Resumen

Objetivos: investigar la relación entre internet y el proceso de enseñanza-aprendizaje de estudiantes de enfermería; discutir el papel de la internet en la construcción del saber en enfermería. Método: estudio exploratorio-descriptivo, con abordaje cualitativo, realizado con la aplicación de cuestionario a 40 estudiantes de Graduación en Enfermería, de la Universidad Federal de Paraíba/UFPB, de la ciudad de João Pessoa/PB. Como criterio de inclusión consideró-se los alumnos que presentasen matrícula activa entre el 1º y el 9º períodos. Los criterios de exclusión fueron alumnos que no estuvieran en actividades académicas en el momento de la pesquisia y que tivesen idade inferior aos 18 anos. A análise foi realizada a partir da técnica de Análise por Conteúdo, de que possibilitó a categorización y mejor comprensión de los discursos de los participantes. Los resultados fueron presentados en figuras contenido ideías centrales y trechos dos contenidos. O proyecto de pesquisa foi aprovado pelo Comité de Ética em Pesquisa do Centro de Ciências da Saúde, da UFPB (CEP/CCS/UFPB), sob o protocolo nº 754/2010 e CAAE 0580.0.126.000-10. Resultados: dados empíricos demuestran la predominancia del género feminino. Quanto as ideias centrais geradas pelos discursos de estudiantes evidencian que a internet contribuye para pesquisa académica; para información y actualización del conocimiento; y en la aproximación del profesor con el alumno, disminuyendo la distancia y facilitando la comunicación y obtención de información del mundo para pesquisa académica. Conclusión: la utilización de la internet nas pesquisas académicas consólida-se como una ferramenta indispensable para el acceso rápido y fácil a las informaciones. Deste modo, aperfeiçoar o proceso de desenvolvimento do conhecimento e formación do estudante de enfermería, deixando-o preparado para o mercado de trabalho. Descriptores: enfermería; internet; formación de recursos humanos.

Resumen

Objetivos: investigar la relación entre internet y el proceso de enseñanza-aprendizaje de estudiantes de enfermería, e investigar el uso de técnicas de comunicación, terapéutica y no terapéutica entre enfermeros y ancianos. Método: estudio descriptivo, observacional con abordaje cuantitativo, realizado en la Clínica Médica de un hospital escuela en el municipio de João Pessoa/PB, con un muestreo compuesto por 13 enfermeros, con firma de los términos de aceptación de libre voluntad. Los datos se recogieron entre marzo y mayo de 2010, por medio de observación sistemática. Para registro de los datos se utilizó una check-list que contiene estrategias para la realización de la comunicación, segun cada interacción. Los datos se sometieron a estadística descriptiva frecuencial sencilla; a continuación, agrupado en una tabla y finalmente, analizados de acuerdo con la literatura. El proyecto de investigación fue aprobado por el Comité de Ética e Investigación del Hospital Universitario Lauro Wanderley de la Universidad Federal de Paraíba, bajo protocolo CEP/HUW n°019/10. Resultados: en 171 ocasiones (86,4%) se utilizaron técnicas de comunicación terapéutica y 27 veces (13,6%) la no terapéutica. Técnicas de expresión se confirmaron 146 veces y las de clarificación y validación 15 y 10 veces respectivamente. Conclusión: fue posible verificar que el enfermero debe estar apto para utilizar la comunicación terapéutica como un medio de promover una asistencia cualificada vinculada a las necesidades y singularidades de los pacientes, reconociendo las especificidades del proceso de senescencia. Descriptores: cuidados de enfermería; anciano; comunicación; hospitalización.
INTRODUCTION

Arguably, society has been plunged into a new era, of the information and suffers the impact generated by the speed with which technology has evolved. Information technology was incorporated into the post-modern society, so that organizations and people, in general, become dependent on the resources of automation. The Internet, in this globalized context, emerges as a tool that connects the world in seconds, making the geographic distance short, the communication easier and less costly.

Thus, the amount of information in the network swells geometric shape, is produced quantities of information which are available and accessible in the databases, which allows the Internet from anywhere in the world to make systematic search in a few seconds. On the other hand, due to this explosion of information available, the individual is led to develop a critical consciousness about what is being presented, analyze its relevance to their needs, postures proactive search and linking information processed to produce knowledge.

Regarding the Brazilian educational system, according to the Law of Guidelines and Bases of National Education, there are some essential inputs to the development of teaching / learning process required to guarantee minimum standards of quality. From this perspective, in regard to university education, it is believed that the student in various areas, including nursing having to at their disposal the tool so important as the Internet, there would be a significant leap toward quality climbed during their academic training.

