

Cuba's lessons in the pandemic and scientific challenges highlighted

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Havana, January 7 (RHC)-- The lessons learned in the confrontation with Covid-19 and the process of transformation of technology and innovation are highlighted in the journal *Annals of the Cuban Academy of Sciences*.

In its first 2022 issue, it includes the papers "What can science achieve during pandemics?" by Rolando Pérez Rodríguez and Ileana Morales Suárez, director of Science and Innovation of BioCubaFarma and director of Science and Technological Innovation of the Ministry of Public Health, respectively, authors of the first research, put forward five theses to summarize the island's experiences during the pandemic.

With a developing economy, the results in confronting the Covid-19 pandemic are primarily a consequence of the investment made in biotechnology in the last quarter of the previous century and a public health system with high levels of accessibility and coverage, they revealed.

The repositioning of registered products or products in the clinical development phase for other diseases made it possible to introduce novel drugs into the single protocol for Covid-19 with a portfolio of 28 medicines and supplies, including drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics.

To date, 19 authorizations have been approved for emergency use issued by the Cuban regulatory agency, the Center for the State Control of Medicines, Equipment, and Medical Devices CECMED, according to the publication.

They pointed out as lessons learned the understanding of science and innovation management in health emergencies as a learning process and its impact beyond disease control.

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