

# Manners of producing care and universality of access in primary health care

## Modos de produzir cuidado e a universalidade do acesso na atenção primária à saúde

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## **Abstract**

This study is a literature review in the SciELO, Lilacs, BVS, and Medline databases, aiming to analyze how the work of professionals in primary health care in Brazil contributes to the universal access to health services. Of 901 articles, 52 were included, published between January 2005 and October 2015. The findings evidence elements of the work that influence its ability to ensure access, related to manners of producing care that extend access to health actions. The following elements are highlighted: labor standards; spaces that promote encounters (hosting, home visits, matrix support, and collective activities); training/experience of the worker; relationship with the user and with the territory; bond and accountability; respect for autonomy and different types of knowledge and culture; knowledge of local reality; workload; and professional valuation/satisfaction. The manners of producing care described contribute to extend the access, both for the existence of trust, bond, and ability to respond to the demands presented by users, as for the organization of services so they become more flexible and attentive to the health needs of individual and collective subjects.

**Keywords:** Primary Health Care; Access to Health Services; Health Assistance.

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## Resumo

Este artigo faz uma revisão da literatura nas bases SciELO, Lilacs, BVS e Medline, e analisa como o trabalho dos profissionais na atenção primária no Brasil contribui para o acesso universal aos serviços de saúde. De uma seleção inicial de 901 artigos, foram incluídos 52, publicados entre janeiro de 2005 e outubro de 2015. Os achados evidenciam elementos do trabalho que influenciam a capacidade do serviço em assegurar o acesso, relacionados a modos de produzir cuidado que ampliam o acesso às ações de saúde. São destacados os seguintes elementos: normativas prescritoras do trabalho; espaços que favorecem o encontro (acolhimento, visitas domiciliares, apoio matricial e atividades coletivas); formação/experiência do trabalhador; relação com o usuário e com o território; vínculo e responsabilização; respeito à autonomia e aos diferentes saberes e culturas; conhecimento da realidade local; carga de trabalho; e valorização/satisfação profissional. Os modos de produzir cuidado descritos contribuem para a ampliação do acesso, tanto pela existência de confiança, vínculo e capacidade de dar resposta às demandas apresentadas pelos usuários, como pela organização de serviços mais flexíveis e atentos às necessidades de saúde dos sujeitos individuais e coletivos.

**Palavras-chave:** Atenção Primária à Saúde; Acesso aos Serviços de Saúde; Assistência à Saúde.

## Introduction

The universality of access to health services at all levels of assistance is one of the organizational and doctrinal principles of the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS) with strong ethical grounding. To enable the universal right to health, it is necessary to carry out a set of actions ensured through the legal framework. The definition of this right in the Brazilian Constitution of 1988 results from an important dispute between segments of the Brazilian population to address the unequal access, identified as one of the serious problems in health care in the 1980s (Giovanella; Fleury, 1995).

Primary Health Care (PHC) became important in that context because it was the main strategy of the State to enforce the principle of universality after the creation of the SUS. The reliance on Basic Health Care (name adopted in national politics) as regulatory organ of health services had, among its main objectives, associated with the expansion of primary care services, changing aspects of the model of care, such as the focus on disease, excessive specialization, the centrality in the medical professional, and the inaction imposed to the “patient”. To do so, multiprofessional teams were constituted, who were closer to the population and able to perform an integral and longitudinal health care in a logic of co-responsibility between the professional (caregiver) and the citizen (subject of the care), through the Family Health Strategy (FHS), established in the late 1990s, as well as through a set of policies implemented nationally. Brazil has about 40,000 family health teams in 5,409 municipalities, covering 63.7% of the population<sup>1</sup>. Access is a complex concept which changed throughout history, being used in different ways in the literature (Giovanella; Fleury, 1995; Travassos; Martins, 2004; Unglert, 1995). The focus of the concept varies: on the characteristics of the individuals, on the provision of services, on both or on the relationship between services and individuals (Travassos; Martins, 2004). Access

1 BRASIL. MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE. *Portal do Departamento de Atenção Básica*. Available in: <<https://goo.gl/GRdLa5>>. Access on: Feb 8, 2017.

to health services is a reason for international concern. It has been used as analytical category in researches on the organization of health systems and services, so that it can contribute to effective changes in the model of care focused on the singularities of individuals and collectivities, and must be considered at the time of construction of public policies (Assis; Jesus, 2012).

Access is related to the multidimensional capacity of health services and systems for responding to the health needs of users, configuring itself as one of the essential pre-requirement for the good quality of health care that relates to cultural, geographical, social, and economic aspects, such as the living conditions of the population, nutrition, housing, income, and education, in addition to aspects concerning the organization of services (Assis; Jesus, 2012). Also, the way the work of professionals is performed, and in what conditions, as well as how the standards and values that guide them influence the capacity of services and systems to ensure universal access.

