

## The science and art of the nursing care process in times of COVID-19

La ciencia y el arte del proceso de atención de enfermería en tiempos de la COVID-19

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Dear readers;

On September 2, 1961, Pinar del Río opened its arms to the first nursing assistants graduated in the province. These committed healthcare professionals culminated their training to join up the nursing staff in a context of growing needs for the health of the population.<sup>(1)</sup>

These healthcare professionals marked the commencement of a large process that, at the present time, is in constant transformation: the training of human resources to become nurses. Along the years, this career is shaping up according to the requirements of these times, the situation of the population's health status and the need of knowledge and procedures sustained on the scientific method.

Sixty years after the beginning of the Teaching of Nursing Specialty in the province, the precepts of this training process have not changed: to achieve of a competent graduate, who must be able to provide care based on scientific practice and on the noble art of healing with love.

Some days ago the International Day of Nurses was celebrated; this year the commemoration was held in a difficult setting, where Covid-19 makes the routine. In this situation, nursing professionals, both in Pinar del Rio and at the national and international level, have been present in the first line of work, committed and hardworking.

The news of a highly effective Cuban vaccine is an encouragement in these times full of activity. In this new stage, nurses play a decisive role, since their hands will administer doses of hope in such a convulsive context. Let these lines serve as recognition for their work and, at the same time, as congratulations to those professionals in charge of conducting, directing and assessing the science and art of the nursing care process.

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