

# How has SOBEP promoted the leadership of nurses in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents through its congresses?

Como a SOBEP tem impulsionado o protagonismo do enfermeiro no cuidado aos neonatos, crianças e adolescentes em seus congressos?

¿Cómo ha impulsado SOBEP el protagonismo de los enfermeros en el cuidado de neonatos, niños y adolescentes en sus congresos?

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## Abstract

**Objective:** To reflect on the contributions of the congress promoted by SOBEP to the strengthening of clinical practice and the empowerment of nurses who care for neonates, children, adolescents, and their families.

**Method:** A reflection study based on a descriptive analysis of official documents from SOBEP's ten congresses and reflections developed from discussions among pediatric nurses.

**Results:** An integration is observed between SOBEP, public universities, regulatory bodies, and funding agencies, all working toward a common goal: the appreciation of childhood, which has enabled the realization of congresses across various regions of Brazil. There has been a consolidation of themes that allow nurses to continuously update their knowledge and reflect on strategies to address contemporary challenges in clinical practice.

**Final Considerations:** This reflection provided a retrospective look at historical achievements strengthened by the congresses, insights into present-day challenges, and a forward-looking perspective on the future of Brazilian neonatal and pediatric nursing.

## Resumo

**Objetivo:** Refletir sobre as contribuições dos congressos promovidos pela Sociedade Brasileira de Enfermeiros Pediatras (SOBEP), para o fortalecimento da prática clínica e o empoderamento de enfermeiros que cuidam de neonatos, crianças, adolescentes e suas famílias.

**Métodos:** Estudo de reflexão baseado em análise descritiva de documentos oficiais dos dez congressos da SOBEP e reflexões construídas a partir de discussões entre enfermeiros pediatras.

**Resultados:** Observa-se uma integração entre a SOBEP, universidades públicas, órgãos reguladores e agências de fomento, que atuam com um objetivo comum: a valorização da infância, tornando possível a realização dos congressos em diferentes cenários do território brasileiro. Há uma consolidação de temas que permitem ao enfermeiro uma atualização constante e a reflexão sobre estratégias para enfrentar os desafios contemporâneos da prática clínica.

**Conclusão:** Esta reflexão permitiu um olhar ao passado, com as conquistas históricas fortalecidas com o congresso; um aprendizado com o presente e os novos desafios contemporâneos, com um olhar ao futuro da enfermagem neonatológica e pediátrica brasileira.

## Resumen

**Objetivo:** Reflexionar sobre las contribuciones del congreso promovido por SOBEP para el fortalecimiento de la práctica clínica y el empoderamiento de los enfermeros que cuidan a neonatos, niños, adolescentes y sus familias.

**Método:** Estudio reflexivo basado en un análisis descriptivo de documentos oficiales de los diez congresos de la SOBEP y en reflexiones desarrolladas a partir de discusiones entre enfermeros pediátricos.

**Resultados:** Se observa una integración entre la SOBEP, las universidades públicas, los órganos reguladores y las agencias de financiamiento, todos trabajando con un objetivo común: la valorización de la infancia, lo que ha permitido la realización de congresos en diversas regiones de Brasil. Se ha consolidado una agenda temática que permite a los enfermeros actualizar continuamente sus conocimientos y reflexionar sobre estrategias para enfrentar los desafíos contemporáneos en la práctica clínica.

**Consideraciones finales:** Esta reflexión ofreció una mirada retrospectiva sobre los logros históricos fortalecidos por los congresos, aportes sobre los desafíos actuales y una visión prospectiva sobre el futuro de la enfermería neonatal y pediátrica brasileña.

## Keywords

Pediatric Nursing; Neonatal Nursing; Scientific and Educational Events; Professional Training; Education, Continuing

## Descritores

Enfermagem pediátrica; Enfermagem neonatal; Eventos científicos e de divulgação; Capacitação profissional; Educação continuada

## Descriptoros

Enfermería Pediátrica; Enfermería Neonatal; Eventos Científicos y de Divulgación; Capacitación Profesional; Educación Continua

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## SOBEP facing contemporary challenges

In recent years, care for neonates, children, adolescents, and their families has undergone significant changes, requiring nurses working with this population to adapt to new challenges. There has been an increase in the number of premature births and neonates with genetic syndromes who are surviving due to technological advances. This has led to an epidemiological transition marked by a rise in chronic and complex conditions. A plurality of childhoods and realities, affected by social disparities and global issues, poses challenges to physical and mental health, child development, morbidity and mortality, and the implementation of this population's rights in clinical practice.<sup>(1-3)</sup>

