

Impacts of national health research policies on Public Health scientific production in Brazil (2003-2007): a couple of indicators

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Introduction

This investigation was carried out aiming to identify the impacts of Brazilian national research policies in the Healthcare field. It was done throughout the analysis of the Brazilian scientific production in healthcare, using themes of scientific papers indexed on the Latin American and Caribbean Health Sciences (LILACS). This bibliographic index database was compared to themes of Public Health and the Brazilian National Program of Priorities in Public Health (ANPPS).

Methodological Approach

Aiming to put together Public Health scientific production and ANPPS, we developed a re-indexing data process, in order to make these data consistent with the terminology from ANPPS. The bibliographic data were extracted from the LILACS database. For the bibliometric analysis, we selected the following subprograms: **Black Population's Health, Indigenous People's Health, Women's Health**. In addition, the theme **HIV-AIDS** is part of **Contagious Disease** subprogram, considered an important worldwide research field.

Results and Discussion

The chart on Figure 1 shows the frequency distribution of bibliographic records found in the analyzed *corpus*. In that figure, the scientific production's data are clustered by years and separated by subprograms. Considering the data quantitatively, it can be noted that the highest frequencies were associated to **Contagious Disease**. This percent value found corroborate the fact reported by Bertolli Filho (1996) and Campos (2007) about the historical recurrent epidemics diseases during Brazilian Colonial, Imperial and Republican periods. Although, there is little scientific production related to **Black Population's Health** and **Indigenous People's**.

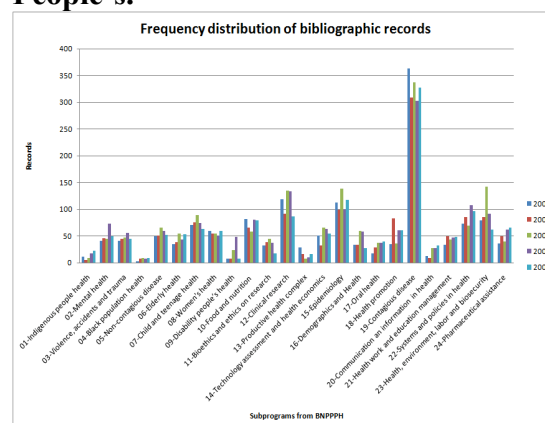


Figure 1. Frequency distribution of bibliographic records found in the *corpus* (from 2003 to 2007).

HIV-AIDS issue – a contagious disease – is of great importance issue in order to create actions for epidemiological control. This theme, related to Contagious Disease subprogram, contains 139 papers. Black Population's Health (subprogram 4, with 35 papers – 0.46%) and Indigenous People's Health (subprogram 1, with 64 papers – 0.84%) were themes with lower number of scientific production. Although these populations' groups are part of Brazilian health policies, the analyzed data indicate the lack of specific studies of these populations during the analyzed period. The few number of paper associated with this issues may indicate inattention to specific health problems present in these groups. It is found the distribution of research in Women's Health (subprogram 8, with 279 papers – 3.67%).

Figure 2 shows the relationship between primary and secondary descriptors in papers related to **Indigenous People's Health**.

In this chart two clusters are highlighted: (1) the first on the incidence of illnesses such as helminthiasis, leishmaniasis, malaria, measles, hepatitis; and (2) the second cluster shows the incidence of pulmonary and contagious disease (Chagas disease and AIDS).

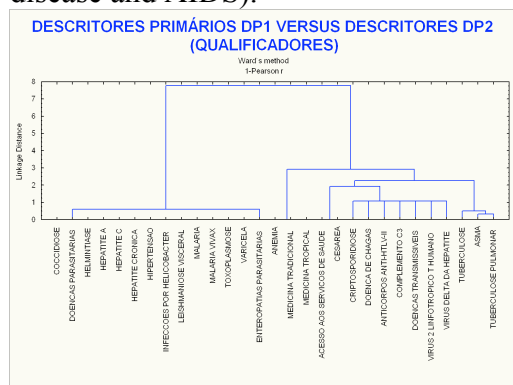


Figure 2. Descriptors relationships in Indigenous People's Health subprogram.

