

Exploring Nursing Practices in the Care of Patients with Chronic Diseases: A Multidisciplinary Approach

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Abstract

A documentary review was carried out on the production and publication of research papers related to the study of Nursing and Chronic Patients. The purpose of the bibliometric analysis proposed in this document was to know the main characteristics of the volume of publications registered in the Scopus database during the period 2017-2022 by Latin American institutions, achieving the identification of 354 publications. The information provided by this platform was organized through graphs and figures, categorizing the information by Year of Publication, Country of Origin, Area of Knowledge and Type of Publication. Once these characteristics have been described, the position of different authors on the proposed topic is referenced through a qualitative analysis. Among the main findings made through this research, it is found that Brazil with 242 publications with the highest scientific production registered in the name of authors affiliated with institutions in that country. The Area of Knowledge that made the greatest contribution to the construction of bibliographic material referring to the study of the relationship that exists between nurses and patients, with the quality of the service offered in the intensive care unit, was Nursing, with 216 published documents, and the most used Publication Type during the period indicated above were Journal Articles, with 89% of the total scientific production.

Keywords: *Nursing, Chronic Patients, Multidisciplinarity, Nursing Practices.*

1. Introduction

In the field of healthcare, the treatment of chronic diseases has become a constant challenge. Chronic diseases, characterized by their long-lasting and complex symptoms, have become an important health problem at the international level. This condition, which can end up in a large field of diseases such as diabetes, heart problems, respiratory disorders and autoimmune diseases, impose a great burden on the health system and people such as their families.

In the current health crisis, the role of nursing is the care of patients with chronic diseases. Nursing, as a vital profession in the health air, represents the fundamental principles in care centered on those patients with chronic illnesses, emotions such as compassion and holistic well-being play a unique and essential perspective for patients.

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However, effective chronic disease care requires more than a singular approach, it requires the contribution of a comprehensive ideology that ensures multidisciplinary efforts that take full advantage of the potential of the health professions, emphasizing the area of nursing.

This multidisciplinary and collaborative approach in the area of health highlights the multiple adversities of chronic diseases as it often presents challenges even for the area of medicine. This area recognizes that patients with chronic diseases struggle to have a comprehensive and holistic approach that allows them not only to address their physical health but also to ensure their emotional, psychological, and social well-being. Therefore, the exploration of nursing care carried out hand in hand with other health disciplines such as physicians, clinical psychologists, pharmacists and social workers contribute significantly and successfully to patients with this pathology.

As we navigate this panorama, we not only identify the fundamental aspects of nursing, but we also manage to identify and understand the importance of care from a multidisciplinary approach, since starting from this approach we observe many strategies, challenges and present innovations that in the current decade are transforming the way in which health professionals approach new models of care for patients with diseases chronicles. Ultimately, this collaborative field not only aims to improve health outcomes, but also offers comfort and hope not only for patients but also for their families affected by chronic diseases. For this reason, this article seeks to describe the main characteristics of the compendium of publications indexed in the Scopus database related to the study variables related to the study of Nursing and Chronic Patients, as well. Such as the description of the position of certain authors affiliated with Latin American institutions, during the period between 2017 and 2022.

2. General Objective

To analyze, from a bibliometric and bibliographic perspective, the preparation and publication of research papers in high-impact journals indexed in the Scopus database on the variables Nursing and Chronic Patients during the period 2017-2023 by Latin American institutions.

3. Methodology

This article is carried out through a research with a mixed orientation that combines the quantitative and qualitative method.

On the one hand, a quantitative analysis of the information selected in Scopus is carried out under a bibliometric approach of the scientific production corresponding to the study Nursing and Chronic Patients. On the other hand, examples of some research works published in the area of study mentioned above are analyzed from a qualitative perspective, based on a bibliographic approach that allows describing the position of different authors on the proposed topic. It is important to note that the entire search was carried out through Scopus, managing to establish the parameters referenced in Figure 1.