The Internet can influence the teaching-learning process. It is known that humans can hold 10% of what they see, hear 20%, 50% of what they hear and see, the advantage being called multimedia. Moreover, the individual retains in its learning process 80% of what he simultaneously hears, sees and does, which is called the interactive jump.

When teaching is interactive, allows easier facility in the learning process, avoiding mental barriers such as fear or insecurity and encourages the development of activities towards the goal of the teaching. So the Internet can be an innovative tool in the process of academic training.

In this context, the nursing student could have better use in learning, if it received information that you need just when they are necessary to resolve an academic task. Naturally, the inclusion of information technology breaks old paradigms of traditional classroom and Internet use in education can give a chance to increase the activities directed to the student, within the area of knowledge in question, to explore content that cannot be taught in the classroom.

As for scientific research, the Internet has played an essential environment, not only for the propagation of information, but for the cooperation between institutions. It allows researchers to think globally and generate greater efficiency and speed, value products to the community.

So, being the Internet one of the main ways of communication and of research sources, it was perceived the importance of research how it influences the lives of nursing students in both the personal and educational aspects.

The interest in aboard the use of the Internet as a tool among students is justified by its current character, relevant and essential in the academic world. It is believed that the results of this search may bring contributions to the development of educational policies, by universities, to strengthen the training of the professional in Nursing. Still, it is considered that the dissemination of knowledge on that subject reinforces the idea that it is necessary to require improvements in the academic environment in order to keep up with technology, providing pedagogical changes that form trained professionals connected with the network of information.

Based on the foregoing, the study was guided by the following questions: Does the Internet represent a primary or secondary role in the construction of knowledge in nursing? The resources offered by the Internet have been an ally in the teaching-learning process of nursing students?

To answer the questions proposed, this study aims to investigate the relationship between the internet and teaching-learning process of nursing students and discuss the role of the Internet in the construction of knowledge in nursing.

METHOD

An exploratory-descriptive study with qualitative approach. This type of study consists in survey that collects detailed descriptions of variables, uses the data to justify and evaluate the conditions and practices or suggest plans to improve professional practice in the care of health.
This research was developed at the Federal University of Paraíba, Center for Health Sciences (CCS), located in the city of João Pessoa. The participants were graduate students in Nursing. As an inclusion criteria was considered the students who presented active registration between the 1st and 9th period. Exclusion criteria were: students who were not in academic activities at the time of the survey and who had less than 18 years old.

Participants were 40 graduating nursing students and to grasp the empirical material we used a questionnaire with closed and open questions. The analysis was performed based on Technical Analysis Content, allowing the categorization and understanding of the speeches of the participants. This method is based on operations dismemberment of text units, so to find the different units of meaning which constitute the communication, and then realize its reunification in classes or categories.

The project from which derives this study was approved by the Ethics Committee in Research of the Center for Health Sciences, Federal University of Paraíba (CEP / CCS) on December 14th, 2010 and is registered under protocol No. 754/2010 and CAAE 0580.012.000-10. It is noteworthy that during the collection of empirical material were performed guidance to participants due to the purpose of the research, guaranteed confidentiality, the possibility of giving up and the reading of the Term of Consent Free and Enlightened, attending to the requirements of Resolution 196/96 of the National Health Council, which sets forth the standards and regulatory guidelines for research involving human beings.8

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

With regard to sociodemographic data, the average age of nursing students surveyed was 21 years and six months old, aged 18 years old and maximum 35 years old. Regarding marital status, we find the quota of 92% single, 5% were married, 0.5% widowed, 0.5% divorced and 2% in a stable relationship.

The sample characteristics, the prevailing gender is female, with 90%, reproducing the historical characteristic of nursing as a profession practiced almost exclusively by women. It is considered that the majority of the nursing staff in hospitals in Brazil, are female, mainly explained by the archetype, attributed to women.10

Furthermore, we consider a structural feature of the activities of the health sector, the predominance of female labor force in activities that involve the treatment and care with people.11

Next, the core ideas related to the importance of the Internet in teaching and learning.

The Internet, according to the collected data, has collaborated in the teaching-learning process in three aspects: by contributing to academic research, to update the information and knowledge, and bringing the teacher to the student narrowing the distance (Figure 1).

