Editorial

Health and Work



The processes of rehabilitation and re-employment of workers with sequels of sickness/or accidents are subject to practice and research of health professionals this year of 1950, especially with actions directed to the soldiers survivors from the 2° world war. At the time, rehabilitation actions focused on individual attention to the employee and there was dialogue with the workplaces and employers to facilitate the re-employment.

In Brazil, the conformation of this field of knowledge and practice takes place in a specific historical context – the moment of political opening in the late 1970-when social movements interfere in the construction of an agenda that will define the public policies social cutting. This moment is of conquests and culminates with the promulgation of the Federal Constitution of 1988 and, subsequently, with the law 8080 of Sistema Único de Saúde – SUS.

With the creation of SUS and specific public policies for the health of the worker, the performance in this area of knowledge and practices has been strengthening. The complexity and the diversity of health-related disease processes to work follow the transformations of the social, cultural and productive worlds. There was a great impact of the incorporation of technologies in the process of work, an increase in the service sector in the provision of formal jobs, decrease in formal work in the industry and expansion of outsourcing work. In this context, the growing number of situations of absenteeism due to significant indices of accidents and incidence of work-related illnesses, including musculoskeletal disorders and mental disorders.

Added to this, the consolidation of this area as a field of health professionals and your expansion for interdisciplinary practices in interface with disciplines such as sociology, social epidemiology, engineering, psychology and ergonomics, and others. Expand-if so, the prospects for research, teaching and practice of occupational health teams, which boosted the production of knowledge in this field involving relations between the processes of work, illness, return, and especially stay at work with quality of life.

It is in this scenario that the REFACS – Journal Family, Cycles of Life and Health in the Social Context found the importance of publication in this special issue as a space of reflection to broaden the debate and promote the advancement of research and practice in health and Work. The papers presented seek to deepen the discussion on the training of professionals in the field, assistance and care to workers at different levels of health care; risk prevention of accidents; analysis and adaptation of the work process; evaluation of occupational stress and the mental suffering of workers; ability to work; and quality of life at work.

This multiplicity of productions allowed the Exchange and rapprochement between universities and researchers from various fields related to health, work and social security, which act on the national scene. The articles published were participation and authorship of about 40 teachers, professionals and students of undergraduate and postgraduate studies, linked to six institutions of higher education located in four main regions of Brazil.

Taking into account the constraints and the impact of occupational accidents and diseases in individual areas, social, political and economic in the country, and the gap that still exists between programs of prevention, assistance, rehabilitation and return to work, Hopefully, with this Special Edition, contributing to the creation of coping strategies of this reality and, specifically, with the consolidation of interdisciplinary practices and intersectorias in the field "Work and Health".

Good Read!

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Publishers invited