3.1. Methodological design

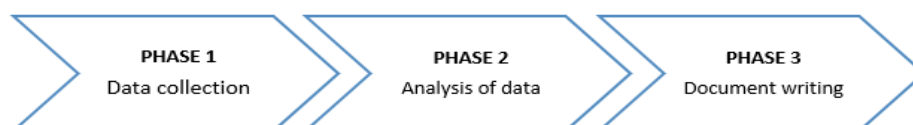


Figure 1. Methodological design

Source: Authors' own creation

3.1.1 Phase 1: Data collection

Data collection was carried out from the Search tool on the Scopus website, where 354 publications were obtained from the following filters:

TITLE-ABS-KEY (nursing, AND chronic AND patients) AND PUBYEAR > 2016 AND PUBYEAR < 2023 AND (LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Brazil") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Colombia") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Chile") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Mexico") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Argentina") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Ecuador") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Cuba") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Peru") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Uruguay") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Puerto Rico") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Costa Rica") OR LIMIT-TO (AFFILCOUNTRY , "Dominican Republic")

- Published documents whose study variables are related to the study of Nursing and Chronic Patients.
- Limited to the period 2017-2022.
- Limited to Latin American countries.
- Without distinction of area of knowledge.
- No distinction of type of publication.

3.1.2 Phase 2: Construction of analytical material

The information collected in Scopus during the previous phase is organized and then classified by graphs, figures and tables as follows:

- Co-occurrence of words.
- Country of origin of the publication.
- Area of knowledge.
- Type of publication.

3.1.3 Phase 3: Drafting of conclusions and outcome document

In this phase, the results of the previous results are analysed, resulting in the determination of conclusions and, consequently, the obtaining of the final document.

4. Results

4.1 Co-occurrence of words

Figure 2 shows the co-occurrence of keywords found in the publications identified in the Scopus database.

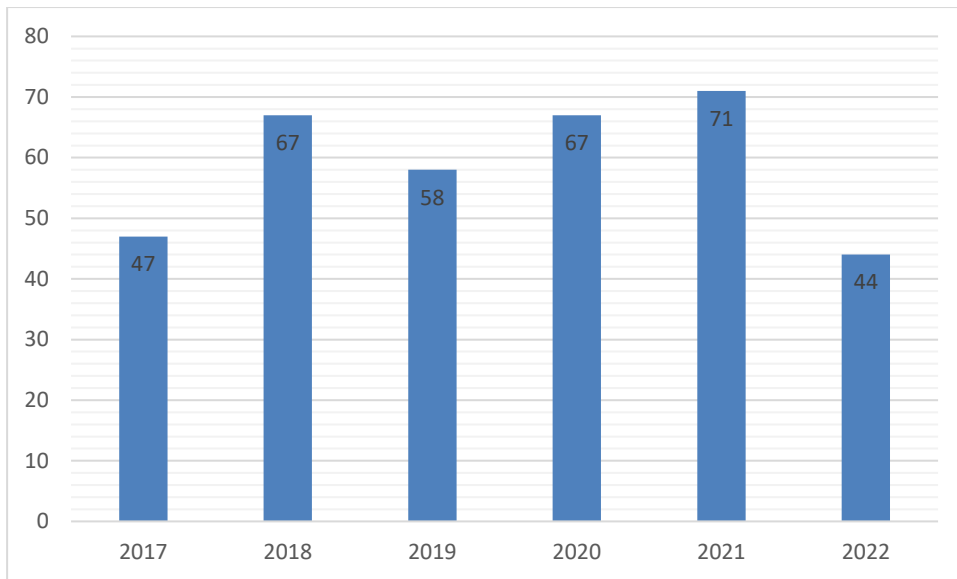


Figure 3. Distribution of scientific production by year of publication.

Source: Authors' own elaboration (2023); based on data provided by Scopus.

Among the main characteristics evidenced through the distribution of scientific production by year of publication, the number of publications registered in Scopus was in 2021, reaching a total of 71 documents published in journals indexed on this platform. This can be explained by articles such as "How do nurses support the participation and self-management of clients with chronic diseases in primary care? A qualitative cross-country study" The aim of this analysis is to examine how primary care nurses understand and shape the engagement of patients with chronic diseases and complex care needs in relation to promoting self-management. Guided interviews were conducted with primary care nurses and key informants in Germany, Spain, and Brazil, with subsequent cross-evaluation of cases. Interpretive and practice patterns based on Grounded Theory were identified. Results: Two patterns of interpretation and practice were identified: (1) Guiding clients to cope with chronic illnesses and (2) supporting the integration of the disease into clients' daily lives. Nurses in the first pattern consider their most important task to be to provide guidance toward behaviors that promote health and disease-related decision-making, providing patients with comprehensive information. Interviewers emphasize client autonomy, but rarely consider the limitations that chronic diseases impose on patients' daily lives.(Hämel, 2022)

4.3 Distribution of scientific output by country of origin

Figure 4 shows how scientific production is distributed according to the country of origin of the institutions to which the authors are affiliated.