The different Brazilian realities, whether social, economic, or forms of service organization, promote different manners of producing care which, in turn, will interfere in different ways on the universality of access. This reality indicates a dimension of analysis of universality of access related to how employees manage what is prescribed by labor standards, in a dialectical relationship with the context that is always singular, to respond to the demands that arise in the daily work in the health field. This study analyzes how the work of professionals in Primary Health Care in Brazil contributes to universal access.

## Method

This is a literature review performed on the bases SciELO, Lilacs, BVS, and Medline that included articles about access to health services in primary care, published between January 2005 and October 2015. The question that guided this research was:

how the manner of producing care influences access to PHC services?

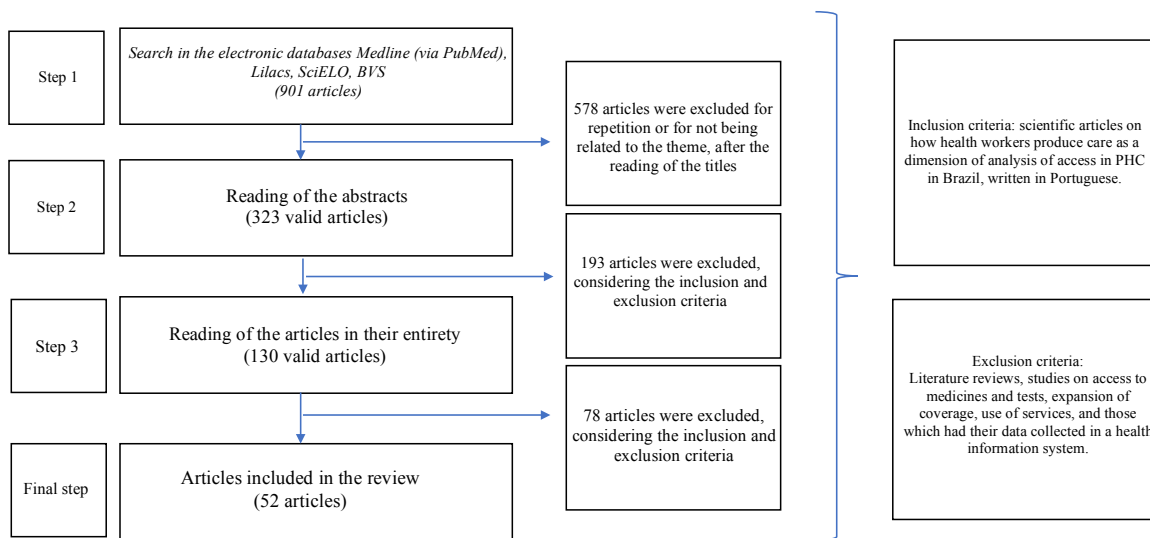
Different combinations of descriptors were tested, being finally used the following: Access to health services AND Primary Health Care OR Family Health Strategy. 26 articles were found in Medline (via PubMed), 637 in Lilacs, 112 in SciELO, and 126 in the Virtual Health Library (VHL-PHC), totaling 901 articles.

Were included scientific articles about how workers produce care in primary health care and their relationship with the universality of access on PHC in Brazil, written in Portuguese language. Were excluded literature reviews, studies on access to medicines and tests, expansion of coverage, use of services, and those whose data were collected in health information system.

When reading the titles, of the 901 articles found in databases, 578 were excluded by repetition, 193 did not meet the criteria for inclusion after reading of the summaries, and 130 were read in their entirety. The selection and final inclusion was paired by two researchers, resulting in 52 articles analyzed in this study. Figure 1 presents the flow chart of the search, selection, inclusion, and exclusion of articles.

The data were categorized and organized according to the general aspects of the publication (title, authors, journal, year of publication), methodological characteristics (type of study, study location, and research participants), as showed in Chart 1, in which the articles are presented in numerical order seeking response to the objective of the review. The information was validated at a meeting of consensus with two researchers, coauthors of the article. After systematization of the results, the discussion was structured in: elements of the work that influence the ability of the service to ensure access and; manners to produce care that expand access.

**Figure 1 – Flow chart of the steps of the literature review**



## Results

Of the 52 articles that compose this study (Chart 1), 44 are qualitative, 4 quantitative, 2 theoretical studies, 1 is a single case study, and 1 is a qualitative study. All studies were produced on the PHC in Brazil, and the most of them was held in the Northeast (21), followed by the Southeast (16), South (9), Central-West (1), and North (1). One study was held nationwide, 2 in places not informed, and in 2 the category is not applied. Only one article was published in an international journal. As for the participants of the survey, users are present in 36 of the 52 studies, workers in 21, and managers in 11. The searches were carried out in Family Health Basic Units (FHBU) (19), in traditional Health Basic Units (HBU) (7), in PHC services with or without family health (19) and in Local Health Systems (LHS) (5) (Chart 1).

