consisted of holding a workshop entitled: "Integrated Workshop on Combating Childhood Cancer", promoted in a Family Health Unit (FHU) of the municipality of Santo Antonio de Jesus and at the university.

The action was organized by demand of the FHU team allied to the promotion of the week against child cancer. The activity was counted with the partnership of the research group CRIAI, a student of the Nursing course in supervised internship at the FHU in question and the nurse of the team to approach the early signs and symptoms of the main pediatric cancers and their strategies of primary and secondary prevention through playful activity in an interactive game format, promoting the exchange of knowledge and experiences.

To establish the dynamics of the game, the figure of a doll, representing a child, was used, in which the monitors glued the images suggestive of the main signs and symptoms of childhood cancer, such as: ecchymosis; fatigue; paleness; abdominal pain in bones and joints, among others, adapting the language to the understanding of participants.

The activity took place at FHU in the waiting room with the parents waiting for the child care consultation with their children, totaling nine people. The action culminated at the university with the Oncopediatrics module of the extension course in Oncology Nursing, with 28 people present. It is described that there was active participation in the workshops, mainly from the children's parents, who showed curiosity and interest in the topics discussed, removing doubts and identifying the signs and symptoms of alert for child cancer.

Research and extension: knowledge to transform reality

The third stage of the project was focused on the scientific production in oncology by the scholarship students and volunteers for the approximation of the themes under study. Twelve abstracts were produced that were accepted for poster presentations and oral communication in events with national, regional and local scope, being six epidemiological studies, five integrative reviews of the literature and one experience report.

The following topics were addressed: hospital mortality and morbidity due to cancer; secondary prevention of cervical cancer; screening for breast cancer; challenges of Primary Health Care in controlling colorectal cancer; complementary therapies in Nursing; palliative - perinatal care in rural populations, in terminology, in medical and nursing training and in scientific production in Brazil, contributing to the visibility of the topic and strengthening the transforming potential of the

university in the context of the municipality of Santo Antônio de Jesus. Figure 1 presents the synthesis of the productions published in annals.

Title	Objective	Method	Main results and conclusions
1. Secondary prevention of cervical cancer in Santo Antônio de Jesus, Bahia	To estimate the prevalence of cytopathological tests performed in residents of Santo Antonio de Jesus/Bahia and their distribution according to age group and test results	Descriptive study using secondary data obtained from the Cervical Cancer Information System (SISCOLO) from 2006 to 2014.	There were 57,831 cytopathological exams, 75.3% of them in the 25 to 64 age group. The ratio of cytopathological exams to the target population showed a decreasing trend with a value of 9.9 exams/100 women. Squamous cell atypia were more frequent (78.5%) and, of these, 37.8% were high-grade intraepithelial lesions (CIN-II and III), caused by types of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) oncogenic, with high risk of progression to invasive carcinoma. The results point to the need to expand the supply and coverage of cervical cancer screening in the population studied in the context of UHS.
2. Breast Cancer Screening in the Unified Health System: evaluation of supply in Santo Antônio de Jesus, Bahia, from 2009 to 2015	To evaluate the supply and coverage of breast cancer screening in women living in Santo Antônio de Jesus, in the UHS network of assistance, between 2009 and 2015	Descriptive study using secondary data obtained from the Outpatient Information System	There were 11,859 bilateral mammograms for screening in women aged 35 and over, 60.1% of them in the 50-69 age group. There was a progressive increase in the offer of this exam in 2009 until 2012, with a later decrease in the following years. Mammography coverage in the target population (50-69 years) was 29.4%, far below that recommended by WHO. The importance of municipal management in directing efforts to reduce the gaps in the line of breast cancer care was highlighted, aiming at the best structuring of the health care network.
3. Hospital morbidity from malignant neoplasms in Santo Antônio de Jesus, Bahia, 2008 to 2016	Describe the standard of hospital morbidity due to cancer, between 2008 and 2016, according to type, sex, age group, length of stay, outcome (discharge/death) and nature of care (elective/emergency) in Santo Antônio de Jesus, Bahia	Descriptive study using secondary data available in the Hospital Information System, from 2008 to 2016	Between 2008 and 2016, a growing trend in hospital morbidity from cancer was observed among the residents of Santo Antonio de Jesus. The most prevalent type was breast cancer (22%) among women and prostate cancer (16.2%) among men. As for the demographic profile of patients, 59.4% occurred among women and 61.2% were 50 years or older. The average length of stay was 5.7 days, and only 7.7% (83) of hospitalizations had death as an outcome; 59.8% (648) were elective and 40.2% (436), emergency. The findings are important for the planning of health professionals specialists in the area in order to meet the demand for quality care to patients hospitalized for cancer.