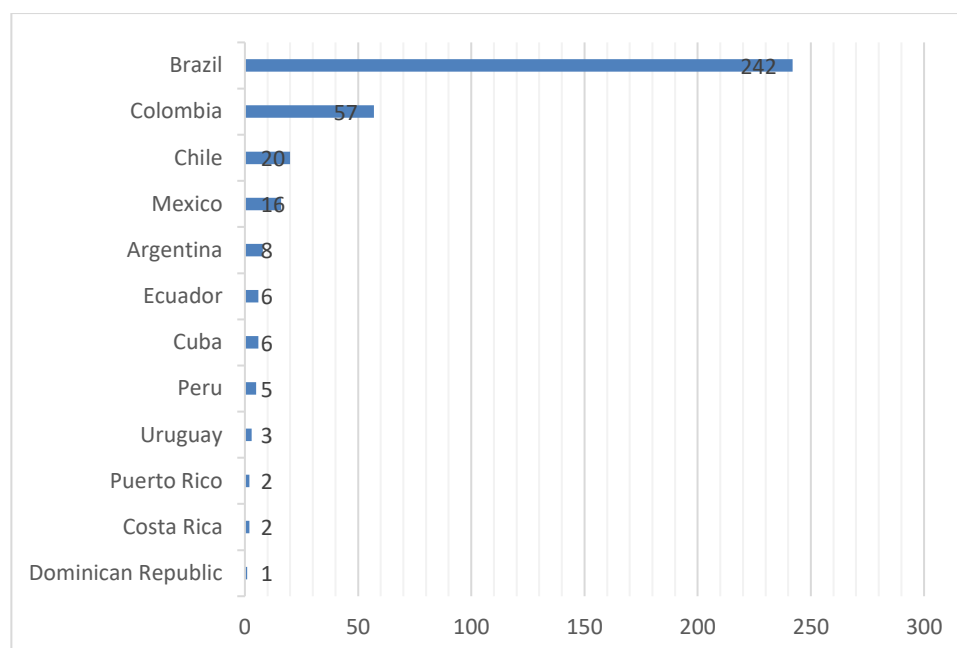


Figure 4. Distribution of scientific production by country of origin.

Source: Authors' own elaboration (2023); based on data provided by Scopus

Within the distribution of scientific production by country of origin, records from Latin American institutions were taken into account, establishing Brazil as the country of this community with the highest number of publications indexed in Scopus during the period 2017-2022, with a total of 242 publications in total. In second place, Colombia with 57 scientific papers, and Chile occupying third place presenting to the scientific community, with a total of 20 documents among which is the article entitled "RhEGF-laden hydrogel in the treatment of chronic wounds in patients with diabetes: clinical cases" The aim of the study was to evaluate the healing process of chronic wounds treated with carboxymethylcellulose loaded with human epidermal growth factor in patients with diabetes. The case series consisted of 10 patients treated at the university hospital for 12 weeks. Data were analyzed using SPSS version 22.0. according to the intention of dealing with the principle, without loss or exclusion of participants. The sample consisted of 70% (7/10) male, with a mean age of 61.9 years (± 9.4); All (100%) had diabetes mellitus and 70% (7/10) had systolic hypertension associated with diabetes mellitus. Sixty percent (6/10) had diabetic lesions and 40% (4/10) had venous lesions; 70% (7/10) had lesions less than 5 years ago. The mean glycated hemoglobin was 7.8% ($\pm 2.7\%$), while the mean ankle-brachial index (IAA) was 0.94 (± 0.21). The mean initial area of all wounds was 13.4 cm² and the mean final area was 7.8 cm², with a reduction rate of 28.9% during the 12 weeks of treatment. The reduction rate of diabetic ulcers was higher (33.4%) than that of venous ulcers (22.1%). Regarding the type of tissue, there was an increase in granulation and epithelialization, and a decrease in slough and the amount of exudate that were statistically significant ($p = 0.021$). (de Oliveira, 2022)

4.4 Distribution of scientific production by area of knowledge

Figure 5 shows the distribution of the elaboration of scientific publications based on the area of knowledge through which the different research methodologies are implemented.