The articles show elements on organization and completion of work on primary health care that influence the ability of the service to ensure access, as well as points manners to produce care with potential to expand access to services. Of the 52 studies included, 15 addressed the organization of the services with ascription of customers, both expanding as reducing access. The proximity of the unit facilitates the access to the actions in the PHC (Burille; Gerhardt, 2014; Lima et al., 2015;

Quinderé et al., 2013; Santos et al., 2012; Schwartz et al., 2010; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Souza; Garnelo, 2008), being considered “legitimate organizational criterion to define the access to local services” (Trad.; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012), and contributes to the achievement of activities such as home visits (Quinderé et al., 2013). However, the register on the unit can be an obstacle to the access (Carneiro Junior; Jesus; Crevelim, 2010) and criterion capable of generating situations of discrimination (Martes; Faleiros, 2013), non-assistance (Lima et al., 2015; Viegas; Carmo; Luz, 2015), and disapproval by users (Souza et al., 2008). Living close to the unit by itself does not guarantee that the user will be attended when necessary (Chagas et al., 2014; Quinderé et al., 2013; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014), since for those who spend the day working in distant locations from where they reside, this rule becomes a hindrance (Silva; Benito, 2013) and the possibility to be attended next to the work place would be a facilitator (Lopes et al., 2013).

A study considered important the flexibilization of choice of the health professional by the user to guarantee the access (Campos et al., 2014), while another article describes the need to make territorial limits considering the users’ needs (Souza et al., 2008).

The organization of the offer of services by spontaneous and/or organized demand also appears in the review as factor capable to influence access to health actions. When organized by programmatic actions, it hinders the access in the extent that prioritizes groups and, thus, despises the health needs of the rest of the population or do not organizes the unit to receive other groups, such as adolescents and men (Araújo et al., 2013; Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013; Burille; Gerhardt, 2014; Cunha; Vieira-Da-Silva, 2010; Lima; Assis, 2010; Souza; Souza, 2012; Souza et al., 2008; Souza; Garnelo, 2008; Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012; Vanderlei; Navarrete, 2013). This

form of organization guarantees access to priority groups (Lanza; Lana, 2011; Silva; Viera, 2014), while its absence makes the user look for the unit by herself/himself, just when it identifies any need (Oliveira et al., 2013).

Studies indicate the importance of balance between programmatic actions and attendance to spontaneous demand (Tesser; Norman, 2014), through strategies such as risk classification (Silva; Viera, 2014), and draw attention that even users belonging to priority groups may have, at some point in life, acute clinical conditions that require attendance out of schedule (Albuquerque et al., 2014; Vanderlei; Navarrete, 2013).

**Chart 1 – Systematization of the results according to general aspects of publication**

Order	Year	Authors	Participants	Region	Type of study	Study Location
1	2015	LIMA, S. A. V. et al.	Users, workers, and managers	NE	Qualitative	LHS
2	2015	ESPOSTI, C. D. D. et al.	Users	SE	Qualitative	LHS
3	2015	VIEGAS, A. P. B.; CARMO, R. F.; LUZ, Z. M. P.	Users and workers	SE	Qualitative	PHC
4	2014	SILVA, R. M. M.; VIERA, C. S.	Users	S	Qualitative	PHC
5	2014	FINKLER, A. L. et al.	Workers	NI	Qualitative	PHC
6	2014	MARIN, M. J. S.; MORACVICK, M. Y. A. D.; MARCHIOLI, M.	Users and workers	SE	Qualitative	PHC
7	2014	CHAGAS, M. I. O. et al.	Workers	NE	Qualitative	BHU
8	2014	SILVA, M. Z. N.; ANDRADE, A. B.; BOSI, M. L. M.	Users	NE	Qualitative	PHC
9	2014	AZEVEDO, A. L. M.; GURGEL, I. G. D.; TAVARES, M. A.	Users, workers, and managers	NE	Qualitative	PHC
10	2014	CAMPOS, R. T. O. et al.	Users	SE	Qualitative	BHU
11	2014	BURILLE, A.; GERHARDT, T. E.	Users	S	Qualitative	LHS
12	2014	SARTI, T. D.	Users and workers	SE	Qualitative	FHBU

continues...

