

INTRODUCTION

The Bachelor's Degree Final Project (FP) is an obligatory subject for the Degree in Pharmacy. Students must do an original piece of work that integrates and develops the received training contents, capacities, competencies and skills acquired in the Degree (1). At the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of the Basque Country, the Dean's Office, who coordinates this subject, considers the FP as an opportunity for the students to explore different career possibilities and promotes other modalities of FPs as an alternative to the bibliographical review about a topic. In that case, the FP involves a practical work about a topic developed during the compulsory Internship period or an experimental work carried out in a research group. This strategy is in accordance with some of the crosscurricular competencies defined by the UPV/EHU such as autonomy and self-regulation, professional ethics and responsibility, and critical thinking (2).

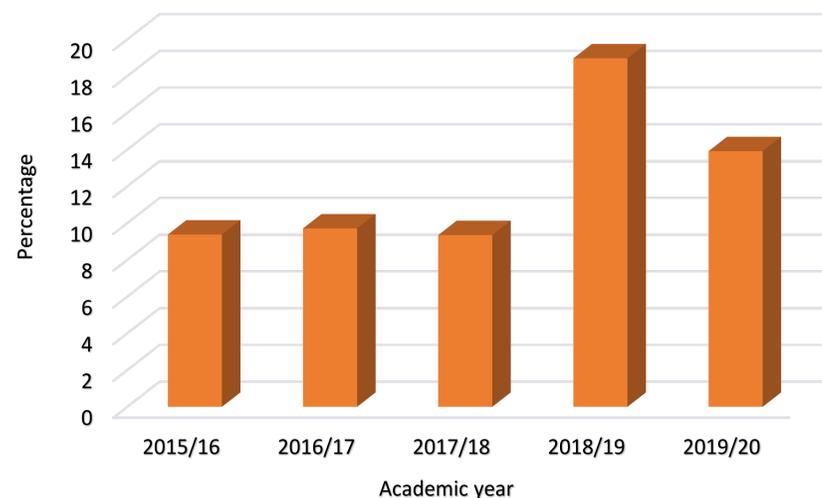


Figure 1. Percentage of FPs about topics regarding an experimental work in research laboratories and enterprises.

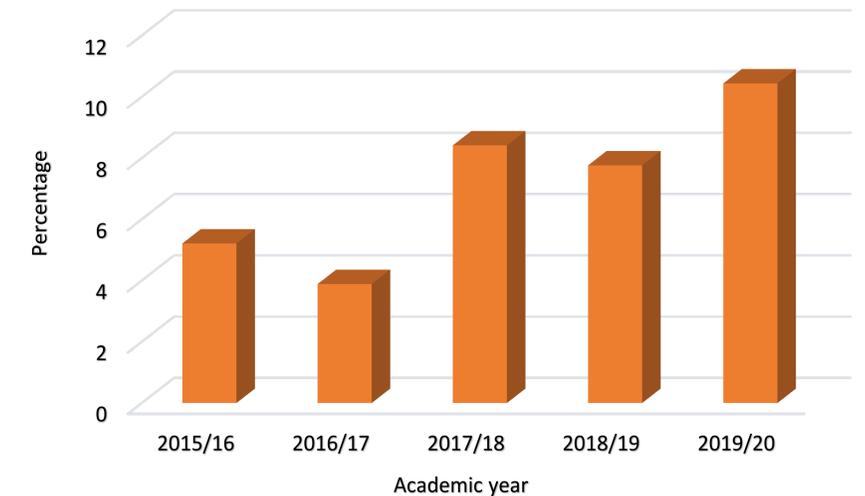


Figure 2. Percentage of FPs about topics dealing with the Internship period in community and hospital pharmacies.

AIM/S

The main objective of this initiative is to promote Final Projects, alternative to the bibliographical review about a topic, that would lead students to explore different career possibilities in addition to community pharmacy.

METHOD

To accomplish with this goal, the Faculty of Pharmacy has reached a large number of agreements with research groups, private companies and public institutions. Besides, voluntary internships have been promoted for those students interested in these new FP modalities.

The authors would like to thank the "Aula de Farmacia UPV/EHU-Novaltia" for the financial support.

RESULTS

FPs about topics regarding an experimental work carried out in laboratories, departments and research centres have increased satisfactorily from 9 % to 19 % in the 2015-16 and 2018-19 academic years, respectively (Figure 1).

Regarding FPs about topics dealing with the compulsory Internship period in a community pharmacy or in a hospital pharmacy, the percentage has been duplicated in the last five academic years (Figure 2).

Accordingly, the number of agreements with hosting institutions has also increased. In relation to the agreements with research centres or university departments for experimental FPs has tripled from 2015 to 2020.

CONCLUSION

The introduction of innovative FP modalities, practical or experimental, in the Degree of Pharmacy has been consolidated as a successful alternative to bibliographical reviews.

We could affirm that students have realized that these kind of FPs allow them to have a broader vision of their professional possibilities, particularly of those concerned with the research career.

REFERENCES

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- (2) Vicerrectorado de Estudiantes y Empleabilidad. *Catálogo de competencias transversales de la UPV/EHU*. Bilbao: Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco; 2019.