



Internationalization of health research: Reflections and challenges in health

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The context of globalization permanently influences the internationalization of a large number of human tasks, whether they obtain tangible or intangible results to be shared globally; Since the 1980s, this behavior has been generating concerns in the field of education, also mediating the possibility of internationalizing research.

For the above reasons, research, as well as teaching and links with society, is one of the substantive functions of universities, however, as a country, scientific production deserves greater positioning and its international presence, compared to the capacities it possesses. The widespread conception that university scientific production is inherently and intrinsically international has contributed to the non-proliferation of empirical research.

Health research as such is a broad, multidisciplinary field that aims to understand, improve, and preserve the health of human beings. It encompasses a variety of areas, from molecular biology to public health to clinical care. What is essential to advance the understanding of diseases, and improve the treatments that will be applied?

At present, health research is at a point of convergence, due to the various changes in all life indicators, in this dynamic context, the internationalization of health research emerges as a phenomenon that goes beyond transnational collaboration, which leads to the accelerated generalization in the training of researchers. The formation of scientific communities, the organization of research, the modes of knowledge production, dissemination of results, and modalities of knowledge transfer, in this sense, this concept has been universalized to describe this phenomenon.

Currently, internationalization can be considered as a characteristic of the field of R+D, understood as the result of the expressions of the international dimension in scientific policies,

in the multiple actors, in scientific activities, in the dissemination of results, and the impacts associated with it. Therefore, collaboration between researchers, institutions, and countries is essential to address health challenges at the global and local levels. In addition, the ethical application of research findings is crucial to ensure that they benefit communities fairly and equitably.

Therefore, I will consider the concept of genuine cooperation of Dr. Herman Van de Velde, professor at UNAN Managua and coordinator of ABACOenRED, as a fundamental pillar in the process of internationalization of health research in its different contexts and approaches, this concept allows us to reach the formation of a learning community, based on cooperative attitudes, respecting the concrete experiences that allow improving the quality of life, not for a specific sector but for all, that is, a holistic and integral approach from the interaction of the components that constitute it.