

## Praxis and technological development in nursing

Práxis e desenvolvimento tecnológico na enfermagem

*Praxis y desarrollo tecnológico en enfermería*

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The development of nursing as a science is supported by two great pillars, the theoretical and the practical. The first is closely linked to the explanation of the phenomenon, the abstract interfaces of an object, as well as its conceptual robustness. The practical, on the other hand, refers to the prediction and technical and procedural application, linked to the act of doing, acting and intervening.<sup>1</sup>

In this tension between theory and practice, philosophical discussions about praxis emerge. Praxis is the “[...] central category of philosophy that conceives itself not only as an interpretation of the world, but also as a guide for its transformation”.<sup>2,5</sup> This praxis can be understood based on practical awareness (analysis of the act of doing/acting) and praxis (reflection and criticism regarding acting and reinventing practice). Praxis transcends the vision of transforming social activity, in the sense of the evolution of nature, the creation of objects, instruments, technologies, being a transforming activity of man who, insofar as they act on nature, modify it, (re)inventing themselves.<sup>2</sup>

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With this in mind, the development of nursing technologies comprises the construction, validation and evaluation of products and processes, taking into account the consolidation movement of science, with a particular interest in solving problems arising from social needs. It is characterized as a process of interpretation and application of knowledge and practices related to certain phenomena of nursing practice. This process takes as its starting point the real and/or potential needs of the scenario and/or population for which the technology is intended.

The praxis in the development of technologies is understood as the dialogue between theory and practice in a conscious and lucid way, being revealed through the understanding of reality and its relationships. To this end, contextual immersion with reflective-theoretical depth is necessary so that man understands the universe they experience. This interaction must take place in a dialogical way, so that the practical activity seeks theorization and, at the same time, the theory changes according to the requirement of the real, the practical, the everyday.<sup>2-3</sup>

Faced with its growth as a basic, applied and practical science, nursing needs to be strengthened in technological development in a procedural, continuous and applied way to professional reality. We face the lack of specific methods that value and interpret the human conscience involved. It is necessary to think of a theoretical and methodological structure that supports research with this scope. Proposals for dynamic systematization are necessary, based on collective praxis, aiming at the dialogue between researcher, researched and study context, to recognize, capture, interpret, analyze and intervene in practical phenomena.

The potential of praxis lies in the awareness to be developed and achieved by those involved in the process, being at the forefront during the creation of practical solutions. It is necessary to enhance collective participation, boost levels of practical and praxis awareness, aiming at greater reflection, criticism and empowerment. This movement supports the construction of solutions aimed at the real needs of individuals and contexts.<sup>1</sup> Praxis allows (re)interpreting reality and, again, interposing in it an agent of transformation with potential for usability and effectiveness.

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Conception or design of the study; data analysis and/or interpretation; final review with critical and intellectual participation in the manuscript.

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