EDITORIAL

After a difficult year for all citizens, in which the effects of the pandemic are sometimes evident or hidden, and perhaps with incalculable late consequences, we could say the effects have been very positive for this journal. It would have been unthinkable at the beginning of the year to predict the need to publish two extra issues: one focused on case studies, and the other on the experiences of the pandemic.

It is time to thank all colleagues who have shared their research, reflections, cases and reviews; and it is also time to hope that others are motivated, as we want to make a difference as rehabilitation nurses; only in this way we show that our specialty has the material to be autonomous, with specific knowledge identified, which guarantees scientific sustainability to the specific skills for which we have trained and developed our professional practices.

Evolving knowledge in rehabilitation nursing requires each nurse to theoretically share and support their practices and the best way to do this is to disseminate it to the community.

In this closing issue of the year, we have a set of articles that covers the life cycle but also reiterates that nurses develop very specific techniques, such as the use of traditional and complementary medicine techniques, physical exercise, postural education in school-age children, but also programs or outcomes of interventions such as a person with a stroke undergoing rehabilitation, the impact of respiratory rehabilitation on a person with COPD or rehabilitation in the context of the ICU.

Studies on patient safety become visible in the approach of articles on falls and frailty, which adds value to the intervention of rehabilitation nurses. The predominant pathological identity in this issue is stroke being approached from different perspectives.

There are also, with emphasis, two articles on the issue of inclusion, opening the way to the strong possibility of an area of work with local authorities, whether from the perspective of consultants or providers of people with disabilities. We also verified in this issue the existence of an effort by nurses to theorize about their interventions and in this sense arise: Recognition of the other for the effective work of the rehabilitation nurse from a philosophical reflection and rehabilitation nursing as an emancipatory process.

We are closing a cycle where we can say that the objective of publishing two issues of the journal, with ten articles each, which represented 20 articles per year, written by rehabilitation nurses, has been surpassed. We can also say that the second objective, which is related to indexing, has been progressively achieved and, at the moment, the journal is presented in several databases: Google Scholar (2018); National Library of Portugal (2018); Citefactor (2019) - FI=0.08; Directory of Research Journals Indexing (2020); Researchbib (2020).

We are facing a new challenge, moving to a new platform that guarantees us greater security and ease in blind reviews and, in this way, evolve towards indexing in databases with better impact factors.

We're satisfied with our work and with everyone who contributed to our goals (authors of the articles, reviewers, graphic support and the APER staff). We can only thank and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2021.

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