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THE INVISIBLE CRISIS

Historically, the development and well-being of a society was closely related to the ability of its members to invent and innovate. (1)

Society requires the constant production of knowledge that allows its socio-economic development and well-being (1,2).

In Paraguay, living conditions demand research with an emphasis on social, economic and health policy determinants. The country is in an epidemiological phase of transition, in which it coexists with diseases typical of poverty and those that correspond to developed countries, such as infectious diseases, chronic and degenerative diseases (2). This makes the training of health professionals committed to excellence and social relevance essential; that have as their center scientific research with ethical, reflective values and social commitment. (3)

The need to incorporate the investigative attitude in early stages in the undergraduate training of the medical career is imperative. The evidence shows us that early contact with research increases the training of medical researchers, who currently face great obstacles in several countries around the world, which is reflected in a decrease in medical researchers (4,5). Research is the student's first contact with the scientific method, scientific rigor and the awakening of interest in the best evidence and its application in daily clinical practice, for the benefit of society.

In developing countries, the interest in research in undergraduate training in medicine is inversely proportional to the academic year, being higher in the first years and lower in the last (6). Not only is a crisis due to low production, but also due to their quality (7). Among the factors that may be generating this problem are: lack of financial resources, long training periods, uncertainty of success, distancing from clinical practice and lack of skills in the area of research (4-6).

The university as an entity that trains human resources that contribute to the achievement of a more prosperous society plays a fundamental role as a social actor in the search to close the existing gap in this problem. As part of the process, the institutional proposal for the incentive to research developed since 2019, the implementation of continuous training courses in research, support for scientific societies, the implementation of research seminars from the first years of the career is correct. and the launch of the first medical scientific magazine in the interior of the country.

Let's keep making history!

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