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NEED ANALYSIS FOR INCORPORATION OF BIOETHICS IN UNDERGRADUATE MBBS CURRICULUM.

Radiodiagnosis

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Bioethics is the study of ethical issues in the healthcare system. Actually it a soft science in the harsh world.It is very contemporary topic as there is growing violence in hospitals all over India and worsening of Doctor Patient relation.So, I took up a project to train students what is right & what is wrong & how to face the realities of life.
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: My aim was to assess the need of incorporation of Bioethics in existing undergraduate curriculum.
My objective was to sensitize the faculty for focussed group discussion about Bioethics, to obtain feedback from students and faculty, administrator and patients and to determine whether the study is effective or not.
MATERIAL AND METHOD: The study was conducted in KPC Medical College and Hospital with study duration 6 months.
Total sample size 200 (purposive) with 100 students, 60 faculty, 20 administrator and 20 patients.
I took ethical clearance from my institution.
My study design was analytical (interventional).
For students I took a pre test & post test study. My intervention was to impart knowledge & also took a feedback after sensitization.
For faculty & administrators I took a feedback after sensitization.
For patients I took a pre and post exposure feedback and to see what is their opinion.
RESULTS: After imparting knowledge to students by questionnaire focussed group discussion film show I found there is average leaning gain score + 64%.
And I took a feedback from them using LIKERT'S Scale and I found that 72% students strongly agree and 24 % students agree that teaching Bioethics is helpful.
82 % students strongly agree and 16 % students agree that Bioethics should be incorporated in undergraduate curriculum.
For administrators and faculty I first sensitized them with focussed group discussion, questionnaire & film show. After that I took a feedback based on LIKERT's scale.
86.6% faculty strongly agreed and 13.3 % agreed that Bioethics should be incorporated in undergraduate MBBS curriculum.
75% of administrator strongly agreed and 25 % agreed that if the students are trained in Bioethics it will be easier for them to run the healthcare system.
Now finally I took opinion from the patients.
Patients feedback was taken a pre and post exposure analysis I took a mean value of each response.
The main aim of this study was to whether the healthcare system is meeting their expectation.
Pre exposure study shows they thought the healthcare system needed improvement in totality.
Post exposure analysis states that they satisfied with the work, service completely & timely done and communication and attitude from Doctor's were meeting their expectation.
CONCLUSION: So from above study we concluded that Bioethics is needed in undergraduate MBBS curriculum.
It will help the student to build up confidence in dealing with life threatening situations, improve their confidence & make them a better medical graduate.

KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION:

Bioethics is the study of the ethical issues emerging from advances in biology and medicine. It is also moral discernment as it relates to medical policy and practice.

Bioethics is a term with two parts and each needs some explanation. Here ethics refers to the identification, study and resolution or mitigation of conflicts among competing values or goals. Bio means life.[1,2,3]

Bio ethics is commonly understood to refer to the ethical implications and applications of the health related life sciences.

This is a very contemporary topic as there is growing incidence of violence in hospitals all over India and mistrust between doctor and patient is also increasing. Also so far this course is not included in syllabus.

So, I would like to train students what is right and what is wrong in dealing with harsh realities of life, to take decision in case of life threatening diseases, how to face death and build good doctor patient relationship.

AIM & OBJECTIVES:

Aim is to assess the need of incorporation of Bioethics in existing undergraduate MBBS curriculum.

OBJECTIVE:

1. To sensitize the faculty for focussed group discussion about bioethics.
2. To obtain feedback from students and faculty about the same.
3. To determine the effectiveness of this study.

MATERIAL & METHODS:

STUDY DESIGN: It is analytical interventional study.
STUDY SETTING: In KPC Medical College & Hospital. Kolkata.
STUDY DURATION: Six Months.

I took a sample of total 200 people.
SAMPLE SIZE = 200
STUDENT = 100

INCLUSION CRITERIA:

Willing students of 9th semester. They were chosen lottery wise.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA : Those who do not want to participate.
FACULTY = 60
They were chosen randomly.

ADMINISTRATOR = 20 They were also chosen randomly.
Patient 20
[First two patient of OPD with whom I can follow up the study.]
So total no of sample = 200

STUDENTS – 100, ADMINISTRATOR – 20, FACULTY – 60, PATIENT – 20

ETHICAL ISSUES:

I ensured all the participants that this study is mainly for scientific purposes and take informed consent form all of them, that they are participating voluntarily and have every right to withdraw at any point of time.

I took ethical clearance from out institution too.

DATA COLLECTION METHOD:

1. Quantitative method of date collection.

Questionnaire base data collection from student's faculty administration & patients.

2. Qualitative method of data collection.

Focussed group discussion involving students faculty, administrator. Interview of patients.

INSTRUMENT DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN:

1. FOR STUDENTS

I would like to take a pre test before imparting knowledge.[8,9,10]
I would prepare questions & conduct FGD covering following topics on Bioethics:-

i) Modern medicine and ethical issue.
ii) Human dignity and human rights.
iii) Equality justice equity.
iv) Human vulnerability and personal integrity.
v) Benefit & harm.
vi) Privacy & confidentiality.
vii) Autonomy and informed consent.
viii) Non discrimination and equalization stigmatization.

