

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEGAL MEDICINE SUBJECT IN THE CURRICULUM MATRIX OF MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN THE STATE OF GOIÁS

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Abstract: Since 1808 with the actions of Raimundo Nina Rodrigues, Legal Medicine has existed in Brazil. (Miziara, I.D, 2012, p. 66-74). Since then, we have made enormous advances in the formation and regulation of the discipline, both for medicine and for the legal side, where forensic medicine plays an important role in solving cases. However, despite having existed for some years, the discipline in colleges is not widespread and exposed to students. In the State of Goiás, of the five main medical schools, only two have the subject in their curriculum. Due to the great relevance that the discipline has both in the medical and legal environment (law), it is imperative that colleges adopt Legal Medicine in their curriculum and start to spread this knowledge that was and is very relevant to society.

Keywords: Legal Medicine. Medical Graduate Education. Medicine Teachers. Medical Faculties.

INTRODUCTION

Forensic medicine (ML) is the area of medicine that uses medical knowledge in legal investigations. ML is not a specialty whose purpose is to only care for corpses, it emerged to assist the right in the correct application of laws. Nério Rojas established that ML “is the application of medical knowledge to judicial problems”. Hélio Gomes, on the other hand, defined it as “the set of medical knowledge and for doctors intended to serve the law, cooperating in the elaboration, assisting in the interpretation and collaborating in the execution of legal provisions, in its field of action of applied medicine”. Therefore, the importance of legal medicine to obtain the procedural veracity of legal cases is notorious, as it enables the union between medical and legal science, so that through the anatomophysiological aspects justice is executed (Oliveira, M. F,

2021; MUÑOZ, D. R., 2005; PEREIRA, G. O.).

ML is the specialization that covers technical-scientific information from other areas such as biology, physics, chemistry, psychoanalysis, psychology, among others, and provides clarification for the action of Justice. Its practice is carried out through Medical Expertise (Onesti A, 2012). The performance of medical expertise is based on technical, scientific and legal regulations, in order to fulfill the attribution of assisting justice by clarifying misunderstood facts. (Oliveira, M.F, 2021).

The milestone of Legal Medicine began with the code of Hammurabi (18th century BC) and the current laws (ancient Persia – 539 BC) which addressed the classification of bodily injuries. In addition, over the years there were several doctrines that addressed Legal Medicine, such as the laws of Manú (India – 5th century BC), the law of the XII tablets (Roman Empire – 449 BC), among others. However, it was only in 1374 that the first authorization was granted by the pope to “Universidade Montpellier de Medicina” to carry out necropsies for the purpose of anatomoclinical studies. (Miziara, I.D, 2012, p. 66-74).

Furthermore, it was only in 1808, in Colonial Brazil, that the country’s first medical school was created, located in the state of Bahia, where the first legal medicine school also appeared, with Raimundo Nina Rodrigues, Oscar Freire and Afrânio Peixoto, inspired by the Italian model of Dalla Volta. (Miziara, I.D, 2012, p. 66-74).

Given the above, it was Raimundo Nina Rodrigues who introduced criminal anteopology, Bertillon’s anteopometrics and phrenology into the country. In addition, he brought Legal Medicine closer to the social sciences, proposing a reform of medico-legal examinations, assistance to the mentally ill

and psychiatric expertise both in asylums and in courts. Continuing Raimundo's thoughts, Oscar Freire, in 1918, went to São Paulo (SP) taking the doctrines derived from the Bahian school. Its arrival in São Paulo, together with the installation of the chair of medicine and the recent creation of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of São Paulo, made Legal Medicine come to be considered a true specialty in Brazil. Concomitantly, it was Oscar Freire who divided the evolution of forensic medicine into 3 phases, namely: 1) foreign, which occurred at the end of the colonial period and persisted until 1877; 2) transition, which began in 1877 and where teaching took on a more practical character by offering forensic tanagia; and 3) nationalization, which began in 1895 with Raimundo Nina Rodrigues. (Miziara, I.D, 2012, p. 66-74).

Consequently, in 1921, the São Paulo Society of Legal Medicine and Criminology was established through the union of professors from both the law school and the medical school. In addition, in 1931, the Oscar Freire Institute was organized through Flamínio Fávero, aiming at aggregation in Social Medicine, work accidents, worker disability, social security and the assessment of disabilities. With that, Flamínio published the book "Medicina Legal" which led to the institutionalization of the Legal Medicine specialty. (Miziara, I.D, 2012, p. 66-74).

METHODOLOGY

This is a narrative literature review, where a bibliographical survey was carried out from 2005 to 2021 in the databases Google Academico, Scielo and websites of medical universities in the state of Goiás, using the following descriptors: "Legal Medicine", "Education of Graduation in Medicine", "Teachers of Medicine", "Faculties of Medicine". Inclusion criteria included publications in Portuguese, including

original studies, reviews and curricular matrices. Exclusion criteria are articles that do not mention the subject of the study, referring to the importance of the discipline of legal medicine in the curriculum in the state of Goiás. Those findings that did not contemplate the objective of the article were discarded, after reading the abstracts and later the full texts, observing the theoretical foundation expressed in the studies. Thus, the final literature resulted in 6 articles.

DISCUSSIONS, RESULTS AND/OR DATA ANALYSIS

IDENTIFICATION OF FACULTIES

The 5 main medical schools in the State of Goiás were evaluated, namely: Universidade Federal de Goiás (UFG), Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Goiás (PUC-GO), Alfredo Nasser Academic Center (UNIFAN), Centro Universitário de Goiatuba (UNICERRADO) and Universidade de Rio Verde, Rio Verde Campus (UNIVR-RV).