**Chart 1 – Continuation**

Order	Year	Authors	Participants	Region	Type of study	Study Location
13	2014	SOUZA F. O. S. et al.	Workers	NE	Quali-quantitative	FHBU
14	2014	ALBUQUERQUE, M. S. V. et al.	Users and workers	NE	Quantitative	PHC
15	2014	TESSER, C. D.; NORMAN, A. H.	NA	NA	Theoretical study	NA
16	2013	SILVA, B. F. S.; BENITO, G. A. V.	Managers	SE	Qualitative	LHS
17	2013	LOPES, L. C. O. et al.	Users	NE	Qualitative	BHU
18	2013	ENGEL, R. H. et al.	Users	S	Quantitative	PHC
19	2013	ARAÚJO, M. G. et al.	Workers	NE	Qualitative	FHBU
20	2013	MARTES, A. C. B.; FALEIROS, S. M. F.	Users	SE	Qualitative	FHBU
21	2013	VANDERLEI, L. C. M.; NAVARRETE, M. L. V.	Users, workers, and managers	NE	Qualitative	PHC
22	2013	BARBOSA, S. P.; ELIZEU, T. S.; PENNA, C. M. M.	Workers	SE	Qualitative	FHBU
23	2013	QUINDERÉ, P. H. D. et al.	Users and managers	NE	Qualitative	PHC
24	2013	OLIVEIRA, A. A. V. et al.	Users	NE	Quantitative	FHBU
25	2012	ASSIS, M. M. A.; JESUS, W. L. A.	NA	NA	Theoretical study	NA
26	2012	OLIVEIRA, L. S. et al.	Users	NE	Qualitative	FHBU
27	2012	TADDEO, P. S. et al.	Users	NE	Qualitative	FHBU
28	2012	SOUZA, C. L.; SOUZAS R.	Users	NE	Qualitative	FHBU
29	2012	NASCIMENTO, P. T. A.; PEKELMAN R.	Users and workers	S	Qualitative	FHBU
30	2012	TRAD, L. A. B.; CASTELLANOS, M. E. P.; GUIMARÃES, M. C. S.	Users	NE	Qualitative	PHC
31	2012	SANTOS, T. M. M. G. et al.	Users	NE	Qualitative	FHBU

continues...

**Chart 1 – Continuation**

Order	Year	Authors	Participants	Region	Type of study	Study Location
32	2011	LANZA, F.; LANA, F. C. F.	Workers	SE	Qualitative	PHC
33	2011	VARGAS, A. M. D. et al.	Users and managers	SE	Qualitative	PHC
34	2011	HINO, P. et al.	Users	SE	Qualitative	FHBU
35	2011	CORREA, Á. C. P. et al.	Users	CE	Qualitative	FHBU
36	2010	CUNHA, A. B. O.; VIEIRA-DA-SILVA, L. M.	Users, workers, and managers	NE	Single case study	PHC
37	2010	LIMA, W. C. M. B.; ASSIS, M. M. A.	Users, workers, and managers	NE	Qualitative	FHBU
38	2010	SCHWARTZ, T. D. et al.	Users	SE	Qualitative	FHBU
39	2010	CARREIRA, L; RODRIGUES, R. A. P.	Users	S	Qualitative	FHBU
40	2010	MEDEIROS, F. A. et al.	Users	NI	Qualitative	BHU
41	2010	VIEGAS, S. M. F. et al.	Workers and managers	SE	Qualitative	LHS
42	2010	COIMBRA, V. C. C. et al.	Users, workers, and managers	S	Qualitative	FHBU
43	2010	CARNEIRO JUNIOR, N.; JESUS, C. H.; CREVELIM, M. A.	NA	SE	Qualitative	PHC
44	2009	CERQUEIRA, M. B.; PUPO, L. R.	Users	SE	Qualitative	PHC
45	2009	COELHO, M. O.; JORGE, M. S. B.; ARAÚJO, M. E.	Users	NE	Qualitative	FHBU
46	2009	DALL'AGNOL, C. M.; LIMA, M. A. D. S.; RAMOS, D. D.	Users	S	Quantitative	BHU
47	2008	SOUZA, E. C. F. et al.	Users and workers	NE	Qualitative	PHC
48	2008	NASCIMENTO, P. T. A.; TESSER, C. D.; POLI NETO, P.	Workers	S	Qualitative	FHBU
49	2008	SOUZA, M. L. P.; GARNELO, L.	Users and workers	N	Qualitative	PHC
50	2008	SOUSA, M. F.	Managers	National	Qualitative	SUS
51	2007	LIMA, M. A. D. S. et al.	Users	S	Qualitative	BHU
52	2007	TAKEMOTO, M. L. S.; SILVA, E. M.	Workers and managers	SE	Qualitative	BHU