Despite the recognition of contemporary challenges by the scientific literature,<sup>(1-4)</sup> clinical practice still progresses slowly in overcoming them. In this context, important questions arise: What should nurses do to address the clinical and managerial challenges posed by contemporary care? How can we train new nursing leaders working with this population? The literature points to three key strategies to shift this scenario: the establishment of academic organizations, the promotion of health education at different levels, and professional empowerment.<sup>(2)</sup>

One possible way to integrate the three aforementioned strategies<sup>(2)</sup> is through the work of thematic societies, which promote the dissemination of specialized knowledge while strengthening a specific field. The literature recognizes these professional organizations as one of the main avenues for developing competencies and encouraging the formation of new health leaders.<sup>(5)</sup>

In Brazil, since its establishment in 1996, the Brazilian Society of Pediatric Nurses (SOBEP) has contributed to strengthening the leadership of specialist nurses, as well as generalist nurses who care for neonates, children, adolescents, and their families.<sup>(6)</sup> In recent years, SOBEP has been dedicated to encouraging, improving, and disseminating knowledge related to the specialty, promoting continuous learning opportunities through various activities, such as scientific dissemination via its journal, discussion forums, informational bulletins, public position statements, book

publications, participation in advisory committees of other organizations, and the organization of scientific congresses.<sup>(7)</sup>

Recently, in a scoping review, authors mapped the contributions of pediatric nursing organizations and associations in the United States and concluded that further research is vital to describe how these societies contribute to the advancement of pediatric nursing.<sup>(5)</sup> Accordingly, this study aimed to reflect on the contributions of the congresses promoted by SOBEP toward strengthening clinical practice and empowering nurses who care for neonates, children, adolescents, and their families.

## Pathway for reflection

This is a descriptive, reflective, and documentary study that, since it is based exclusively on data from public sources, did not require ethical approval. For the reflection, the focus was placed on the congresses promoted by SOBEP, which are held biennially in odd-numbered years and coordinated and organized by the society itself. The literature recognizes these congresses as privileged spaces for reflection on current issues and challenges faced by nursing. They represent moments for the construction and refinement of knowledge, as well as collective participation, where committed critiques emerge that drive professional advancement—rekindling the symbolic flame of Florence Nightingale's lamp, in reference to the commitment to valorizing the profession.<sup>(6,8-9)</sup>

The study was developed through two main approaches: a descriptive analysis and a reflective analysis of the materials from the SOBEP congresses. The first approach was based on the analysis of official documents from ten SOBEP congresses held between 2003 and 2023.<sup>(10-19)</sup> The included materials comprised published annals and open letters to the public, both available on the society's official website. Data were systematized in spreadsheets, collecting the following variables: year and location of the congress, central theme, scientific works presented, presence of international speakers, and the main topics addressed in the lectures, followed by a descriptive analysis of the data. To systematize the presentation of the congresses' central themes, thematic approximations were used, re-

sulting in nine categories representing the main axes of the events.

The second approach was based on a reflection developed by two pediatric nurses with extensive clinical and scientific experience, both serving as editors of the SOBEP Journal. Discussions were conducted grounded in critical interpretations regarding the congresses' potential, their contributions in addressing contemporary challenges in pediatric nursing, and future perspectives for the continuity and strengthening of these events.

## First approach: A focus on SOBEP congresses

Starting in 2003 and held biennially from 2007 onward, SOBEP has organized ten editions of its congress, aimed at promoting qualified discussions about nursing practice in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents across different levels of healthcare. The rights, needs, and recognition of childhood have been present since the very first congress. Its central themes have reflected the trajectory of strengthening nursing care for this population, addressing everything from achievements and challenges for the third millennium to the impacts of global emergencies on professional practice (Chart 1).<sup>(10-19)</sup>

There was a geographic distribution in the organization of the congresses, with a predominance

of the South and Southeast regions (Figure 1). Support was provided by public universities, both state and federal, regulatory bodies, and funding agencies, and all editions featured lectures by pediatric nurses from more than 20 prestigious international institutions.<sup>(10-19)</sup>