I would arrange two movie sessions.

§ Miss Events Bays
§ After that I would take a post test.

2. FOR FACULTIES

I would like to sensitize them by arranging focussed group discussion and interview covering topics [11,12,17] like:-

i) History, principles & codes of Ethics.
ii) Ethics & professionalism.
iii) Benefit and harm
iv) Gender disparity and protection

Then conduct case discussion and arrange for movie session.

3. FOR ADMINISTRATORS

I would like to arrange FGD and covering topics[13,14,15] like:-

i) Universal declaration of Bioethics & Human rights.
ii) Autonomy and Informed consent.
iii) Privacy and confidentiality.
iv) Benefit & Harm.

After sensitizing I would like to take feedback from students, faculty and administrators.

For patients I would like to take their opinion and do a pre exposure and post exposure analysis.

4. DATA ANALYSIS

For students after imparting knowledge I would like to do a pre exposure and post exposure assessment [16,17] and calculate learning gain. After calculating learning gain of each individual student.

I would calculate average gain score in this way:-

| Student | Pre Assessment Score | Post Assessment Score | Student gain score

1
2
3
upto 100 students...

After this I would like to take a feedback from students and analyse them on 5 point LIKERT scale.

I would take feedback from faculty and administrators & judge by LIKERT scale.

For patients, I would like to take a pre exposure and post exposure analysis of knowledge attitude and practice and take their opinion whether the healthcare service meet their expectation or not.

After that we can assess whether we can perform accept, reject or modify the design.

OBSERVATION & RESULT:

TABLE I

STUDENTS (NUMBER – 100) STUDENTS FEEDBACK

LIKERT'S SCALE

S. No	Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Average
1	Teaching Bioethics is helpful	72 72 %	24 24 %	4 4 %
2	It actually helps them to understand what is right and what is wrong & helps them to face harsh realities of life	73 73 %	25 25 %	2 2 %
3	It helps them to take decision for life threatening condition, breaking bad news etc.	62 62 %	33 33 %	5 5 %
4	It improves confidence and hence make them more competent	78 78 %	22 22 %	0 0 %
5	It improves performance in exam	80 80 %	18 18 %	2 2 %
6	Bioethics should be incorporated in undergraduate MBBS curriculum	82 82 %	16 16 %	2 2 %

TABLE II

FACULTY FEEDBACK FORM

SCALE:

1. Strong Disagree4. Agree
2. Disagree5. Strongly Agree
3. Neutral

(FACULTY NO – 60)

S. NO	Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Average
1	The programme fulfilled my expectation	42 70 %	15 25 %	3 5 %
2	The goals were clear and the goals of learning experience were met	45 75 %	13 21.66 %	2 3.33 %
3	Learning bioethics improve Doctor-patient relationship	54 90 %	4 6.66 %	2 3.33 %
4	It improves students performance in exam	48 80 %	10 16. 66 %	2 3.33 %
5	Bioethics needs to be incorporated in undergraduate MBBS curriculum	52 86.6 %	8 13.33 %	0 0 %

TABLE III

ADMINISTRATOR FEEDBACK FORM

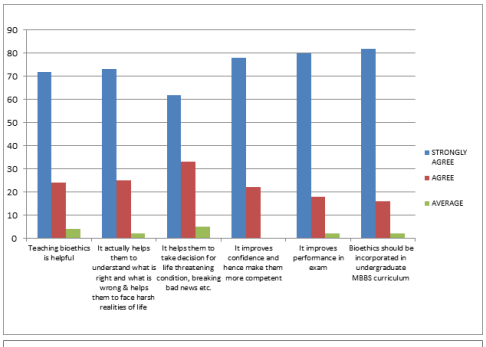
(NO – 20)

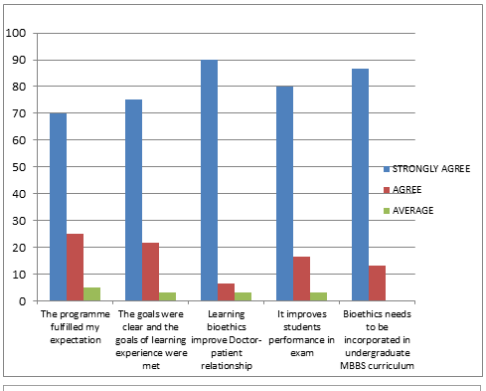
S. No	Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Average
1	Training Relevant to Today's need	15 75 %	5 25 %	0 0 %
2	Materials provided were helpful	10 50 %	8 40 %	2 10 %
3	Length of training was sufficient	8 40 %	10 50 %	2 10 %
4	Content was well organized	13 65 %	4 20 %	3 15 %
5	Teaching bioethics improves Doctor-Patient relationship	16 80 %	4 20 %	0 0 %
6	If the students are trained in bioethics at undergraduate level it will easier for them to run the health care system	15 75 %	5 25 %	0 0 %