The studies describe the waiting time from the appointment until the medical attendance, and even the own day of medical attendance, as something bureaucratic and time consuming (Burille; Gerhardt, 2014; Campos et al., 2014; Carreira; Rodrigues, 2010; Chagas et al., 2014; Coimbra et al., 2010; Correa et al., 2011; Cunha; Vieira-Da-Silva, 2010; Esposti et al., 2015; Lima et al., 2007; Lima et al., 2015; Lopes et al., 2013; Marin; Moracvick; Marchioli, 2014; Oliveira et al., 2012; Schwartz et al., 2010; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Silva; Viera, 2014; Souza et al., 2008; Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012; Viegas; Carmo; Luz, 2015). The system of medical appointments by queues and passwords, resulting in long waiting time and requiring that users arrive very early in the unit to get attendance, was the main factor to limit access regarding the provision of services (Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013; Coimbra et al., 2010; Dall'agnol; Lima; Ramos, 2009; Finkler et al., 2014; Lima; Assis, 2010; Lopes et al., 2013; Sarti, 2014; Silva; Viera, 2014; Sousa et al., 2014; Vargas et al., 2011).

The hours of operation of the unit is one more element to influence access, having been mentioned in 8 of the 52 review articles (Araújo et al., 2013; Burille; Gerhardt, 2014; Campos et al., 2014; Correa et al., 2011; Esposti et al., 2015; Lima et al., 2015; Oliveira et al., 2013; Silva; Viera, 2014). The breach of the schedule reduces the access to health services (Cunha; Vieira-Da-Silva, 2010; Dall'agnol; Lima; Ramos, 2009; Lima et al., 2015; Silva; Benito, 2013; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012), but the existence of the third shift and the attendance on weekends (Araújo et al., 2013; Lopes et al., 2013; Silva; Benito, 2013) are strategies for broadening [access] for those who work during the day and on weekends.

The ambience is pointed, in three articles, as the element to influence the access: by promoting professional satisfaction, improving care, and expanding access (Coelho; Jorge; Araújo, 2009); as expectation and attractive so that users feel more comfortable and welcomed in the unit (Esposti et al., 2015); but also as an obstacle, because to transform the environment of the services in a

more “feminine” place limits the access of men (Araújo et al., 2013).

The presence of Health Community Agents (HCA) in the teams generate enlargement of the bond between health team and users, in addition to facilitate the access (Coimbra et al., 2010; Lanza; Lana, 2011; Lima et al., 2015; Martes; Faleiros, 2013; Oliveira et al., 2012; Sousa, 2008), both for the appointment of medical attendance by this professional in the households (Lima et al., 2015), as for the articulation promoted by HCA between health team and community (Sousa, 2008), or for this professional be part of the community and understand its culture and manners of care (Martes; Faleiros, 2013).

Capacity, training, and qualification of health professionals to act on PHC directly influence the population's access to health actions, according to studies that compose this review (Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013; Carneiro Junior; Jesus; Crevelim, 2010; Hino et al., 2011; Lanza; Lana, 2011; Oliveira et al., 2013; Souza; Garnelo, 2008; Taddeo et al., 2012; Vanderlei; Navarrete, 2013; Viegas et al., 2010). The professional profile (Araújo et al., 2013) and the commitment of professionals regarding the attention to certain priority aggravations or to issues related to the cycles of life also influence access (Lanza; Lana, 2011; Oliveira et al., 2013).

The focus on disease, biological aspects, and curative actions that keep the complaint-oriented attendance, greater attention to acute situations, the centrality in medical appointments (Campos et al., 2014; Coimbra et al., 2010; Esposti et al., 2015; Lima et al., 2015; Souza; Garnelo, 2008; Taddeo et al., 2012), the predominance of requests of specialized procedures, exams, prescription of drugs and actions held in the medical office (Lima et al., 2015; Souza; Garnelo, 2008) contribute to the increased demand and reduced access to health care (Burille; Gerhardt, 2014; Lima et al., 2007; Lima et al., 2015; Marin; Moracvick; Marchioli, 2014; Silva; Benito, 2013; Souza et al., 2008). The emphasis given by the FHS to health prevention and promotion at the expense of medical attendance is pointed as an important factor for limiting access to health services (Tesser; Norman, 2014).



The perception, by users, that the absence of professionals would be related to the model centered in the appointment and the presence of the medical professional, not recognizing the care produced by other professional categories, is highlighted in four studies (Esposti et al., 2015; Nascimento; Pekelman, 2012; Vanderlei; Navarrete, 2013; Vargas et al., 2011).

Professional experience may facilitate the access when it counts on experienced professionals to act as recommended by the policies (Nascimento; Tesser; Poli Neto, 2008), while ignorance of the regulations can limit it (Souza; Garnelo, 2008).

