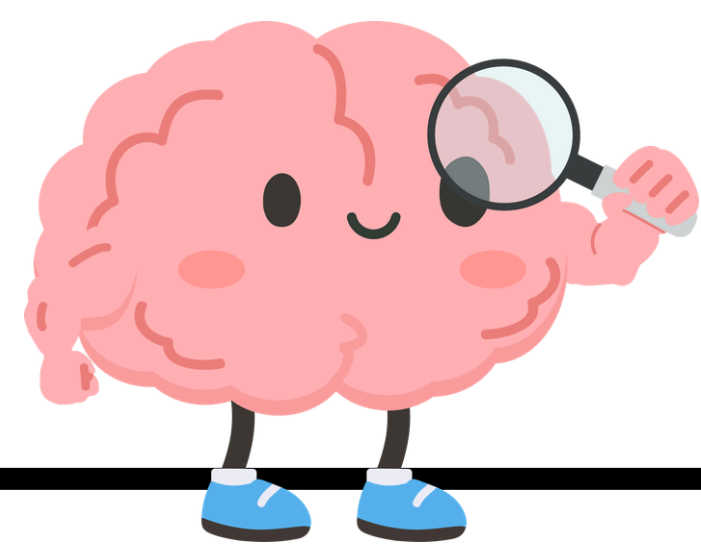


# THE PLACE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN PHYSIOTHERAPY EDUCATION : TEACHERS' PERCEPTIONS AND PERSPECTIVES FOR INTEGRATION



## A QUALITATIVE STUDY



### Introduction

Environmental Health refers to the relationship between the environment and human health.

- Human health is closely interconnected with ecosystems.
- Environmental health is an emerging issue in physiotherapy education.



According to the World Health Organization (WHO), environmental health encompasses the aspects of human health determined by environmental factors, including physical, chemical, biological, social and psychosocial determinants.

**R** Qualitative study based on individual semi-structured interviews

**A** Thematic analysis of transcripts

**Pa** Perception of environmental health

**C** Integration of environmental health within the initial training curriculum

**E** Teachers in physiotherapy training institutes

### Research Question

How do educators in physiotherapy training institutes perceive environmental health, and to what extent do they consider its integration into initial physiotherapy education to be relevant and feasible?

### Methodology

- Qualitative study design
- 4 educators from physiotherapy training institutes participated
- Data collected through semi-structured interviews
- Thematic analysis of interview transcripts



### Forces / Limites

Innovative topic within physiotherapy education

Qualitative approach providing an in-depth understanding of educators' perspectives

Small sample size  
Possible volunteer bias social desirability bias

### Results & Discussion

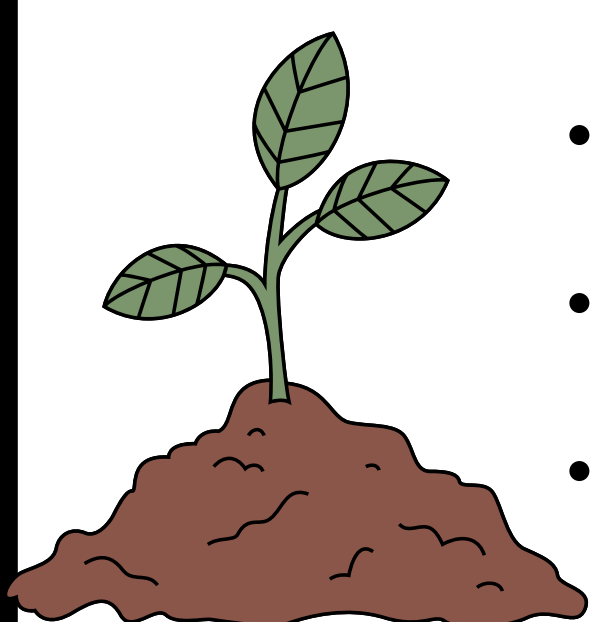
- Educators' awareness of environmental health appears heterogeneous.
- Environmental health is recognized as an important issue but remains insufficiently formalized within the curriculum.
- Identified barriers, and institutional limitations.
- Participants expressed the need for a progressive and practical integration.
- A transversal approach across the curriculum was highlighted as necessary.



### Conclusion

Environmental health is acknowledged as a significant issue but remains insufficiently structured within initial physiotherapy education. Its progressive transversal integration appears essential to better prepare future physiotherapists to address emerging public health challenges.

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NaweIHACHEMI-JEHANNO  
nhj.mkine@gmail.com

