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Evaluation of the Integration of Patient Safety in the Curriculum Design of Health Careers Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile

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Introduction
Patient safety is fundamental to the quality of healthcare and represents a global challenge. Adverse events in healthcare, such as errors in diagnosis, prescription and medication administration, are a leading cause of failure and incapacitation worldwide. It is essential that patient safety is integrated into undergraduate education to prepare future healthcare professionals competent in this discipline. Although current methodologies focus on how to teach these concepts, our study seeks to go further, exploring in depth how patient safety is actually integrated into healthcare curricula.

Keywords: Patient safety, curricular integration, health education, adverse events, quality of health care, professional training.

Aim

The main objective of this study is to evaluate the integration of patient safety in the curricular design of the eight health programs in the Faculty of Medicine. The specific objectives include analysing the structural and organizational elements of the curriculum related to patient safety, exploring the perceptions of teachers and students about this integration, and comparing and correlating the implementation of patient safety among the different programs.

Methods

This study is characterized by a mixed approach, combining quantitative and qualitative methods. This thesis will work with demographic, training and education variables, and curricular integration variables. First, a documentary analysis of relevant research and institutional documents that meet certain inclusion and exclusion criteria will be carried out. Then, Likert-scale surveys will be carried out with students and teachers, and semi-structured interviews with key actors. The data collection instruments will be validated by health education experts and through pilot tests. Quantitative data will be analyzed with the statistical software SPSS, and qualitative data with NVivo. This mixed approach allows to capture both the breadth and depth of the topic, combining the rigor of numerical data and the richness of personal experience accounts.

This doctoral research project is pending approval by the ethics committee of the Faculty of Medicine.

Relevance

Evaluating how patient safety is integrated into the curriculum of health courses is part of a process that seeks to continuously improve the acquisition of necessary skills by future professionals to face the challenges related to providing quality and safe patient care. This study will provide an analysis of the structural and organizational elements of the curriculum of the eight health courses in the Faculty of Medicine, which could contribute to the implementation of educational strategies aligned with international standards and adapted to local needs. It is expected that the results of this research will be considered in educational policies and contribute to providing guidance to decision-makers to promote a culture of patient safety that is reflected in the provision of health care and attention to people.

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