The Internet is a technological source that allows the exchange and circulation of information quickly, causing changes in the lives of the academics and health professionals who need to be updated with new information technologies. And the use of this technology in the university provides means for the students become prepared for the labor market which requires a flexible and professional with extensive knowledge.12

In this technological environment, it is worth to mention the use by graduate

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<th>Central idea (IC)</th>
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<td>IC 1 - Contributes to academic research.</td>
<td>Research papers, which helps support the research, the most accessible to find articles; through it we find what we do not seek on the books for more exchanges of materials through the email; I can find articles of nursing and download certain books, are very rich sources for research, academic research sites; access different websites, articles and periodicals rich in information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC 2 - Contributes to obtain information and update knowledge.</td>
<td>To keep us informed gives us the opportunity to cover our knowledge, access to scientific information; transmission of knowledge in all areas including nursing; globalization knowledge makes it possible; easy to obtain reliable information; providing new information technologies of care; contributes to update; exchange information with colleagues; professionals more updated with new teaching strategies; update the student for research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC 3 - Approximate the teacher to the student; decreasing displacement</td>
<td>Decreases the distance between the teacher and student; facilitates the research is not coming out (me moving) to obtain data; approximates the teachers to the students; do group work, it is not necessary that everyone is in the same place.</td>
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</table>

**Figure 1.** Content analysis on the response of the respondents to the following question: How the Internet contributes to the development of teaching-learning process in nursing? João Pessoa-PB, 2011.
students in academic research, through the conditions that provide availability for teachers and students who can obtain reliable and quick information.  

This research considers the Internet as an indispensable tool for accessing scientific information through scientific journals indexed in databases that enter nursing as an academic field. It is also considered that the libraries are not as used as a unique source of research, making the graduating to give up the graduating technological resource that becomes almost essential to update their knowledge (IC 1).

Indeed, this study strengthens the idea of adjustment of the students in the Internet world to conduct research, due to the diversity, skill, quantity and easy access to sources of research, making the information technology almost indispensable in the lives of the students (IC 1).

Corroborating our findings, a quantitative study conducted with 136 nursing students showed that the use of information technology and communication in nursing becomes a promising possibility of learning, dynamic and attractive, which favors the process of constructing knowledge, enriching the share of ideas.  

Similarly, authors denote the advantage of using the Internet in search of scientific information at the expense of the traditional ways, not disregarding the importance of traditionalism. However, the authors emphasize the many benefits of the Internet, among which we highlight the ease and speed of access, because of the large quantity and availability of published articles in electronics magazines.

It is worth noting the interest and encouragement of the students surveyed in seeking knowledge through scientific research sites and databases to support the academic works of graduation and reveal interesting researches those can be used in literal constructions of scientific initiation. Such research network consolidate the commitment of these students, entering in the scientific and technological way so required in the academic world and professional, expanding its informations (IC 2).

Scientific evidences serves as support to this finding, while demonstrated the importance of the use of the Internet as a basis for (re) construction of knowledge, focusing on the authorship and knowledge production in a collaborative way, providing a current and meaningful learning to the student.  

It is interesting to consider that the positive result due to the access to the informations will only be beneficial when the students do not only reproduce the information provided, but when they become able to transform the information into a new knowledge that can be passed forwards.

The idea that the Internet approximates the teacher to the student, reducing the distance between them, shows that the educator has an important role for the formation of the future professional as agents prepared to use technology in a constructive way, from the transformation of the passed information and the development of the critical thinking (IC 3).

Moreover, in the classroom, the teacher / student relationship does not have a more satisfactory touch, by the number of people in a same environment or by the lack of time, since the teacher has to manage the subjects in pre-established time, remaining doubts or guidelines for other times. Then the students try to interact with the teachers and other classmates by e-mail use (IC 3).

Nevertheless, a study argues that communication approximates people physically distant and increases the close relationship with teachers. The author states that there is a relationship, an exchange of knowledge, doubts and clarifications by the use of e-mail, as in the classroom is not possible to have this wider exchange, due to the limited time.

A point to note about the relationship pupil / teacher is evidenced in a research involving nurses, which refers to the relationship of the Internet with distance education. In this research, the teaching-learning covers the principles of: integrity, in which the teachers must guide their students respecting them in all their dimensions, and of universality in the orientation during the teaching-learning process; this entire process must be articulated between the student and the teacher to occur a proper relationship at the distance learning.