The disproportion between supply and demand of services is an obstacle to the access, result of the excessive number of families under the responsibility of the team, the insufficient number and turnover of doctors and other professionals (Campos et al., 2014; Lima et al., 2015; Marin; Moracvick; Marchioli, 2014; Nascimento; Tesser; Poli Neto, 2008; Schwartz et al., 2010; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Silva; Viera, 2014; Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012), and the breach of workload (Cunha; Vieira-Da-Silva, 2010; Lima et al., 2015; Lima; Assis, 2010; Silva; Benito, 2013; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012).

Of the 52 studies, 16 consider the reception as transversal strategy to health actions, that must happen in all spaces to guarantee the access with quality (Albuquerque et al., 2014; Assis; Jesus, 2012; Campos et al., 2014; Chagas et al., 2014; Coelho; Jorge; Araújo, 2009; Coimbra et al., 2010; Correa et al., 2011; Cunha; Vieira-Da-Silva, 2010; Nascimento; Pekelman, 2012; Nascimento; Tesser; Poli Neto, 2008; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Silva; Viera, 2014; Souza et al., 2008; Takemoto; Silva, 2007; Vanderlei; Navarrete, 2013; Viegas; Carmo; Luz, 2015). However, it is also pointed as capable to restrict access when configured in simple screening of spontaneous demand, when creates obstacles to get the doctor's appointment or as a kind way to deny answers to the users' health needs (Campos et al., 2014; Nascimento; Pekelman, 2012; Souza et al., 2008; Takemoto; Silva, 2007; Tesser; Norman, 2014).

In addition to clinical care, an important space of meeting between team and user, home visits (Carreira; Rodrigues, 2010; Coimbra et al., 2010; Correa et al., 2011; Lanza; Lana, 2011; Martes; Faleiros, 2013; Oliveira et al., 2013; Quinderé et al., 2013; Santos et al., 2012), group activities (Carreira; Rodrigues, 2010; Chagas et al., 2014; Lima et al., 2007), educational activities (Silva; Benito, 2013), matrix support (Souza et al., 2008), and the collective attendances in and out of the unit (Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013) stimulate the expansion of access.

Respect for knowledge, inclusion of singularities - cultural issues, values, beliefs of users (Assis; Jesus, 2012; Azevedo; Gurgel; Tavares, 2014; Carneiro Junior; Jesus; Crevelim, 2010; Carreira; Rodrigues, 2010; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Taddeo et al., 2012), - to the needs (Araújo et al., 2013; Burille; Gerhardt, 2014; Campos et al., 2014; Carneiro Junior; Jesus; Crevelim, 2010; Chagas et al., 2014; Coelho; Jorge; Araújo, 2009; Esposti et al., 2015; Lima et al., 2007; Medeiros et al., 2010; Souza et al., 2008; Souza; Garnelo, 2008; Takemoto; Silva, 2007), and the knowledge of local reality (Carneiro Junior; Jesus; Crevelim, 2010; Chagas et al., 2014; Coelho; Jorge; Araújo, 2009; Santos et al., 2012; Souza; Garnelo, 2008; Vanderlei; Navarrete, 2013) were identified as important elements to guarantee access. The listening, the bond, the confidence, the sympathy (Assis; Jesus, 2012; Burille; Gerhardt, 2014; Campos et al., 2014; Carneiro Junior; Jesus; Crevelim, 2010; Carreira; Rodrigues, 2010; Cerqueira; Pupo, 2009; Chagas et al., 2014; Coelho; Jorge; Araújo, 2009; Dall'agnol; Lima; Ramos, 2009; Esposti et al., 2015; Hino et al., 2011; Lima et al., 2007; Medeiros et al., 2010; Nascimento; Pekelman, 2012; Nascimento; Tesser; Poli Neto, 2008; Oliveira et al., 2012; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Souza et al., 2008; Souza; Garnelo, 2008; Taddeo et al., 2012; Takemoto; Silva, 2007; Viegas et al., 2010), the dialogue, and the communication (Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013; Esposti et al., 2015; Schwartz et al., 2010; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Souza et al., 2008) between users and professionals must be present in the various meetings to qualify the access. These elements influence the choice of the service by the user.

Discrimination by race and socioeconomic condition (Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012), by being a foreigner in the country (Martes; Faleiros, 2013), and the prejudice of health professionals against a few aggravations (Lanza; Lana, 2011) were pointed as obstacles for obtaining care in health units.

