

EDITORIAL

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Acknowledgement and farewell

Those who choose the pursuit cannot fear the crossing.

Alfredo Bosi

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Early next year we will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Vigilância Sanitária em Debate journal. This project was envisioned and designed by health professionals who believed in the importance of disseminating scientific knowledge in this field to fill an enormous gap.

From inception to achievement, the journal has written a story of resistance and challenges, especially in this time of political, economic and socio-cultural turmoil, reversal of humanistic values, and substantial cuts in public health and research funding, among others.

It is urgent that we rethink research, knowledge and its dissemination, so that we can rebuild the foundations that will enable this knowledge to promote the continuation of health surveillance work in a perishing country.

In times of dismantling of essential public policies, like the Unified Health System, and of regulation not always in line with the ideals of good healthcare, only knowledge and the debate it triggers can relieve our hopelessness and give new momentum to some old questions:

How much can the knowledge produced contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of the population? How does this come about?

How can this knowledge qualify public policies? How can open-access research inform managers' decisions?

What is expected of a new journal - in times like these - in addition to the ratings and impositions of foreign science to the peculiarity of this journal?

These challenges must mobilize the time and the best efforts of researchers, technicians and managers. After all, a journal is collectively made for the collective. Scientific knowledge that is valuable in a world of increasing virtuality, artificiality, disorder and transformation can only be achieved if it goes beyond itself and embrace other collectives.

At a time when changes also hurt scientific publications, I want this journal to increasingly attract the attention from readers, answer some old questions and gain more and more recognition. I want this journal to go beyond the pursuit of internationalization and the challenge of professionalization - I want it to help us find answers to the questions above.

As the executive editor, I take this opportunity to say goodbye to the staff of the journal and its host institution - the INCQS - where I had the privilege of working for more than three years.

I bid farewell and appreciate the attention of our readers and the hard work of the scientific editors and reviewers, and everyone who supported the growth of this journal.

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I hope that the work to build more knowledge in health surveillance will continue to challenge our citizen intelligence and be a humanistic exercise that includes empathy and firmness, science and passion, tenacity and love for the public cause.

My best regards to my colleagues at Fiocruz, with whom I learned a lot and dreamed of a better future.

I hope you enjoy our August issue!

REFERENCES

1. Bosi A. Céu, inferno: ensaios de crítica literária e ideológica. 2a ed. São Paulo: Duas Cidades/Editora 34; 2003. (Coleção Espírito crítico). p. 45