

APPRENTICESHIP OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY IN BASIC CARE/STRATEGY OF FAMILY HEALTH: THE EXPERIENCE OF THE REATA LABORATORY- USP's LABORATORY OF REHABILITATION AND ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY STUDIES

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This is a report of the experience of teaching at the trade and technical levels, students of the 7th/8th semesters of the undergraduate course in Occupational Therapy at University of São Paulo/Brazil (420 hours/semester). The medical care practices occur in the Basic Health Unit/(UBS)São Jorge-West Zone, city of São Paulo, by means of the Strategy of Family Health, with actions in the community and the home.

The experience provides the articulation of the theoretical basis for the practical actions with the handicapped, incapacitated and aging populations, besides other users of the UBS such as pregnant women, babies, etc. Interventions of the clinical, preventive, educational, constitution of social networks of support and of articulation to dismantle the social exclusion processes of people in the processes of domicile and community segregation types are developed. The teamwork with interdisciplinary focus is promoted by means of activities in conjunction with other health teams (family health/buccal health/specialists).

The users benefit from care focused on their needs and the academy is enriched by developing partnerships with public services of the health system, with practices that surpass the doctor-organistic principles. All actions strive to conquer autonomy and independence of the users and their families, through the development of their personal power to make their own decisions and take control of their lives. The Occupational Therapy students, in this context, are stimulated to develop roles as articulators of these purposes, using the different therapeutic intervention resources.

In the obtained results, besides the advantageous partnership academy-health services, the students are being prepared to act in public health, in Basic Care, knowing new intervention technologies in health, including testing and developing actions traditionally considered as high technology (assistive technologies) in the home, providing the usufruct of health care many times unavailable to the users. The conclusion is that the apprenticeship carried out in Basic Care contributes to the formation of professionals who better understand the public health system, embrace the people in their particular needs, taking into consideration not only their diagnosis, but their dwelling place, the singularities of their families and their relation to the community as well.