

University Education in Mental Health in Argentina.

Adequacy of existing curricula to Recommendations for Universities related to the National Mental Health and Addictions Law No. 26.657

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The National Law on Mental Health and Addictions is based in...

- Community Mental Health tradition
- Human rights perspective

Helps overcoming the tutelar paradigm and stigma of imprisonment - danger - madness - medicalization

National Mental Health and Addictions Law No. 26.657 (2010)

Recommendations for
Universities related to Mental
Health derived from National
Law on Mental Health and
Addictions.



Four main dimensions:

- 1) Human rights perspective
- 2) Interdiscipline and intersectoriality
- 3) Social inclusion
- 4) Public health

Guidelines for the
improvement of the
training of
professionals in Mental
Health

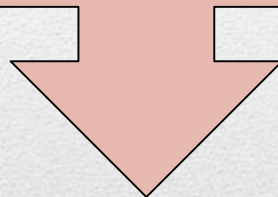


Reaches the professions
of Law, Nursing, Medicine,
Psychology and Social
Work.

Main Objective

Characterize the adequacy of current curricula of undergraduate degree programs involved in the field of mental health, to the “Guidelines for the improvement of the training of professionals in Mental Health”.

Law implementation processes require consistent actions.
In order to make viable the implementation of the
mentioned law is necessary to

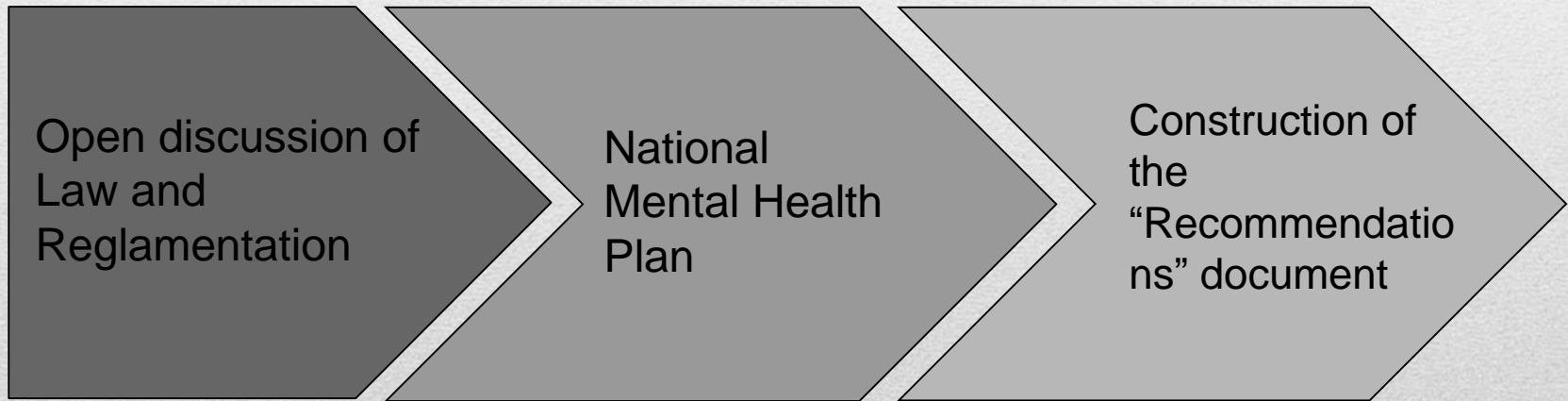


1. Review of knowledge and practices.
 2. Training professionals on community, interdiscipline, and intersectoral work.
 3. Provide adequate health resources.
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Law No. 26.657

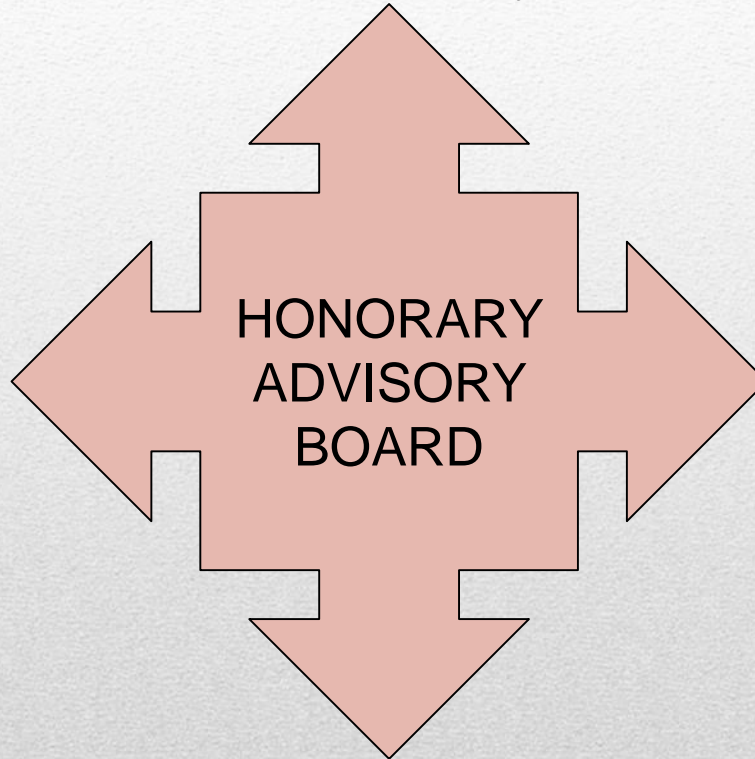


Participatory processes



Professional Associations
(Argentinian Association of
Occupational Therapy took part)

Clients' Associations



Universities involved
in Education of Mental
Health professions.
(Universidad Nacional
de Lanús took part)

Families and relatives' Associations

Methodology

Design

Exploratory, descriptive
and qualitative.

Sources and Instruments

Sistematic observation of
documentary sources (curricula,
programs, and Recommendation
document)

Sample

Universities, careers,
and curricula of Law,
Nursing, Medicine,
Psychology,
Occupational Therapy
and Social Work.

Processing and data analysis

Content and discourse analysis.
Triangulation of programmes
and interviews with qualified and
key informants

Preliminary Results

The adaptation of the study plans to the Recommendations of the Law No 26.657, is different considering the discipline, year of the study plan, and theoretical perspectives of the career as a whole (i.e. programmes of religious universities, careers with human rights approach, etc.)

Preliminary Results

Data collection started with the analysis of 102 courses. It was found greater adequacy in the careers of Medicine and Nursing, specially in updated study plans.

Occupational Therapy courses include Mental Health contents in various subjects.

OT courses show that human rights perspective is different among courses, interdiscipline is included in basic contents, but not always intersectoriality. Social inclusion is adressed in some subjects but not indicated as basic contents.

Conclusions

- It is essential that OT courses adequate their curricula to the Guidelines to assist in full implementation for Mental Health Law
 - Need to work towards the profession being recognized as a profession that grants the public interest.
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THANK YOU

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