Those that did not have a lot available online were excluded.

EVALUATION OF CURRICULUM MATRICES

The curricular matrices present on the websites of the institutions themselves, through the internet, were evaluated.

FORENSIC MEDICINE IN THE FACULTIES OF GOIÁS

Forensic medicine is an area that encompasses aspects of the medical and legal scope, and is extremely relevant for the medical course, as it brings students closer to the reality of the medical-legal area. ML applies medical knowledge in favor of justice, and the use of this discipline in the health area normally covers deontology and medical ethics, matters that are necessary

for the proper practice of medicine, since these fields are currently being increasingly increasingly debated inside and outside the classroom.

Through the analysis of the curricula of medical courses, the only institutions in the state of Goiás that integrate this discipline in their curriculums are the Universidade Federal de Goiás (UFG) and the Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Goiás (PUC-GO).

At UFG, the ML subject is developed in two semesters, in the seventh and in the eighth semester, and aims to provide basic notions of Legal Medicine, showing its current importance and its implications with Psychopathology, Law and Criminalistics; And the contents addressed are: Introduction to Legal Medicine and its doctrinal schools; Medico-legal documents; Criminology. Criminalistics; The criminal's personality; Forensic Psychopathology; Misfortune; Forensic Traumatology; thanatology; and Forensic Sexology.

At PUC-GO, the discipline "Deontology and Ethics" is addressed only in the fifth semester and the topics studied are: Notions of social, medical and bioethics ethics; Interrelation of legal and medical sciences; and Responsibilities and rights of physicians vis-à-vis patients, the team of health professionals and society.

MEDICAL RESIDENCY IN LEGAL MEDICINE

Currently, the system for medical residency in Brazil is deficient, with only one program in the whole country, being the Department of Legal Medicine, Medical Ethics, Social and Occupational Medicine of the Faculty of Medicine of USP. Therefore, the residency in this area seeks to train highly trained professionals, qualified to work in the multiple divisions of the ML, managing to dissolve obstacles encountered

in justice within the expert sphere (Muñoz, DR; Gianvecchio, VAP; 2005).

In view of the above, the Forensic Medicine residency program has a duration of three years and is divided into three stages. The first stage consists of hospital internships that last an average of one year and three months. At this stage, the aim is to train the propaedeutics present in the various specialties, it is also available for the discussion of specific conducts, with the potential to be developed in wards, outpatient clinics and/or in the urgent and emergency sectors. In view of this, training in this phase takes place in the services of general medical practice, rheumatology, pneumology, cardiology, emergency room, medical clinic emergency room, medical clinic ICU, general surgery, neurosurgery, neurology, anesthesiology, orthopedics, surgical specialties (plastic surgery, urology, ophthalmology, coloproctology, otorhinolaryngology), gynecology and obstetrics, pediatrics and psychiatry (Muñoz, DR; Gianvecchio, VAP; 2005).

The second phase corresponds to the second year of residency and consists of training in outpatient occupational health services and large companies, rehabilitation, expertise (civil, accident, administrative and social security) and medical-legal laboratory, also present in the third phase (third year). In addition to the laboratory, the services of forensic anthropology and toxicology, criminalistics laboratory, medical audits, forensic medicine clinic, forensic thanatology, forensic psychopathology, forensic sexology and pathology, in the necropsy area, are present in the third stage.

At the same time, as there is only one program authorized by the National Medical Residency Commission (CNRM), which is in São Paulo and with only 4 places available and presenting an average of 5.75 candidates/

place, the number of medical-legal specialists, in Brazil, it is still scarce (Muñoz, DR; Gianvecchio, VAP; 2005).

CORONER'S ROLE

The ML, as exposed, directly assists in the resolution of legal cases as well as in the clarification of causes of unnatural deaths, such as suicide, homicide, drowning, among others. In addition, the medical examiner acts directly in the corpus delicti examinations of both detainees and violence, with sexual violence being one of the main ones. It is the coroner's role to examine the victim of abuse and determine if abuse actually took place and how it occurred. What is currently, unfortunately, in great prominence due to the constant increase in the number of violence against women and femicide.

Another fundamental role of the coroner is the prescription of the death certificate, which is a very important document and that, if not filled out correctly, will have consequences for the responsible professional.

CONCLUSIONS

It is imperative that medical students have contact with all the areas it covers, however, this need is currently even greater in some specific areas such as Legal Medicine and Medical Ethics, since these branches of medicine are under a growing spotlight. media and society as a whole. This emphasis is given by the role played by these subjects.

In ML, the coroner's role will basically define the consequences of both the death and the life of the person who underwent the corpus delicti examination. In Medical Ethics, the approach is focused on knowing how to deal with life and death and how to respect these two processes.

With this, the importance of adding Forensic Medicine as a discipline in medical schools is shown, since academics need

to have contact with both life and death during their training and, above all, they need to know how to deal with, how to act and what the consequences of their actions will be when dealing with these situations. However, this is not yet the current scenario of universities.

Currently, new disciplines such as entrepreneurship, career management, business management, among others, are being joined, leaving legal medicine aside, disregarding it as a doctrine. (Miziara, I.D, 2012, p. 66-74). What in the future may create professionals who are not very capable of dealing with death and thus unable to help in cases that literally deal with the life and death of people.

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