"Beyond theory": methodological mentoring to strengthen health research.

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To contribute to improve global health, generating and promoting the application of the best scientific evidence.
Despite the efforts, research does not have a prominent role in the training programs in the health area, and has scarce direct incentives.
The Bridge Mentorship Project

Promoting and strengthening the training of health personnel to generate and lead local and regional research.

Great challenge for the educational and scientific community.
Methodology Consulting Room

- 2018-2019: face to face
- 2020-2021: online

3 mentors: solid training and practical experience in methodology, biostatistics, good research practice and ethics.

8 to 12 hours per week of personalised consultancy in research methodology and project monitoring.

Partially funded by IECS and the participating institutions, at no cost to the professionals.
Results

Number of Appointments, 2018-2021 (n= 1527)

- Face-to-Face
- Online
- Total
Physicians 50%

Nurses 35%

Other health professionals* 15%

Users (N=419)

*kinesiology, psychology, nutritionist, and music therapy
Results

Reason for Consultation (N=1527)

- Design of research protocols (40%)
- Conducting studies and statistical analysis (30%)
- Preparing manuscripts for scientific journals or presentations for conferences (30%)
Results

Satisfaction with the Support Provided (N=386)

- Very Satisfied: 98%
- Satisfied: 2%
Beyond theory and numbers

Mentee Achievements, 2018-2021

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Projects awarded</td>
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<td>Presentations for funding announcements</td>
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<td>Papers published in indexed journals</td>
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<td>Presentations at scientific meetings</td>
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<td>Master’s and doctoral theses</td>
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https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8405981/
Lessons & Challenges

There is a great latent need for capacity building and methodological support in the different steps of health research.

The mentor-mentee link benefits all, since learning is mutual by exchanging experiences and knowledge.

The Institutions also benefit from the academic progress of their staff, and the generation of long-lasting relationships which allow the establishment of important collaboration networks.

The great challenge is still to obtain resources to sustain and expand these initiatives for our region.
Acknowledgement

All the mentees.

Health institutions and medical societies that participated.

The Global Health Network for allowing the dissemination of this project.

And a toast for our joining the GHN-LAC network