

Editorial

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Health regulation is faced with a number of challenges every day, like the COVID-19 pandemic by SARS-CoV-2. Rising to these challenges and at the same time continuing to perform routine activities requires the implementation of management tools that facilitate planning, execution, and assessment. This can enable gains in efficiency and effectiveness, and improve the actions done by health regulation to promote and protect the health of citizens and society.

The topic of assessment in health has been gaining momentum in recent years because of its relevance, usefulness, and applicability, not only for evidence-based management and decision-making, but also for the development of indicators, methods, techniques, and even health policies that have a direct impact on people's lives. Thus, health regulation, as a field of Collective Health, can also use assessment as a tool to improve processes and projects, check its performance, and measure the effectiveness of its actions. In this sense, the assessment practice of health regulation can prompt reflection on its organization models, support decision-making, and change its processes, considering the political, economic and social context, the health conditions of the population, and the health risks involved.

In this context, this thematic issue of the *Vigilância Sanitária em Debate: Sociedade, Ciência & Tecnologia* (Health Surveillance under Debate: Society, Science & Technology) – *Visa em Debate* journal is unprecedented, as it encourages the institutionalization of assessment practices in Brazil's National Health Regulation System (SNVS): from theoretical-methodological Proposal to practical experiences, with a series of experiences and results of action done in the area of assessment.

The institutionalization of assessment practices is the result of many debates over the past few years within the scope of the SNVS tripartite management - form of the organization the Brazilian state. In this sense, the goal of this institutionalization is the modeling of interventions within the scope of health regulation, including the components of management, regulation, health control, health risk monitoring, information, communication, and health education.

To meet the challenge of producing knowledge by relating the topics of assessment to the objects of health regulation, this issue features studies on various health regulation processes from across the country.

This issue presents studies that discuss methods to design professional competence guidelines, bringing the facilitating and challenging aspects of implementing a continuing education model for the SNVS. It also brings manuscripts about the progress of some programs, like the patient safety, and the assessment of health regulation action, including analytical tests and inspections, in addition to the irregularities and main non-compliant found in trades and services object to health regulation. Quality management is present with the analysis of hemotherapy services.

Evaluation has been bringing a series of discussions in the area of risk management among diverse territorial units, a topic that is also present in the action of health regulation. Space is given to discuss how municipalities health regulation crew can implement procedures to streamline and harmonize licensing within trade and services based on risk management.

This issue also presents proposals for techniques, like theoretical modeling to institutionalize assessment practices in health regulation, bringing a discussion about indicators for the assessment of health regulation action.

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Considering the needs of the population in a context of innovation and emerging technologies, the production of knowledge and research in the field of assessment of health regulation enables a new look, a new perspective on health regulation, as its action is part of and has a direct impact on the policies of Brazil's Health System.

Enjoy!