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EDITORIAL

How many scientific papers am I reading a week?

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The Medical Residency is a very important period in the education of physicians, especially because it is a period of training in Services so that the Pediatrician starts to earn his experience and may make his reflections on the professional activity he embraced. It is a very rich period in apprenticeship both from the technical and the improvement views as a human being.

The consultation in all specialties of the medical activity should comply with a systematization and, in spite of the big improvements that have occurred in the diagnostic techniques and in the therapeutic resources, the detailed medical history allied to the thorough physical examination are still the most important elements for the proper diagnostic formulation and the correct guidance of the patient.

The continuing progress of medicine shall never change the human nature of the medical act, representing a combination between science and art. The physician needs the technical knowledge integrated with the skills of communication and empathy in the performance of his professional activity. Several factors shall always be interacting in the relationship between the physician and the patient and his family members, depending on the persons involved: the education, the personality, the sensitivity, the empathy capacity, the culture, the prejudices, the myths of the individuals involved in the relationship, that should always serve the bigger purpose of helping the diseased and interpret properly the clinical condition. The physician should develop the capacity to understand the persons he sees, to make a daily exercise to expand his critical analysis, besides knowing the proper and updated techniques that he should use.

Just as the physician evaluates his patient from the start, the patient and his family members also evaluate the physician in all his attitudes, gestures, postures, voice intonation, interest, attention, procedures performed and words used.

The Medical Residency in Brazil has been changing along the last years and faces some challenges. With the duration expanded to three years, the pediatricians are more educated, and several areas of knowledge are expanded, and thus the attention and the assistance to the children and to the teenagers shall be more complete. On the other hand, more services, more tutors and better conditions in the structuring of the services shall be required, in order to better assist the pediatric patients and better form the new pediatricians.

Currently there are in Brazil 276 programs of Medical Residency in Pediatrics and the Brazilian Pediatrics Society is concerned of how such programs are doing, and how it can collaborate with those young pediatricians! To this end, one of the points to be emphasized is the *Residência Pediátrica* journal, which is improving every day, is already available in three idioms, always with papers turned to the knowledge updating of those young pediatricians. The editorial committee has developed its work with extreme diligence, seeking to look at the inquietudes and desires of the young pediatricians.

It is essential that the interns start to become close to the scientific methodology, because some shall go on in the academic life, and besides, they may also start to develop their critical attitude upon reading scientific papers in order to update their knowledge.

The Interns should have the support to develop and exert the diagnostic reasoning and the critical and reflective attitude in the face of the new situations, in order to become good professionals, and for that, they need to become accustomed to evaluate the circumstances around them, assess themselves, always read and study and have their knowledge updated.

The tutors have an important role as examples and as mentors of the youngest. And they should always encourage the youngest to read and write papers.

And why one should write papers? To share the knowledge, to add value to other patients, to disseminate the outcomes of scientific research; to exchange knowledge and expertise with colleagues at national and international level; to develop instruments of productivity assessment in a research group; to solidify the researcher career; for personal satisfaction. We are in fact, proud of developing a project, achieving it and sharing its results.

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Do all interns should always ask themselves: how many scientific papers am I reading on a week basis? Sometimes time is short, but this exercise is essential to create the habit of reading and develop the critical spirit.

In this issue, the RM brings us most of the papers, in which the interns participate actively in their making, with their tutors, when we draw attention to this fundamental aspect that is the creation of knowledge, from the experiences lived in each Service.

From the case reports brought in, other readings, new searches and bibliographic researches may be done, encouraging the curiosity and new questions and it is exactly how the scientific knowledge evolves and the interns should, whenever possible, to be connected to a group of research, because then they may develop their monographs, present their papers in congresses and publish scientific papers. In the Residency there should be lectures and guidelines on scientific methodology, discussion of papers and the Brazilian Society of Pediatrics has been making all efforts towards those trends, contributing to the expansion of the youngest pediatricians' knowledge.