The studies showed that the limitation of access was also caused because by the need of workers to reduce the suffering and the work overload. The overwork due to incomplete team, lack of professionals (Silva; Viera, 2014), and pent-up demand (Chagas et al., 2014; Lima et al., 2015; Marin; Moracvick; Marchioli, 2014; Medeiros et al., 2010; Nascimento; Pekelman, 2012; Nascimento; Tesser; Poli Neto, 2008; Sarti, 2014; Schwartz et al., 2010; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Sousa et al., 2014; Souza et al., 2008; Viegas et al., 2010), the conditions and structure of the unit (Coelho; Jorge; Araújo, 2009; Medeiros et al., 2010; Sarti, 2014)), low wages, and the lack of professional valuation mechanisms (Sarti, 2014) were indicated as factors that generate stress and reduce the quality of the actions.

Other important points that emerged in the studies and interfered in the access by increasing the workload of health professionals were the need to work in teams (Correa et al., 2011; Takemoto; Silva, 2007), increased responsibility in giving answers to users when extends the listening and the access, and the inability to respond to all requirements of the population (Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013; Nascimento; Pekelman, 2012; Souza et al., 2008; Takemoto; Silva, 2007).

These situations make workers to not give continuity to the practice of hosting, to reduce working time in the units, and even to leave the service by overload, stress, and desire for time off (Sarti, 2014), reducing the number of attendances, restricting team actions to the activities within the unit (Lima et al., 2015; Souza et al., 2008; Souza; Garnelo, 2008), with priority for medical-healing attendances (Souza; Garnelo, 2008), and the development of activities in a mechanical and superficial way (Takemoto; Silva, 2007), less welcoming and humanized (Finkler et al., 2014).

In addition, more and more new responsibilities (“programs”, “policies”, “lines of care”, “functions”) dedicated to diseases, groups, problems, or specific situations are created or devolved to the PHC/FHS (Tesser; Norman, 2014). Urban violence (Viegas et al., 2010), professional dissatisfaction with daily practices, low wages (Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012), the little autonomy to decide the actions deployed (Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013; Nascimento; Pekelman, 2012), and the social imaginary of the low quality of public services (Sarti, 2014) also emerged as factors that decrease the supply of services and limit access. However, some workers, when taking greater responsibility, feel valued and recognized (Takemoto; Silva, 2007).

Associated to the elements described here, manners of producing care to guarantee the access are revealed in the studies analyzed, highlighting values such as solidarity (Assis; Jesus, 2012; Medeiros et al., 2010; Sarti, 2014; Tesser; Norman, 2014), justice (Lima; Assis, 2010), health as a right (Schwartz et al., 2010; Silva; Andrade; Bosi, 2014; Takemoto; Silva, 2007), humanization of assistance (Dall’agnol; Lima; Ramos, 2009; Finkler et al., 2014; Takemoto; Silva, 2007), responsibility (Araújo et al., 2013; Barbosa; Elizeu; Penna, 2013; Finkler et al., 2014; Lima et al., 2007; Takemoto; Silva, 2007), and equality (Trad; Castellanos; Guimarães, 2012) as key elements to expand and ensure access and quality of health actions.

## Discussion

Of the 52 studies, 38 addressed care produced in Family Health Units in an isolated way or in comparison with the Traditional Basic Units, which shows greater interest of the authors in discussing the work of family health teams, probably for being a priority strategy in SUS for expanding and qualifying PHC services in Brazil. The predominance of qualitative studies can be explained by the fact that it is a theme that requires listening to the protagonists of the work.

The findings of the review show elements of the work which influence the ability of the service to ensure the access related to manners of producing care that extend access to health

actions resulting from dialectic relationship between the environment, the worker, and the user of the services.

The results highlight the following elements: labor standards; spaces that promote meeting (hosting, home visits, matrix support, and collective activities); training/experience of the worker; relationship with the user and with the territory; bond and accountability; respect for autonomy and different types of knowledge and culture; knowledge of local reality; workload; and professional valuation/satisfaction.

The standards related to modes of organization of services in the units, such as ascription of customers, teamwork, hours of operation of the BHU/FHU, the supply of actions by spontaneous or scheduled demand, sometimes facilitate, sometimes limit the access. Users prefer services whose previous experience was positive, those closest to their home or work; which dedicate time to listen to their demands, and to explain the procedures that will be carried out, and are dissatisfied with the time remaining in the waiting room, the hours of operation of the unit, the agility to solve the problems, and the lack of freedom to choose the professionals, like the findings of the study of Ferreira, Raposo and Pisco (2017) that indicate that these aspects were the worst evaluated by users.

The standards set the limits of what is lawful and what is prohibited, expression of what one instance evaluates as “must be” (Durrive, 2011). This instance can be exterior to the workers or include them. In the context of the PHC, standards are fundamental to guide practices associated with the autonomy of teams, to adjust actions according to the singularities of the cases, individuals, and communities (Carrapiço; Ramires; Ramos, 2017). However, this adjustment must not dispense the consideration for the needs of the users.

