

## In defense of the scientific production of health students of Las Tunas

### En defensa de la producción científica de los estudiantes de la Salud de Las Tunas

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The University Medical Education System has the task of training professionals with high scientific-investigative preparation, since this constitutes one of the activities that guarantee the process of integrality in students of Medical Sciences. It is a set of planned actions, which are undertaken with the purpose of developing, identifying, analyzing and totally or partially solving a specific scientific problem. <sup>(1)</sup>

The potential of student researchers, number of investigations, student presence in scientific events, as well as the need to show results of work generated within the Medical Sciences, have been increasing and have become an essential source of knowledge. <sup>(1)</sup>

Health students in Las Tunas have had throughout history spaces and projects that stimulate scientific activity, as Pupo-Ponce <sup>(2)</sup> points out in his study, where he strengthens the use of information technology. Information and communications for the development of skills in the processing of scientific information; it obtained a feasible quantitative and qualitative advance, since it achieved 97.6% promotion with 93% quality.

In matters of student scientific events, excellent results have been shown. The national Oncology and Hematology event, OncoFórum, emerged on the initiative of the university's student scientific group, has served to encourage the performance of research work and link students to national standards, in terms of the quality of the presentations. So much so, that a high local participation was described in the last edition. <sup>(3)</sup>

According to a study by Benítez-Rojas et al., <sup>(4)</sup> where the participation of students from the University of Medical Sciences of Las Tunas in national student scientific events was characterized, in the period from 2018 to September 2020, it was reported the awarding of 32 works (12.9%), 38.61% being original works.

In particular, in 2019, the I National Student Scientific Event of Gynecology and Obstetrics, GINECOSS 2019, was held in the province of Sancti Spiritus, where Las Tunas was the province that obtained the highest number of awards, <sup>(5)</sup> a very satisfactory result for the guild student scientist, since it had a high scientific rigor, since the manuscripts were evaluated by leading gynecology specialists in the province.

In the context of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, one of the first publications on COVID-19 stood out, in the context of student scientific journals: COVID-19, a challenge for global health, <sup>(6)</sup> published on 28 March 2020. It was signed by students from Las Tunas, which is favorable for the magazine EsTuSalud; In this way, the role of the journal in the scientific training of its students was highlighted, being managed by students from the territory.

During the year 2021, active participation was maintained during the pandemic in student scientific events, with 137 works accepted and 29.92 % awarded, being higher than in 2020. This high participation

it may be associated with the virtual character, where the students were researching in their community and could project themselves in carrying out scientific work; <sup>(7)</sup> thus considering the number of award-winning works as very

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favorable for the context in which it was developed (table 1).

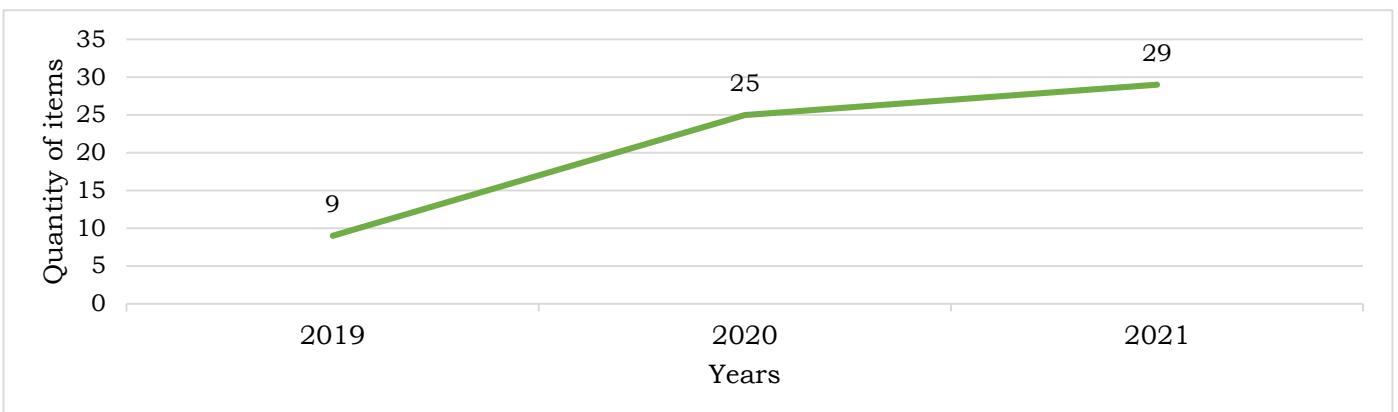
**TABLE 1. Distribution of the works accepted and awarded in some national events during 2021**

Event	Works accepted	Awarded	% of awards
OncoFórum 2021	37	11	29,73
Mediguaso	16	1	6,25
OdontoHolguín	13	0	0,00
InmunoCien	12	4	33,33
Pediacam	10	6	60,00
Jomedin	10	4	40,00
MedIntávila	8	4	50,00
ZoonTunas 2021	8	4	50,00
Fisiomat	6	2	33,33
PriGrav	4	1	25,00
Ortomax	3	1	33,33
Total	127	38	29,92

Source: database

Despite all the progress shown, scientific publication by the highest authorities of the institution should be encouraged with a calm and increasing push, in order to continue promoting student scientific publication in the locality (**graph 1**).

**FIGURE 1. Distribution of articles published by year** Fuente: base de datos




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### CONTRIBUTION OF THE AUTHORS

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### CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author declares that there are no conflicts of interest, despite being the executive editor of the journal.