4. Mortality due to cancer in residents of Santo Antônio de Jesus, Bahia, from 2000 to 2016	To describe the trend in cancer mortality among residents of Santo Antônio de Jesus, Bahia, from 2000 to 2016, with an epidemiological profile according to gender, race/color, age group, schooling, place of death and type of cancer	Descriptive research with secondary data obtained in the Mortality Information System extracted by place of residence in Santo Antônio de Jesus, between 2000 and 2016	There was a growing trend in cancer mortality among the residents of Santo Antonio de Jesus/BA, from 2000 to 2016. This group of diseases killed more old, brown and poorly educated men. Most deaths occurred in hospitals and the most common types were prostate cancer among men and breast cancer among women. The results contribute to justify the investments in the offer of screening tests for secondary prevention by the health services in the city among individuals at risk.
5. Palliative care and terminality in medical and nursing training in Brazil	Identify the evidence in the literature about the teaching of Palliative Care in Nursing and Medicine courses	Integrative review; complete and available articles, published between 2008 and 2018, in Portuguese, English and Spanish. At the end, nine articles were selected by the PRISMA method	The initiatives of academic training of Nursing and Medical students for a professional performance directed to palliative care and terminality are incipient. Most students do not feel able to communicate bad news to patients or to assist these individuals with the terminality of life. The insertion of these themes in the academic formation of professional nurses and doctors becomes essential in the promotion of integral and more humanized care.
6. Hospital morbidity trend for colorectal cancer (CRC) in Bahia	Identify the standard of hospital morbidity by CRC according to the character of the care (elective/emergency), total amount spent, gender, age group, length of stay and outcome (discharge/death) in the State of Bahia, between 2013 and 2017	Descriptive research with data from hospitalizations in Bahia, with main diagnosis of CRC, between 2013 and 2017, obtained from the Hospital Information System (HIS)	Growth trend in hospital morbidity rates per CRC. A total of 10,674 hospitalizations were registered, with a total value of more than 42 million reais, 60.4% of which were emergency care, which draws attention to the severity of complications related to CRC, as well as the late diagnosis of the disease. The data also show that the CRC affects more women and individuals aged 50 and over, reaffirming the need to discuss public policies for prevention of the disease.
7. Complementary Therapies in Nursing: integrative review	Describe the characteristics of Brazilian scientific productions on complementary therapies and their application in Nursing	Integrative review; complete and available articles, published between 2014 and 2018, in Portuguese language. At the end, 29 articles were selected by the PRISMA method	As for the thematic categories, they were more frequent: Effectiveness of CT in different disease conditions (13; 44.8%) - Oncology (3); Stress, anxiety and self-esteem (3); Diabetes Mellitus (1), Smoking (1), Lombalgy (1) and Hypertension (1); Health of the worker nurse (3); Comparison between CT used in Nursing (7; 24.1%), Perception/knowledge about CT (13.8%) - nursing students (2) and nursing professionals (2); CT in pregnant women (3; 10.3%). Among the themes approached with less frequency, we highlight: teaching of CT in undergraduate (1; 3.5%) and CT in Palliative Care (1; 3.5%). The less frequently approached themes were

identified, constituting possibilities of research in the area.

8. Palliative Care and Nursing: integrative review

To describe the Brazilian scientific productions about Palliative Care in Nursing

Integral revision:
articles with full
text available,
published from
2014 to 2018, in
Portuguese
language. Ninetytwo papers were
selected by the
PRISMA method

As for the thematic categories, they were more frequent: Perceptions/sentiments of nurses about Palliative Care (19 articles; 20.7%); Palliative care to the hospitalized adult (11; 12%), being eight works in the area of Oncology; Palliative Care in Home Care (8; 8.7%); Bioethics (7; 7.6%), with greater focus on dysthanasia and orthothanasia; Experience/Knowledge/Perception of Nursing Scholars about Palliative Care (7; 7.6%); Palliative Care in Pediatrics (6; 6.5%), mainly in the terminal phase of the disease; Palliative Care in tumor wounds (6; 6.5%); Elderly (5; 5.4%), with focus on pain relief; Care for caregivers (4; 4.6%) and family members (4; 4.6%). The importance of Nursing in Palliative Care is reiterated, as well as the wide range of possibilities of research in the area.

