

Title: Advanced nursing education at PhD level in Portugal: analysis of thesis presented in ICBAS, University of Porto

Thematic axis: Nursing and health education

Abstract

Introduction: In Portugal, the Institute of Biomedical Sciences of Abel Salazar (ICBAS) of the University of Porto was a pioneer in providing advanced education for nurses, first with the creation of the Master of Nursing Sciences in 1993, and then with the establishment of the PhD in Nursing Sciences in 2001. The doctoral programme in Nursing Sciences aims to prepare nurses who will be leaders in their field, whether in teaching, research, management or clinical practice.

Objectives: The aim of this study is to do an overview of the theses presented in the PhD in Nursing Sciences programme, through a bibliometric analysis of its abstracts.

Methods: The total of the abstracts of the theses presented from 2002 to 2019 (n=109) in ICBAS, were analysed and data extracted to a file, developed with a qualtrics.^{xm} platform for a larger study of PhD Nursing theses presented in Portugal.

Results: According to the methodology, quantitative studies predominate (47 theses), of which 12 were experimental or quasi-experimental studies, 41 theses used mixed studies and 21 theses used qualitative studies

In relation to the themes under study, and using the Lima Basto classification (Lima Basto, 2009), the research was predominantly organised around the following themes:

- Lived experience by people in the field of health - 40 studies;
- Clinical intervention in nursing - 35 studies;
- Care management - 15 studies;
- Exploration of structuring concepts of the discipline of nursing - 11 studies;
- Nursing education - 9 studies.

Conclusion: The research studies depicted in the theses presented in the Nursing sciences doctoral programme of University of Porto reflect the essence of nursing in its complexity, accompanying the changes in health care needs and in the responses nurses are skilled to offer.

References

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