

OTR 09 - Partnerships for productive development as an instrument for promotion of industrial development and innovation capacity: the case of Bio-Manguinhos

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Introduction:

The Partnerships for Productive Development (PDP) consist in formal technology transfer agreements between public institutions and private companies. They are aimed at reducing national technology dependence, rationalizing the State's purchasing power, amplifying access to strategic products and promoting the formation of structural conditions to increase production and innovation capacity - all whilst prioritizing the development of the public sector network and its strategic role for Brazilian National Health System (SUS).

Objective:

To describe the historical agenda of Bio-Manguinhos in the political scenario for innovation and technology capacitation in the health sector.

To describe the profile the PDPs held in Bio-Manguinhos, providing useful information to the current and future PDP in the Institute.

Methodology:

Historical agenda: primary and secondary sources in the literature were searched, using as key words: Bio-Manguinhos; technology transfer; innovation in health; technology capacity. A list of relevant thesis, official documents and published books were used as source to trace the Institute historical agenda.

Bio-Manguinhos partnerships profile: a data survey was performed to collect official public documents describing and characterizing the PDPs. The specific partnerships held in Bio-Manguinhos were identified and characterized by a set of parameters (number of contracts, type of product, therapeutic class, PDP phase). The profile served as a basis to analyze the partnerships in regard to aspects of access to medicines, innovation and technology capacity building, and attendance to SUS demands of strategic products.

Results:

Bio-Manguinhos historical agenda elicits its intense adoption of the technology transfer strategy as the means to promote technology capacity building. This strategy has initially focused on the production of vaccines, being lately extended to diagnostic tests and biopharmaceuticals. The technology transfer process has demonstrated to be fruitful and satisfactory at the Institutional level, once BioM holds favorable conditions such as installed industrial capacity, qualified technical-scientific human resources and a consumer market with elevated purchasing power (SUS).

The data collection from official public documents indicated a total of 15 PDP held in Bio-Manguinhos, most in phase II and III, with 93% of partnerships involving biopharmaceuticals. Those products are divided in seven therapeutic classes, among which the oncologic ones are the most representative class (33%). Bio-Manguinhos holds 41% of all PDP for biopharmaceuticals. The PDP Profile mostly explores imitative innovation strategies in the maturation phase of the technologies and concentrates efforts in productive capacitation. Potential fragility scenarios were identified and reinvestments proposed to induce innovation cycles within the institute.

Conclusion:

The results indicated Bio-Manguinhos relevance for supplying SUS demands of immunobiologicals. The institutional PDPs represent an initiative that propels considerable efforts to revert the technological dependence scenario and strengthen national innovation system. Furthermore, relevant information was provided to assist tracing further improvement actions for ongoing and future partnerships.

Keywords: Partnerships for Productive Development; Innovation in Health; Technology Capacity Building