In order to keep its transdisciplinary characteristics, the present edition of Reciis – Electronic Journal of Communication, Information & Innovation in Health – brings a set of articles that will, once more, invite and stimulate the readers to link the information, communication, and innovation areas. Technologies of information and communication (TIC) together with ethnography points the direction to several possibilities of new researches.

Rethinking formalization processes in computerized systems: analyzing the co-evolution between software and organizational practices is an alert about the risks of passively accepting the speech on TIC’s potential to improve the organizational practices. A software, as a product of social practices converted into computer programs is a good reminder of the impossibility to dissociate the social and technical dimensions of the technological artifacts. Amongst other contributions, this article raises questions and methodologies still poorly explored in the Brazilian health information system (HIS) studies highly influenced by the ingenuous formalism, leaving to the health area the challenge of understanding the interoperability of the information systems far beyond the technical and technological queries. One should understand interoperability as a term which can link particular and peculiar knowledge to practice.

A look over the forms of social interactions provided by the TIC is presented in Interaction in virtual learning environments: an analysis of two discussion forums. The paper is a result of the analysis of two discussion forums available in the same class of lato sensu specialization in health. The potential of the technologies in the knowledge construction is performed according to certain “interests” that may be explicit by the pattern of information flow and interaction degree in the social networks extent. The use of quantitative methods resulting from the analysis of social networks and qualitative methods arising from learning in virtual environments points to the potentials derived from the use of technologies of computerized analysis to evaluate the use of informational technologies.

Still under a socio technical point of view the article The dynamics of biomedical research organization in Brazil: the anatomy of a recent experience at the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation explores, for the first time, the strategies which oriented the biomedical research processes in Brazil. From the analysis of a research funding program, this case report points to the central role of the cooperation networks. As a report, the text reveals the importance of the records and the knowledge formalization to learn from the past experiences.

Ethnography is the proposed means to tell the story of another rich experience of health education in Brazil in the article Healing verses: ethnography of popular healing practices in visual poetry. A collection of “cordel” (cheap pamphlets) is the start point to recreate the “Terceira Viagem dos Poetas ao Brasil – Nordeste – Caravana da Saúde”, in order to reinforce the importance of divulging science taking into consideration the local knowledge. Analyzing a group of documents about diseases and cure as object of an anthropological investigation, the author contributes to the new look over the produced materials on the health education field. With an invitation to the body ethnography the text Disability and medical inspection: the outline of the body points the centralization in the values of independency and insertion in the working market in the technical speech on the election for certain individuals to the policies of social protection. The authors highlight that the construction of a defective body is not a “descriptive and objective act about lesions but a moral speech on which social expectations are not possible to be attended by certain bodies”. The biomedical description that includes someone in the State Social Protection System is the same description that stigmatizes and excludes this individual from the social system. The transformation of the biomedical speech, anchored in the pathology, into one which incorporates all the
social components of the experience of the deficiency is a long process that will demand an effort of the public policies, where information and communication have a fundamental role.

The relation between environment and health are the scenery to the Climatic zoning of conditions for the development of the larva of the mosquito that transmits the dengue fever virus in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, a contribution which confirms the importance of using the research in the formulation of public policies in the health area.

The Report section, besides the book reviews, is opened to the new writings and mediations in health, which aims to be a forum to several means of expression and production taking health as a subject for reflection. Reports on the documentary The House of the Dead and on the film The End of Silence launch this section.

Enjoy your reading!

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Editors