Specifically, in 2021, faced with the global emergency caused by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), SOBEP had to quickly adapt to new health requirements. The congress was held remotely, providing updates and empowering professionals to address the health crisis and its challenges in caring for neonates, children, and adolescents. More than five thousand scientific works were presented, including original studies, reviews, case reports, and experience reports, with an average of over 70 oral presentations and more than 400 posters.<sup>(18)</sup>

Over the years, the theoretical programming of the congresses has consisted of mini courses with in-depth theoretical and practical classes; conferences and lectures conducted by prominent invited speakers; scientific meetings and roundtables featuring collective discussions on topics relevant to nursing. These activities commonly highlight advances in scientific evidence production, the role of nursing in leading quality care, and the need to rethink the education of nurses who care for neonates, children, and adolescents in the face of contemporary challenges. Some topics have become consolidated over the years, rep-

**Chart 1.** Central Themes of SOBEP Congresses (2003–2023).

Year, state, and citation	Central Theme
2003 São Paulo <sup>(10)</sup>	Nursing and the child: Achievements and challenges for the 3rd millennium
2007 Rio de Janeiro <sup>(11)</sup>	Care in childhood and adolescence: Portraits of nursing practice
2009 Santa Catarina <sup>(12)</sup>	Nursing, the neonate, the child, the adolescent and their worlds: Caring for one to care for the other
2011 Maranhão <sup>(13)</sup>	Technology, humanization and social responsibility in nursing: interfaces to promote care for the newborn, child, adolescent and family
2013 Rio Grande do Sul <sup>(14)</sup>	Advances, approaches and transformations in caring: Newborn, child, adolescent and family
2015 Paraná <sup>(15)</sup>	Scientific evidence in the care of the child, adolescent and family: nursing breaking boundaries
2017 São Paulo <sup>(16)</sup>	21 years of SOBEP: Pediatric Nurses in Leadership of Quality Care for children and families
2019 Mato Grosso do Sul <sup>(17)</sup>	The training of the pediatric nurse in Brazil: where are we and where do we want to go?
2021 Online <sup>(18)</sup>	Global emergencies and their implications for the training and practice of nurses in child and adolescent health care
2023 Minas Gerais <sup>(19)</sup>	Care for newborn, child and adolescent in times of sanitary and environmental crises

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**Figure 1.** Geographic distribution of the congresses (2003–2019, 2023).

representing ongoing and future challenges for pediatric nursing practice, as categorized in Chart 2. <sup>(10-19)</sup>

The assemblies and forums enabled participants to engage collectively in shaping the positions of the specialist society. One example occurred at the 2017 congress, when SOBEP allowed nurses to review and contribute to the formulation of competencies for neonatology and pediatric nurses, published in the SOBEP journal.<sup>(7)</sup> These competencies were structured into five domains for working with children, encompassing both specialists and providing guidance for generalist nurses.

Another noteworthy activity is the offering of the neonatology and/or pediatric nurse certification to clinical practice professionals through a theoretical and practical examination.<sup>(6)</sup> This initiative directly addresses the international challenge of specialist training in the field,<sup>(1,4,20)</sup> valuing the experiences and contributions of generalist nurses who have proven experience in caring for the child and adolescent population.