A study raises the importance of reconciling the student academic and professional activities, through the virtual space, which emphasizes our research. For the authors, the virtual field emerges as a relevant strategy for the students by allowing an organization of time according to the possibilities of each one. However, for it would be necessary to adopt an interaction with the teacher facing the teaching-learning process.
The information and communication technologies are transforming the way of the people currently learning, enabling a more dynamic way of learning, beyond the reduction of the costs and of the new forms of knowledge. This technology overcomes the barriers of time and distance, providing a great advantage for the training of nurses, making them better prepared for the information society.17

Therefore, the influence of the Internet at teaching-learning process shows that the technological tools, such as computer and internet, become tools that facilitate the academic performance, as the immediacy of information and the need for speed that the world requires are remarkable facts. Thus, the reduction of space, information, knowledge, approach at the student and teacher relationship, beyond the development of the researchers, serve as a requirement for a preparation gap that academics have studied during their training as future nurses.

Next, the core ideas related to the importance of the Internet in the lives of the students.

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<td>IC 4 - Facilitates communication.</td>
<td>Facilitates communication; maintains contact with people; contact with my family; friends; way of communication quick and cheap; relationship with friends and distant relatives; the possibility of communication with those who are distant, highly effective means of communication; aid in socialization; indispensable way of communication; media more accessible; allows the communication with those who are distant.</td>
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<td>IC 5 - Get information from the world facilitating academic research.</td>
<td>Academic researches; dated on what is happening in the world; facilitates searches for jobs, articles; a research tool constant; keeps informed about the daily news; research; information from all over the world; a quick and efficient way of research; exchange of universal knowledge; connects with the whole world; the global news; in research and information I need; information from various parts of the world.</td>
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Regarding the question about the importance of the Internet to the students, two main axes were identified: the ease on communication and the obtainment of information from the world, facilitating the academic research (Figure 2).

The ease of communication, through the use of the Internet is an important factor, while, if the universe is becoming more communicative and seeking information, it is due to the emergence of the computer and the Internet, which are instruments that facilitate the virtual access to information, anywhere in the world and connect with thousands of people.1

Thus, its use is indispensable to reduce the distances imposed by personal needs and facilitate the communication with distant friends and family. In the case of the respondents who are studying in a place outside their city of origin and need to communicate with friends and family in other cities or countries, identifies that virtual communication allows socialization quickly and cheaply, because connects everyone in a single click. It may be noted that the Internet has become a vehicle of communication with accessible language, quick, cheap and globalized (IC 4). This result converges with other authors, when discourse about the efficiency and speed of communication when using the technology of information.6,15

In this context, the virtual communication is part of the evolution of technology, contributing to a decentralization of information and communicative power. With this, the computer connected to the Internet, enables the obtainment and transmission of information and communication with people from the whole world, breaking the geographical and cultural barriers.18

It was noted that respondents had the desire to always seek for new knowledge in various parts of the planet, enabling the formation of students prepared for the world of technology and the labor market. The computer network is ready to work in various areas, such as communication and information, as in academic and professional (IC 5).

Competing with this finding, a study realized with nurses, which concerned about the importance of the use of Internet resources in the context of continuing education showed that the factors that enhance the use of the Internet are the wishes to seek for more knowledge in the area and preparation for the challenges of practice, through consultation with a current information, varied, easy, fast and with credibility.16

Thus, the technological world has facilitated people's lives and mainly in the health area, which is likely to constant changes.19 Depending on the above, the study cites that the obtaining of information from the academic world is present among students seeking to update on events, both for personal life and for the professional.15
CONCLUSION

The study results demonstrate the importance of the Internet in teaching and learning for nursing students and led to a discussion on the role of the Internet in the construction of knowledge in the field of nursing. Also, that the use of the Internet in academic research is performed to obtain prompt and satisfactory informations, consolidating itself as an indispensable tool for accessing information. In addition, through the internet, we can confirm the decrease of the distance between teacher and student, encouraging the important role of the teacher on the training of future professional in nursing.

The trouble of the study met itself in the scarcity of articles that addressed the research design. However, despite this situation helps to limit the grounds, we believe that our results provide important additions to the scientific community regarding the innovation theme. Thus, the continuity of subsequent researches shows necessary to increase knowledge about the role of the Internet as a means of education in order to contribute to improve the quality of teaching at the Brazilian universities.

Finally, it became clear the importance of the use of the Internet in the lives of the students to facilitate the communication in a fast, easy and cheap way, reducing the distance and increasing the bonding between friends or absent relatives. Furthermore, the formation of the student becomes more updated, leaving him ready for the labor market, the technology becomes increasingly required and teaching combines the resources of the internet more consistently.

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