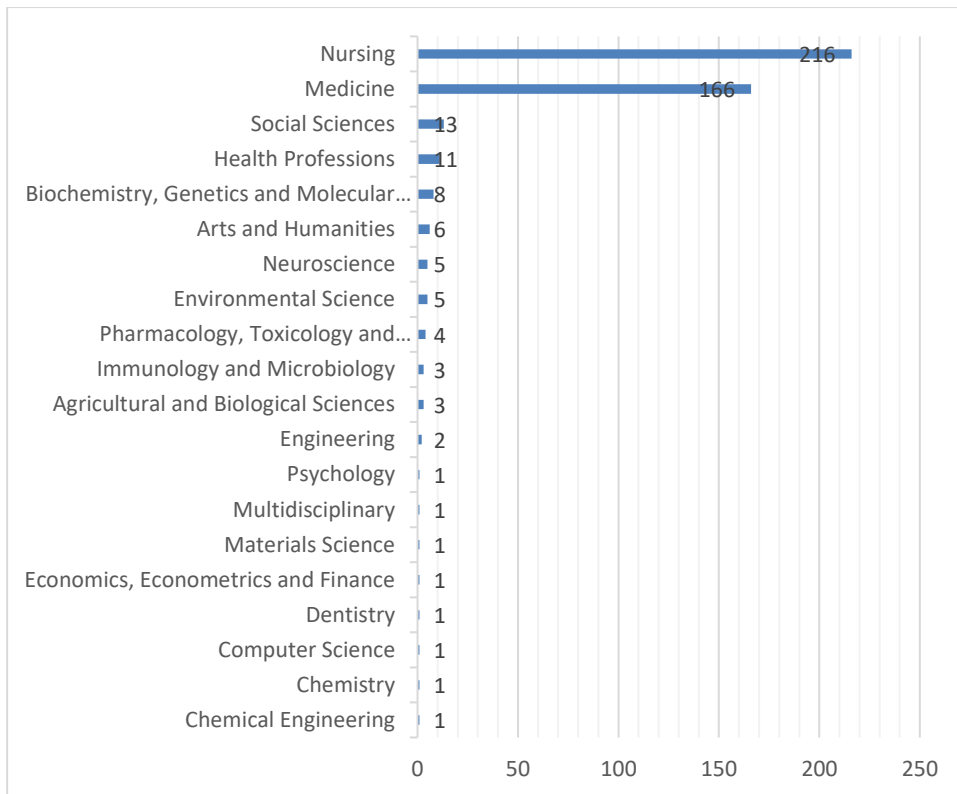


Figure 5. Distribution of scientific production by area of knowledge.

Source: Authors' own elaboration (2023); based on data provided by Scopus

Nursing was the area of knowledge with the highest number of publications registered in Scopus, with a total of 216 documents based on its variable methodologies study are related to the study of the Nursing and Chronic Patients. In second place, Medicine with 166 articles and Social Sciences in third place with 13. The above can be explained thanks to the contribution and study of different branches, the article with the greatest impact was registered by the Nursing area entitled "Efficacy of an educational intervention in the management of an inhalation device among nursing professionals of an emergency department" whose scope of study was to explore the most frequent errors of the inhalation technique (main topic for the pharmacological treatment of asthma exacerbations and/or To assess the effectiveness of an educational intervention. Methods: A prospective quasi-experimental study was conducted in a hospital in Argentina in 2019. For the evaluation of nursing staff, the steps of the Separ-Alat Consensus were used. The educational intervention consisted of oral explanation and visual demonstration of the inhalation technique. Paired data analyses were performed and absolute and relative frequencies were calculated with their respective 95% confidence intervals. Results: A consecutive sample of 72 nurses was included, of which 95.83% (95% CI 88.30-99.13) made at least one error in the initial assessment. The most frequent errors were failure to instruct the patient to exhale prior to inhalation (83.72%), forgetting to remove the air chamber and repeating the steps before the second dose (81.40%). After immediate evaluation after receiving the educational intervention, 74.42% (95% CI 58.83-86.49) corrected the technique. However, at one month, 53.49% (23/43; 95% CI 37.66-68.86) performed the technique correctly.(Gracia, 2022)

4.5 Type of publication

In the following graph, you will see the distribution of the bibliographic finding according to the type of publication made by each of the authors found in Scopus.