**Chart 2.** Core Categories and Topics Addressed at SOBEP Congresses (2003–2023).

Categories	Topics Addressed at the Congresses
Promotion of Health and Prevention of Harm in Neonates, Children, and Adolescents: Care Strategies in the Face of Vulnerabilities and Global Emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Pediatric Well-Child Care and Its Potential in Promoting Health for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents in Primary Health Care</li> <li>· Promotion of Child Development and Essential Needs in Childhood Care</li> <li>· Early Childhood and Toddler Years: A Window of Opportunity and Positive Parenting in the Care of Neonates and Children</li> <li>· Pediatric Care Tools in Primary Health Care: IMCI Strategy, Child Health Booklet, and Individual Therapeutic Project</li> <li>· Health Education for Children, Adolescents, and Their Families to Promote Health and Prevent Harm</li> <li>· Promotion of Child Health Amid Social Vulnerabilities, Sanitary and Environmental Emergencies</li> <li>· Home Visits and Nurse Empowerment in Home Care for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents</li> <li>· Promotion of Mental Health in Children and Adolescents, and Postvention After Mental Health Crises</li> <li>· Care for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents in the Context of Clinical Fragilities, Social Vulnerabilities, and Communicable Diseases</li> <li>· Prevention of Neglect and Violence Against Neonates, Children, and Adolescents</li> <li>· Immunization of Neonates, Children, and Adolescents in Preventing Infant Morbidity and Mortality from Reemerging and Vaccine-Preventable Diseases</li> <li>· Interdisciplinary and Intersectoral Collaboration in Child Health Promotion: The Potential Role of Nurses in Schools</li> <li>· Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents Facing Global Emergencies</li> </ul>
Advances, Challenges, and Sensitivities in the Clinical Care of Neonates, Children, and Adolescents: From Symptom Assessment to the Use of Technologies and Culturally Sensitive Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Symptom Assessment and Relief in the Care of Neonates, Children, and Adolescents: Pain, Stress, Fever, Nausea, and Thirst</li> <li>· Promotion of Playful Spaces as a Care Action for Children: Free Play, Therapeutic Toys, Educational Games</li> <li>· Neonatal and Pediatric Palliative Care in the Brazilian Context: Theoretical Aspects and Advances in Nursing Practice</li> <li>· Technical Care for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents in Different Health Services: Care Devices and Technologies</li> <li>· Advances and Challenges in Neonatal Care: Kangaroo Method, Breastfeeding, Therapeutic Hypothermia, Resuscitation, and Newborn Screening</li> <li>· Advanced Nursing Practice and Reorganization of Care for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents at Different Levels of Care</li> <li>· Culturally Sensitive Care for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents in the Plurality of Brazilian Childhoods</li> </ul>
Safety in Nursing Care for Neonates, Children, and Adolescents: Advances, Challenges, and Leadership across Different Levels of Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Patient safety and its advances in infusion therapy for neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Safety and nursing care in medication administration and self-medication among children and adolescents</li> <li>· Safety in the environment, transport, and medication of neonates, children, and adolescents within healthcare services</li> <li>· Sentinel network and its role in promoting a culture of safety in healthcare services working with neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Safety of neonates, children, and adolescents at different levels of care and the challenges amid global emergencies</li> <li>· Prevention of healthcare-associated infections in neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Children and families as protagonists in advancing nursing care safety</li> <li>· Human error, second victim phenomenon, and professional involvement in the safety of neonates, children, and adolescents</li> </ul>

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Categories	Topics Addressed at the Congresses
Systematization of pediatric nursing care at different levels of healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Nursing process as a tool for caring for neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Systematization of nursing care in health promotion and disease prevention in primary care</li> <li>· Systematization of nursing care in the management of hospitalized neonates, children, and adolescents in critical care units</li> <li>· Development of scientific research in the systematization of pediatric nursing care</li> </ul>
Epidemiological transition and a focus on children with special needs, disabilities, and chronic and complex conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Neonates, children, and adolescents with chronic diseases, special health needs; chronic and complex conditions, and disabilities</li> <li>· Challenges of epidemiological transition in pediatric care: access, coverage, and continuity in care pathways</li> <li>· Deinstitutionalization and transition of care for neonates, children, and adolescents with chronic and complex conditions to home care</li> <li>· Surveillance of congenital, genetic, and rare diseases, and their challenges amid global emergencies</li> </ul>
Family-centered care: Foundations, practices, and challenges in translating philosophy into clinical practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· What does it mean to care for families? Theoretical aspects, advances, and challenges in applying the philosophy of family-centered care</li> <li>· A new social and political model: Integrating the family into policy planning and organizational cultures</li> <li>· Relationships, conflict management, and negotiations with families in contemporary care of neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Systematization of nursing care in light of the philosophy of family-centered care across different levels of health care</li> <li>· Family intervention programs to promote their protagonism in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Development of competencies in family care for promotion, prevention, and assistance to neonates, children, and adolescents</li> </ul>
Bioethics, administration, and advocacy in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents: advances, challenges, and nursing leadership in the global context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Rights-holder: Advances, challenges, and practical applications of public policies focused on the care of neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Visibility of public policies and government programs aimed at the health of neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Social justice, public policies, and the guarantee of children's rights amid global emergencies</li> <li>· Listening to children's voices as an advocacy strategy in the clinical implementation of public policies</li> <li>· Bioethical dilemmas in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents: suffering and moral resilience of nurses</li> <li>· Therapeutic itineraries and challenges in managing care for neonates, children, and adolescents within the healthcare network</li> <li>· Leadership of pediatric nurses in the national and international arena for promoting education and corporate quality</li> </ul>
Advances and challenges in scientific research in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents: How to apply evidence in clinical practice?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Updates and trends in scientific research evidence in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· Theoretical aspects, advances, and challenges in the translation and exchange of scientific research into clinical practice</li> <li>· Scientific research designs and empowerment of nurses in the development of research projects</li> <li>· Internationalization of scientific research and strategies for disseminating evidence</li> <li>· Ethics applied to scientific research involving children and adolescents</li> </ul>
Advances and challenges in neonatal and pediatric nursing education: training, professionalization, and teaching methodologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Pediatric nursing education at different educational levels: undergraduate, specialization, residency, master's, and doctoral programs</li> <li>· Pediatric nursing education in the international context: perspectives for professional advancement and empowerment</li> <li>· Challenges in the professionalization of neonatal and pediatric nursing, and curricular guidelines for professional training</li> <li>· Active methodologies in nursing education for undergraduates and professionals caring for neonates, children, and adolescents</li> <li>· University extension programs as a means of empowering nursing in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents</li> </ul>

