

The 30 Years of SUS and the Model of Cancer Care portrayed in RBC

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Os 30 Anos do SUS e do Modelo de Atenção ao Câncer retratados na RBC

Los 30 Años del SUS y del Modelo de Atención al Cáncer retratados en la RBC

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Throughout its 30-year history, the Brazilian Unified National Health System (SUS) has become one of the world's most democratic and inclusive health systems. Its principles and guidelines have guaranteed expansion and access to health services and actions, with a significant impact on quality of life and increased life expectancy for the Brazilian population¹. During these 30 years, the structuring and organization of the cancer care model have occupied an outstanding place on the country's policy agenda².

The current context reveals the impact of cancer on the burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and points to the global need to rethink government strategies for the population's health care. Cancer will become the leading cause of death from disease in the world and is already considered the main barrier to increasing the population's life expectancy in the 21st century³. It is thus necessary to develop strategies to deal with this challenge.

In order to highlight the relevance of this context, the Brazilian Journal of Oncology (RBC), as part of its editorial policy in these last three decades, has published important scientific articles emphasizing the progress and challenges in cancer care and their effects on related health indicators.

Since the passage of Brazil's 1988 Constitution and the creation of the Unified National Health System, the Brazilian Journal of Oncology has systematically led the discussion and promoted knowledge on cancer control policy and activities^{2,4,5}, in addition to publishing articles that assess the impact of this history in the last 30 years².

In keeping with the principles of the Unified National Health System, namely universal coverage^{6,7}, equity⁸, and comprehensive health care^{9,10}, the Brazilian Journal of Oncology has prioritized studies aimed at analyzing and proposing solutions to the challenges in Brazil's cancer care model. Equally important priorities are studies on the incorporation or assessment of innovations in the entire line of care for individuals with cancer, identifying improvements in the strategies for prevention^{8,9}, early diagnosis¹⁰, treatment¹¹, and end-of-life care¹².

Considering that a health system capable of overcoming inequalities in cancer care requires highly qualified professionals¹³ and the development of sustainable and innovative research¹⁴, it is also in the interest of the Brazilian Journal of Oncology to publish articles on these themes.

This edition aims to expand this discussion by publishing three opinion articles by specialists in this topic, in addition to other studies that contribute substantially to understanding the cancer care model in the Unified National Health System.

The Brazilian Journal of Oncology, committed to science, fundamental human rights, and the improvement of living conditions for individuals with cancer, intends to continue to collaborate in this debate, as a channel for sharing opinions, analyses, assessments, and proposals, fostering interdisciplinary and inter-sector dialogue with scientific production in the field of oncology.

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