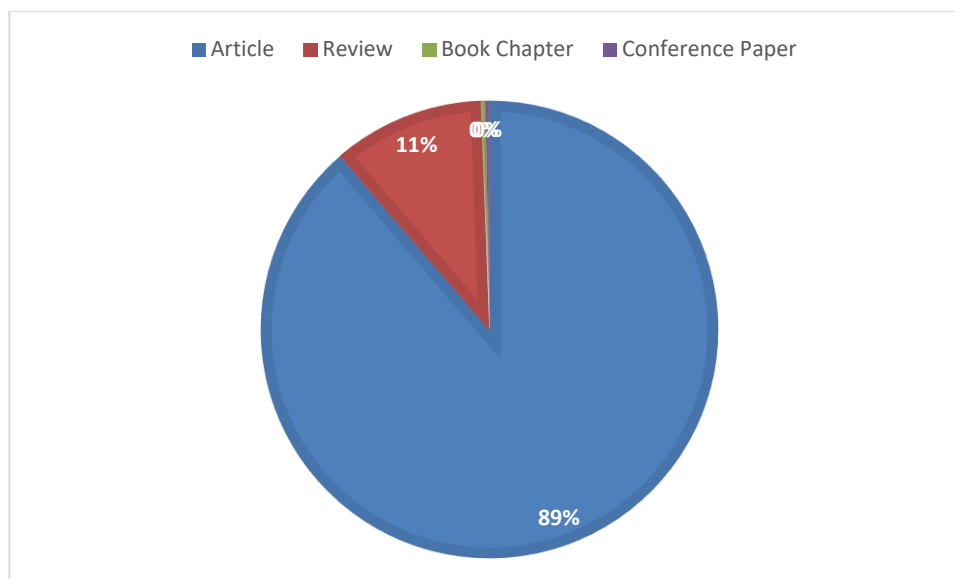


Figure 5. Type of publication.

Source: Authors' own elaboration (2023); based on data provided by Scopus.

The type of publication most frequently used by the researchers referenced in the body of this document was the one entitled Journal Articles with 89% of the total production identified for analysis, followed by Journal with 11%. Chapter of the book are part of this classification, representing 0% of the research papers published during the period 2017-2022, in journals indexed in Scopus. In the latter category, the one entitled "Unplanned versus planned peritoneal dialysis as initial therapy for dialysis patients on chronic renal replacement therapy" stands out. This article aims to compare the infectious and mechanical complications, technique failure, and mortality of a planned PD program versus an unplanned PD program. Design: This was a prospective observational study that included patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) who started PD according to medical recommendation: group 1—planned PD and group 2—unplanned PD. Methods: This study evaluated patients who initiated planned and unplanned PD programs at a teaching hospital from July 2014 to December 2017. Results: A total of 58 patients were included in the planned PD group and 113 in the unplanned PD group. There were differences between the two groups in terms of leaks and hospital admissions, which were more frequent in the unplanned PD group. Periods free of exit site infection, peritonitis, and mechanical complications were longer in the planned group. Cox regression analysis identified age and lower albumin value as factors associated with mechanical complications; peritonitis indicated the presence of ESI and mechanical complications; switching to HD was associated with younger age, mechanical complications, diabetes mellitus (DM), and peritonitis. Factors associated with death were age and lower albumin values. After 48 months, the PD program's growth was 252%. Conclusion: The survival of the technique and the mortality of patients in unplanned PD was similar to that of planned PD, while the period marked by the absence of complications related to PD was longer in the planned PD group (Mendes, 2022)

5. Conclusions

Through the bibliometric analysis carried out in this research work, it was possible to establish that Brazil was the country with the highest number of published records regarding the study variables related to the study of Nursing and Chronic Patients. with a total of 242 publications in the Scopus database. In the same way, it was established that the application of theories framed in the area of Nursing, Multidisciplinary approaches in nursing care for patients with chronic diseases are very beneficial and effective to

improve patient outcomes and quality of life in general. By involving various healthcare professionals, such as nurses, doctors, pharmacists, social workers, and physical therapists, in the care of these patients, a comprehensive and holistic approach can be provided. This multidisciplinary approach allows for better coordination and collaboration among healthcare providers, leading to a more personalized, patient-centered plan of care. Nurses, as an integral part of this team, play a crucial role in coordinating efforts across different disciplines, ensuring effective communication, and providing ongoing support to patients. Through this approach, patients with chronic diseases receive comprehensive evaluations, personalized treatment plans, and ongoing monitoring of their condition. The multidisciplinary team works together to address not only the physical aspects of the disease but also the emotional, social, and psychological needs of patients. In addition, this approach allows healthcare professionals to identify potential complications or comorbidities early on, leading to timely interventions and preventing further deterioration of the patient's health. It also promotes patient education and self-care, empowering people to actively participate in their own care and make informed decisions.

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