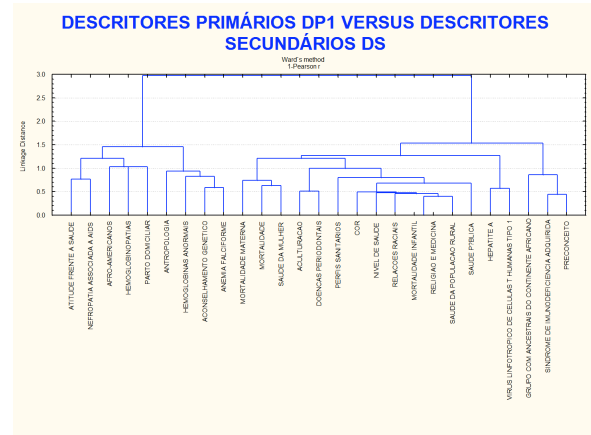


Figure 3 Relationship of descriptors in Black People's Health subprogram.

Figure 3 presents an analysis conducted on Black Population's Health. The obtained clusters present studies on recurrent disease in this population such as nephropathies, hemoglobinopathies, falciform anemia, periodontal diseases, hepatitis and AIDS. Some studies directed to socio-cultural areas using anthropological approaches as acculturation, race relationships, religion, Medicine and prejudice.

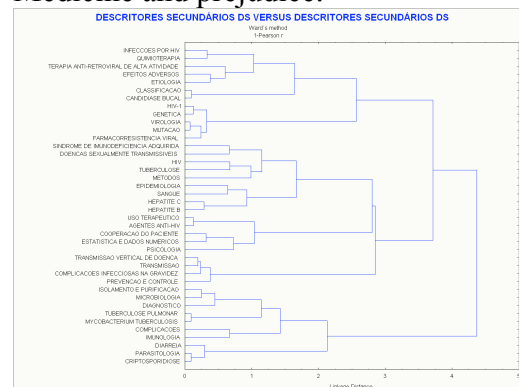


Figure 4. Relationship of Descriptors in Contagious Disease subprogram and HIV-AIDS.

Figure 4 depicts the relationship among descriptors found in papers about HIV-AIDS. The co-occurrences in this chart refer to secondary descriptors and qualifiers. It shows the main opportunistic diseases related to this syndrome, such as tuberculosis, hepatitis, diarrhea, candidiasis, kinds of therapy and immunology studies, as well as aspects related to transmission of HIV at childbirth and intercourse sexual transference.

Figure 5, on Women's Health, shows the analysis of the correlation between primary descriptors. This chart shows the main research themes identified in the corpus: family planning, diseases of women, female cancers, pregnancy, childbirth and kinds of health care for women.

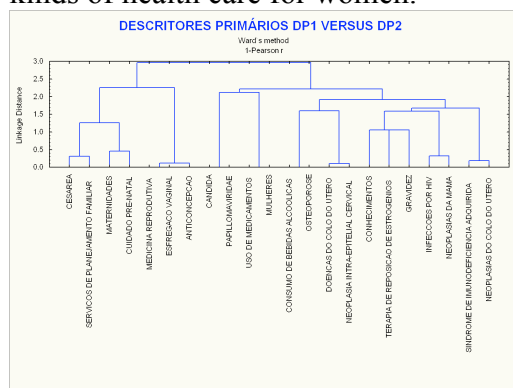


Figure5. Women's Health primary relationship of descriptors

Conclusion

The bibliometric analysis on specific issues of Black Population's Health, Indigenous People's Health, Women's Health and HIV-AIDS points to positive impacts from

the implementation of ANPPS Program and scientific production.

Although Black Population's Health and Indigenous People's Health subprograms are old healthcare problems in Brazil – which should receive special attention – they have gained attention only from the implementation of ANPPS policies.

References

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