

The courage of making the difference

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The challenge to be overcome with this special issue of REBEn is the invisibility of Nursing care in the attention to the people with Leprosy.

The time is now and, taking advantage of the a Nurse's actuation in national media with the official campaign of Health Ministry (2008) "Health: it's good to know", that aimed at disseminating information about Hansen's disease and to promote premature diagnostic for the disease.

If the country needs to eliminate Leprosy, it is highly mandatory the involvement of health workers and, in special, the involvement of Nursing workers in the improvement of care quality to the people, to promote self-care, the premature detection and proper treatment.

ABEn strategically closes a partnership with the National Program of Fighting Against Leprosy and meets its commitment of thinking and re-thinking nursing care as an instrument of citizenship, making investments in training processes to allow the professionals of the area to build an attention paradigm centered in care and quality of life.

With this perspective, REBEn presents clear and quality information, so that managers and workers can base their decisions, considering the need in advancing toward the construction of a care model centered in health surveillance, with suitable interventions and mobilization for the population.

With that, it is possible to improve both professionals' knowledge and decision-making, to improve the knowledge of managers as well their decisions, and finally, to improve the quality of political decisions.

Nursing announces and disseminates their control actions for Leprosy in Brazil, aiming to qualify these actions and nursing care in the direction of integrality, with the courage of making the difference in health services, having as an example the Nurse Paula Brandão, who was affected by the disease and is currently acting in the care of persons who are also affected. Those patients can count on her personal experience and professional commitment.