Moreover, another notable activity has been the opportunity for professionals to share their successful experiences and scientific work with other congress participants since its first edition, through oral presentations and posters, which have stood out in recent years. In total, more than 700 papers and over four thousand posters have been presented in recent years.<sup>(10-19)</sup>

It is evident that the congresses have served as spaces for critical reflection on clinical practice, dissemination of scientific evidence, and exchange of knowledge. This environment of exchange is grounded in the principles of sustainability, ethics, social commitment, and inclusion, aligned with the technical, scientific, and cultural development of Brazilian nursing, directly supporting one of SOBEP's core purposes. The congresses reaffirm SOBEP's commitment to childhood, professionals, education, research, and society.<sup>(6,9)</sup>

## Second pillar: Strengthen, qualify, and transform

Through a historical consolidation of relevant themes and an organization that allows the integration of different activities, there is no doubt about the potential of the SOBEP congress to strengthen the clinical practice of nurses who care for neonates, children, and adolescents, enhancing their qualification and transforming individual care, which consequently impacts collective care and the contemporary challenges of international nursing.

The organization of the congress is carried out by a team committed to childhood, fostering a space for exchange with multiple perspectives. Universities, autonomous agencies, and government sectors come together to provide scientific and institutional legitimacy to the congresses. This collaboration enables dialogue between healthcare, education, research, and

management, in alignment with public policies, which directly impact clinical practice.

In nine in-person congresses, SOBEP promoted a broad territorial articulation; this interface with different cultures and realities encourages nurses to recognize the plurality of childhoods across the national territory and to reflect on providing culturally sensitive care. At the congress, professionals from various regions share experiences and perspectives on the contemporary challenges of nursing, considering diverse cultural viewpoints that consider social disparities and local specificities. This is a point that should be further strengthened in future editions, expanding national representation and impacting nursing practice in different locations.

Beyond valuing the national context, international researchers have actively contributed to the discussions at SOBEP congresses. Their participation broadens the scientific horizon and strengthens the commitment to honoring diverse cultures in pediatric care. The exchange of experiences allows the identification of common challenges across countries, fostering interactions aimed at the same goal: improving care for childhood. Collaborative networks between international researchers and Brazilian nurses enhance the profession's visibility and promote recognition of national practices in multicultural and international contexts.

There is a consolidation of relevant nursing topics, with a focus on both ongoing and emerging challenges, advancing in promotion, prevention, care, and recovery across different age groups. Over the years, SOBEP has reminded professionals of the importance of maintaining a child-centered perspective within the health care network, emphasizing an intersectoral approach that respects the specific needs of each age group.

An example of this thematic consolidation is the emphasis placed by the congress on Family-Centered Care, a philosophy widely recognized internationally but still facing challenges in its integration into daily care practices. Since its first edition, SOBEP congresses have incorporated its principles and promoted the dissemination of this philosophy among nurses—a positive aspect worthy of highlighting. At the inaugural congress, which focused on family interventions and approaches to working with families, attending nurs-

es—albeit initially—were influenced by the introduction of this philosophy. Over subsequent editions, it has been progressively consolidated and widely disseminated.<sup>(10-19)</sup> This approach has proven essential in professional training, broadening the understanding of care and fostering practices more closely aligned with the realities of families.