Figure 1. Synthesis of the scientific publications of the Nursing in Oncology project. Santo Antônio de Jesus (BA), Brazil, 2020.

DISCUSSION

It contributes, through extension activities in the formative process of the nurse, to the construction of a fruitful space for the production of knowledge based on scientific evidence and technological innovations, besides allowing the integration between teaching, local services and the community in favor of change, without disregarding the indissociability between research and university extension.⁶ However, it is warned that studies that seek to understand these different knowledges in order to deepen the discussions of this tripod in higher education, whether in public or private education, are still scarce.⁷

Thus, the importance of knowledge of the transformative processes that govern today's society is highlighted as the basis for a formation based on individuals who are committed to social intervention. In this experience report, the stages of operationalization of an extension project interconnected by the thematic axis of Oncology were described and analyzed, understanding its importance to public health,8 which requires a qualified professional training in the different levels of health care.

In the context of the extension project developed, it was sought to contribute to the consolidation of knowledge relevant to the practice of the health professional who works or will work in public health services, as well as to the development of skills that go beyond the theoretical framework, such as learning to deal with the fears, sufferings, psychobiological and spiritual needs of individuals and their families.

Great interest in the participants was awakened by the approach of current themes such as palliative care in oncology. In the training of nurses, the teaching of palliative care is still incipient

in the undergraduate curricula, despite its importance today to qualify comprehensive care to individuals affected by life-threatening diseases, which reveals the innovative character of the project.

The university extension establishes the relationship between the university and the community in various ways and methods, promoting the improvement in the quality of life of individuals through health education and offering a gain of experience by breaking down barriers in the classroom. This tool can be used through health promotion, disease prevention and rehabilitation actions, also presenting itself as a tool for the training of multipliers and caregivers by putting into practice the acquired learning.

The insertion of academics in the local reality, considering their daily, political and socioeconomic aspects, makes it possible for them to participate and live with the community, enabling a cycle of social transformation.5 Other experiences have shown that these actions can be considered a promising approach to reduce health disparities as they contribute to the empowerment of individuals and communities, enabling them to become the main actors in the prevention and solution of their own health problems.¹¹

Another study showed that the implementation of these changes becomes feasible through partnerships with a variety of organizations, including non-profit organizations, government agencies and health services in which the research nurse approaches the target audience in order to understand their needs.¹²

The project's extensionist activities have encouraged learning from local experience, subsidizing community interventions and producing scientific knowledge about the clinical, epidemiological and cancer screening profile that can guide local services and managers in decision-making. In this way, the extension in the health area can facilitate the alignment of community health priorities with the university's educational, research and clinical activities, allowing them to be more effective.¹³

The teaching-service-community articulation is presented as a strategy that contributes to the critical-reflexive formation of the nurse, in accordance with the profile required by the current National Curricular Guidelines of Brazil. It is known, however, that there are challenges in its implementation in an institutionalized manner that refer to the prevailing hospital-centric model in some curricula, fragmentation of content in disciplines, resistance of the teaching staff itself, low valorization and incentive to extramural practices.¹⁴

To overcome so many challenges, it becomes evident the importance of institutionalizing these practices in the curricula, as well as of valuing initiatives that promote teaching in multi-professional and interdisciplinary activities, with the involvement of teachers, students, health

professionals, community and managers. Thus, the University's commitment to the modification of health training and transformation of health care processes is reaffirmed.¹⁴

CONCLUSION

This study demonstrated the application of a teaching-learning model in the Nursing course that seeks to integrate university and community, from the development of extension projects, in addition to contributing to the approach of topics still little worked on in professional training, but of great epidemiological and social importance. In this sense, this work raises possibilities of interdisciplinary practices in the area of oncology Nursing, leading the students to a critical reflection of being a "nurse" in this field of action.

The activities developed in the extension project "Oncology Nursing" revealed the potentiality of the university extension by providing experiences of consolidation of theoretical knowledge through its application in practice, study of local reality and scientific production. The experience of the academics in this extension project has produced knowledge about nursing education, the training of professionals in the services, as well as an approach to reality in the activities with the participation of the community.

It is hoped that this study will foster reflection on Oncology Nursing and palliative care, providing tools for the construction of a new thinking on nurse training and that it can subsidize other experiences of teaching-research and extension in different locations, valuing interdisciplinarity through the participation of professionals and students from different areas of knowledge.

FUNDING

Extension project financed by the Institutional University Extension Grant Program - PIBEX.

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Submission: 02/04/2020 Accepted: 14/12/2020

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