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Formative principles of the Latin American Occupational Therapist in the 21st century

Paula Soto, Sandra Mella, Irene Muñoz, Laura Rueda, Vivian Villarroel
Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile

Introduction

The processes of the contemporary world governed from the context of the globalisations, bring about new demands for the profile of the professional Occupational Therapist who develop the discipline in the region typified like third world - Latin American -, the climate of constant socio-economic instabilities, the varied cultures and the permanent dependencies of industrialized and technocratic societies; they cause that the occupational therapist must acquire competences that allow him to adapt to different contexts and realities.

In the School of Occupational Therapy of the University of Chile a project of action research is developed from 2007, for a curricular innovation based on competences, this project involves different scopes of study, one of these has relation with determining the main elements around which it must turn on a formative program that it qualifies to the professional futures like managers of diverse interventions that foment the human development.

Goals:

1. To establish the educative principles fundamentals for a program of formation of occupational therapists in Latin America.
2. To formulate the curricular principles for a program of formation of occupational therapists in Latin America.

Methods

The kind of research is an action research. In addition it uses the goal analysis of bibliographical revisions. The studied universe corresponds to the involved excellent actors in the formative process: students, academic, employers, and professionals stand out.

Conclusion

It is managed to establish a new plan of formation based on competences, coherent and innovator with the needs of the country and the present demands of formation of the Higher Education, for the professional occupational therapist, concerning pre-degree, of the University of Chile.

Contribution to the practice/bases evidencial of the occupational therapy. The design of innovating and coherent formative plans, favours the generation of professionals able to transform the society in which they develop from his critical thought, creativity and capacity to contextualise his performance, to the requirements always changing.