Another well-established aspect is the ongoing discussion around evidence-based practice, encouraging nurses to translate scientific knowledge into their clinical care—building a bridge between evidence and assistance. Child safety, particularly regarding infusion therapy, exemplifies this focus, being a recurring theme throughout the congress editions. Topics range from advances in infusion therapy to the culture of safety in healthcare settings, including infection prevention and care for the “second victim” in cases of care errors.<sup>(10-19)</sup> This theme, present in the daily routine of nurses across all healthcare services, fosters a transformative perspective on their own practice, prompting reflection on how to improve the quality of care provided. Such reflection can be extended to all the themes outlined in Table 2.

Nursing education has also been a key theme throughout the congresses. There have been dedicated spaces to discuss the place occupied by neonates, children, adolescents, and their families within academic curricula, as well as the challenges related to professional specialization. This reflects how SOBEP values the academic trajectory starting from undergraduate education, fostering the engagement and development of new leaders in neonatal and/or pediatric nursing.

The relevance of these thematic activities was further reinforced during the COVID-19 pandemic, when the congress shifted from an in-person format to an online platform. This adaptation allowed for the intertwining of experiences and knowledge, aiming to qualify nursing care in response to the global challenge posed by the virus's spread. Numerous experiences were shared, and the lessons learned guided an edition that highlighted a pressing contemporary challenge.

The diversity of the congress program, especially with activities that go beyond the role of a mere spectators - such as roundtables, assemblies, and forums—allows nurses' experience and expertise to evolve, creating a space for collective reflection on practices and contem-

porary challenges of the profession. This is also evident through the sharing of studies, cases, and experiences via oral and poster presentations. In this setting, attendees cease to be passive listeners and instead become active participants, able to share their own realities. Successful experiences and the presentation of works enrich the congress, enhancing knowledge exchange and fostering professional collaboration networks.

The title examination should be viewed for its transformative potential in converting generalist nurses into specialist nurses, intrinsically involving the qualification of care, the valorization of clinical practice, and professional empowerment, thereby strengthening Brazilian neonatal and pediatric nursing.

In this reflection, the potential of the past in strengthening clinical practice was discussed, but looking at the present is also vital. Other SOBEP strategies, such as its journal, are equally fundamental for the ongoing education of professionals. There is an integrated cycle involving SOBEP, its activities, nurses, and their practice: the defense of childhood and the dissemination of evidence can inspire nurses to engage in transforming their care reality. These professionals can follow this example and inspire their leaders, promoting intrinsic impacts on clinical practice and thus strengthening the quality of care for neonates, children, adolescents, and families.

There is no doubt that the congress is a promising opportunity to be encouraged in the coming years, and it is vital that SOBEP continues to empower itself in future directions that strengthen this tool in addressing contemporary challenges. A new challenge calls nurses to the XI SOBEP Congress (October 2025) for the discussion of plural childhoods. The listed themes will be analyzed from the perspective of culturally sensitive care, especially applied to Indigenous, Gypsy, Quilombola, and riverside communities, strengthening nursing praxis with a focus on national diversity. <sup>(20)</sup> This reflection concludes with a call to the reader to participate in this event and to keep alive the attention to neonates, children, adolescents, and their families.

## Final considerations

The SOBEP congresses, with their multiple activities, have established themselves to empower nurs-

es who care for neonates, children, adolescents, and their families, strengthening and qualifying clinical practice. At the event, numerous threads of positive experiences are woven together. Critical reflections, scientific updates, thematic articulations, and the sharing of experiences act directly on the improvement of care and the construction of a network committed to childhood. For the future, it is suggested that original studies explore, through the lens of professional discourse, what has been learned and carried from the congress into clinical practice, allowing a deeper analysis of the contributions of these events to Brazilian neonatal and pediatric nursing.

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How has SOBEP promoted the leadership of nurses in the care of neonates, children, and adolescents through its congresses?

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15. Anais do 6o Congresso Brasileiro de Enfermagem Pediátrica e Neonatal; 2o Seminário Internacional de Saúde da Criança, Adolescente e Família; 15o Encontro do Laboratório de Estudos Interdisciplinares em Família e Saúde; 3o Congresso Paranaense de Enfermagem Pediátrica; 13-16 out 2015; Foz do Iguaçu. Foz do Iguaçu: UNIOESTE; 2015 [cited 2024 May 10]. Available from: [https://sobep.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/anais\\_vi\\_cbepn.pdf](https://sobep.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/anais_vi_cbepn.pdf)
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