From the point of view of the attention model, the review corroborates the study of Franco and Merhy (2007) that indicates the coexistence of structural changes proposed to the PHC and the FHS with the maintenance of medical-centered practices, focused on disease, procedures, and the request of examinations that increase the demand

and reduce access to health services. Training and qualification of workers are determining factors to change the way health teams work through “new technical knowledge, new technological settings of the health work, as well as other micro politics for this job” (Franco; Merhy, 2007, p. 115-116). Health units must strengthen themselves as learning institutions whose knowledge is a collective production that results in protection and satisfaction for workers (Carrapiço; Ramires; Ramos, 2017).

We must act, thus, based on two distinct types of knowledge. On one hand, in the academic, scientific knowledge, from protocols that promote changes in the training of health professionals. And, on the other hand, in not written and not formalized knowledge, resulting from the experience of the work activity (Trinquet, 2010), from the organization, for example, of training actions on the unit itself, and the use of digital technologies to exchanges and survey of training needs (Biscaia; Heleno, 2017) contributing to the construction of agile, responsive, and technically qualified health acts.

For Schwartz (2000, p. 485) “each work activity is always, to some degree, on one hand, describable as experimental protocol and, on the other hand, experience and meeting.” Meetings that produce bond, co-responsibility, listening, hosting, which dialogues with the knowledge of users, which knows the local reality, and that are attentive to the needs of users and health professionals appear in the studies as being capable of extending the access, both for promote the expansion of the clinic (Cunha, 2005), as for comprise the symbolic dimension of “perceptions, ideas, and action of the subject; social representations of health-disease process; social representations of how the health system is organized to meet the needs” (Jesus; Assis, 2010, p. 164).

It is possible not to be imprisoned by the norm, go beyond the care to the enrolled families and the dichotomy between organized supply and spontaneous demand which organize the services’ awareness of the ways of life of people, assuming that we all know something about health, and that

caution must be produced from different types of knowledge.

Home visits, group work, and collective actions appear as spaces capable to broaden access, being *hosting* the most used device among health teams. However, the practice of hosting, while recognizes the right to health, also disregards this constitutional guarantee (Brehmer; Verdi, 2010) when, for example, is configured as a “nice way” to deny access to medical consultations or as simple triage of cases to be attended in the units at specific times to happen.

The organization of demand that limits access and reduces the number of daily attendances, the high number of referrals to specialists, the delay to reach the unit, to not follow the actions, and focus on activities within the office may be reflections of the overload and the workers’ search for greater job satisfaction, either by fear of violence, by low wages and precarious bonds, by dissatisfaction with the function they perform or the desire for some time off, as cited in articles of this review. Research conducted in three regions of Brazil pointed out that work overload associated with the excessive demand and overrated territory were the most significant elements to increase the workloads of nursing professionals, affecting the effectiveness, the quality of care, and the access to services (Pires et al., 2016).

Health acts, when promoting exchange and team production, satisfaction, and professional appreciation, qualify the care and extend access, according to selected articles. These results corroborate the study of Carrapiço, Ramires and Ramos (2017), which adds that teamwork, in addition to optimize the actions and help to prevent or reduce the incidence of burnout, promotes exchange and scientific update among professionals. In “teams with human and professional dimension and diversity, with personality and name of their own, where there is sense of belonging [...], perception of the results achieved [...] and external recognition, health outcomes are better evaluated” (Carrapiço; Ramires; Ramos, 2017, p. 697).

To evaluate the work and estimate how much it contributes to expand access to health services

is not simple. Health work is facing complex and variable needs, being impossible to be standardized in its entirety; it is performed by a heterogeneous group of workers, depending on the socio-political conditions and requiring constant negotiation in the context of disputes of various interests (Scherer et al., 2013). In addition, professionals need always to confront labor standards with the requirements of the concrete situations of life for users who require care, which puts them in a discussion of standards and values that will generate choices, that is, certain manners of producing care.

To prioritize the users that need it the most; to act in a planned way; to execute actions beyond the walls of the unit; to provide information, and to contribute to expanding people’s autonomy were also reported as manners of producing care, crossed by certain set of values capable to expand access.

The values are permanently present in human activity. The prioritization of values, such as the protection of life, health as a right, valuation of knowledge, experience, and autonomy of the users, understanding the other as a similar, they all tend to guide the manners of producing care that contribute to more creative actions and that qualify the PHC, according to Scherer and Menezes (2016), in addition to being in line with the values highlighted in this review. Common values are necessary for performing actions that extend access by contributing to the production of health acts with equity, focusing attention on the user and prioritizing those who are most in need.

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### Authors' contribution

Menezes and Scherer were responsible for this study's conception, data analysis, writing and critical review. Verdi and Pires provided the critical review of this research.

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