



The strength and importance of medical societies

A força e importância das sociedades médicas

Since the *Conselho Federal de Medicina* (CFM) transferred the responsibility for evaluating persons seeking a specialty to the Medical Specialty Societies, these Societies have assumed greater importance.

Besides universities, these Medical Societies have become responsible for Medical Education, which is manifested in the Residents' formation course under the aegis of the Society and the Continuing Education Program (PEC).

With such importance, the Society assists in the regulation and training of Plastic Surgeons, accrediting courses through its regional branches, and collaborating in the supervision of medical activities through the Department of Professional Defense (DEPRO).

The Society does not aim to operate like the *Conselhos Regionais de Medicina* (CRMs), which regulate professional activity.

The strength of the Medical Societies stems from the fact that the Board of Directors is vital in maintaining unity, effectively integrating its members, and guiding ethical conduct in the specialties.

Within this context, the ideals of the Society influence the emergence of new concepts and broaden the working horizons of Plastic Surgeons' activities, with the purpose of improving service to the community.

Advances in Medical Science, promoted in the vast majority of cases by Universities through their research, has been disseminated not only by publications, but also by integrating the academic world with the Medical Societies.

In order to conduct these processes positively, we should display humility, learn to listen, exchange experiences, and cooperate, because we cannot achieve these objectives alone.

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