Author’s response to reviews

Title: Perceptions of Brazilian Nursing Faculty members regarding Literacy of Human Rights related to Health in Nursing Undergraduate Programs

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Reviewer 1

Recomendations

- My only is concern is about the article objectives which, in my view, are not well described. The authors assert that the study "aims to explore the intersection of human rights to health and development as global health competency for nursing." This is quite vague as an article objective and do not really reflect the article conclusions. It is my understanding, taking into account the conclusion, that the authors aimed at investigating/evaluating the need/importance to include the study of international human rights, especially those related to health, in nursing curricula/competency in Brazil.

For these reasons I recommend the authors to clarify the aim/objective of the article in order to reflect and be coherent with the conclusion.

Considerations/Changes

- We accepted the need to clarify the objective and changed it to: identify the perspectives of Brazilian Nursing faculty members about human-rights literacy in nursing programs.
Reviewer 2

Recommendations

- The title of the article is not indicative of the content of the piece.

Considerations/Changes

Nursing Faculty and Human Rights Literacy in Undergraduate Programs

Recommendations

- It is unclear to the reader what is the role of the right to development in the argument made by this piece. None of the questions in the survey seem to refer to the right to development.

Considerations/Changes

We used an instrument previously developed by Canadian physicians and adapted to Nursing (REFERENCE 16). Before the items of the questionnaire, there was an explanation to the participants about the relationship between the right to health and socioeconomic development. This explanation is included in the Methods Section, as it appears below:

“In this study, the responses related to the domain "Health as a human right and a development resource" were evaluated. The domain refers to the nursing students' understanding of human rights, which affect the health of individuals and populations. The relationship among human rights, socioeconomic development and health is an essential element of economic and social development, contributing to the effectiveness of advocacy for the health of patients and communities”.

Recommendations

- The piece advocates for the inclusion of training of health care providers—nurses in particular—in human rights. However, the piece fails to identify the key legal instruments and policy documents with regards to the right to health. The binding legal sources of the right to health are not described. In the 3rd paragraph of the introduction the piece makes a brief reference to the ICESCR (the key treaty) and a vague reference to "other legal documents". The piece argues that human-rights literacy is important for health care-providers. In this line, it will benefit from providing the reader with the key human rights instruments regarding the right to health. The piece does not consider any of the guidelines issues by the WHO that are aimed to inform the training of health-care providers and use a human-rights-based approach.

Considerations/Changes
We thank the reviewer suggestion and inform that we included 4 paragraphs in order to better explain the right to health and key instruments related to that.

Recomendations
- The first two paragraphs on page 5 are unclear and need further research and/or phrasing for clarity.

Considerations/Changes
We excluded the paragraphs.

Recomendations
- In terms of methods, the piece would benefit from (a) a clearer explanation of the method used, (b) a clearer description of the questions asked and (c) a reference to how representative is the sample. The subjects that participated in this study are not sufficiently described. It is unclear to the reader why only "nursing professors" were consulted, why nursing students were excluded, etc.

Considerations/Changes
We thank the reviewer suggestion and inform that we reviewed and clarified the method, description of the questions and sample.

Recomendations
- The question "Describe the role of the World Health Organization (WHO) in the articulation between health and human rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research involving Human Subjects (2002) and the Declaration of Helsinki (2008)" seems to randomly select instruments/documents. It is difficult to establish what was the criteria to select these instruments/documents and exclude a wide range of other documents that could be applicable.

Considerations/Changes
We include the paragraph justified these instruments and Brazilian nursing faculty learning context.
Recommendations

- There is extensive literature on the increasing importance of human rights norms in the delivery of medical care. There is also extensive literature on the importance of applying a HRBA to health care services programming and delivery. This piece will benefit from a stronger literature review in order to assess the state of the art in this matter and therefore indicate more clearly the academic contribution intended with this piece.

Considerations/Changes

We included 5 other references in the text in order to better explain the importance of a HRBA in health care, especially in building capacity of nursing students.