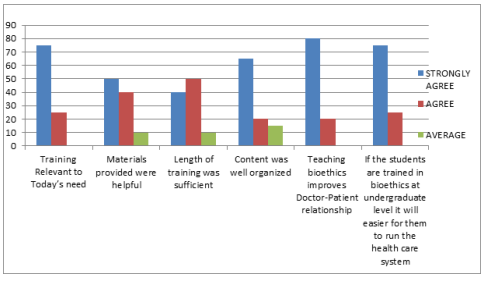
TABLE IV
PATIENT FEEDBACK FORM
SCALE:
1. Need Improvement
2. Meet Expectation
3. Exceed Expectation

(NO – 20)

S. No	STATEMENT	Pre Test Intervention (mean value)	Post Intervention (mean value)
1	Satisfied with quality of work	1	2
2	Service timely & completely done	1	2
3	Doctors Reliable and Dependable	1	2
4	Happy with their knowledge and skill	2	2
5	Communication regarding consent, privacy, confidentiality benefit and harm of procedure properly done	1	2
6	Satisfied with professionalism	1	2







DISCUSSION PART I:
STUDENTS:

For students my aim was to do a pre exposure and post exposure analysis of knowledge attitude and practice.

First I took a pre test of 100 participating students. Then I imparted knowledge by questionnaire focussed group discussion, film show. Then I again took a post test and calculated learning gain[18,19].

Normalized gain is a ratio of what the student has learnt & what he could have learnt.

I calculated learning gain for each individual student when a student scores higher on their post test than pre test there is positive gain and the formula is = Post assessment – Pre assessment
100 % - Pre assessment

If the student scores lower on post test than pre test then there has been a negative gain, formula remaining same.

For each student I assessed learning gain or student gain score at after calculating for 100 students I took an average, and average gain score was **+ 64 % (vide Table 5)**.

After calculating learning gain I took a feedback from each student and prepare a student's perception table using LIKERT'S SCALE (Table I).

There is I found,
i) 72 % students strongly agree and 24 % students agree that teaching Bioethics is helpful.
ii) 73 % students strongly agree and 25 % students agree that knowledge of Bioethics help them to understand what is right and what is wrong and help them to face harsh realities of life.
iii) 62 % students strongly agree and 33 % students agree that knowledge of bioethics help them to take decision in life threatening condition, breaking bad news etc.
iv) 78 % students strongly agree & 22 % students agree that knowledge of Bioethics improves confidence and make them more competent.
v) 80 % students strongly agree and 18 % students agree that it improves performance in exam.
vi) Finally the most important question of this project whether Bioethics should be incorporated in undergraduate MBBS curriculum. Then I got an overwhelming response, 82 % students strongly agreed, 16 % students agreed that it should be incorporated. Only 2% were neutral. No one disagreed the fact of its importance.

DISCUSSION PART II:
FACULTY:

I have total no of 60 faculties who were randomly chosen 20, 21, 22
I sensitized them by FGD Interview and movie session.
Then I took a feedback from them and analysed on LIKERT SCALE.
Here also I got a good response with.
i) 70 % faculty strongly agreed and 25 % faculty agreed that the program fulfilled their expectation.
ii) 75 % faculty strongly agreed and 21.66 % agreed that goals were clean.
iii) 90 % faculty strongly agreed and 6.6 % agreed that learning Bioethics improve Doctor patient relationship.
iv) 80 % faculty strongly agreed and 10 % faculty agreed that improve student's performance in examination.
v) Now answer to the final & most important question whether Bioethics needed to be incorporated in undergraduate MBBS curriculum –

86.6 % strongly agreed and 13.3 % agreed whereas no one remain neutral or disagreed.

DISCUSSION PART III:

I took feedback from administrator also after sensitizing them with FGD & questionnaire & interview. They were chosen randomly and total number was 20.
i) 75 % strongly agreed and 25 % agreed that training was relevant to today's need.
ii) 50 % strongly agreed & 40 % agreed that materials were helpful.
iii) But regarding length of training only 40 % strongly agreed it was sufficient.
iv) 65 % strongly agreed & 20 % agreed that content was well organized.
v) Now answer to the most important questions –

80 % of administrator strongly agreed and 20 % agreed that teaching Bioethics improves Doctor-Patient Relationship and 75 % strongly agreed and 25 % of administrators agreed that training in Bioethics will be easier for them to run the healthcare system.

DISCUSSION PART IV:

Now the final and most important part of feedback which is coming from the patient's.

I took first two willing patients of OPD. Total no of patients was 20. They were chosen in such a way,[23, 24, 25] so that I could keep tract over them. Their addresses and contacts number has been preserved & ensurance was taken that they would comes for follow up.

I took statement from them before intervention (pre test) and after intervention (post test). I calculated mean value of each response.

There is 1 step high or positive response for each statement.
The scale was taken as,
i) need improvement,
ii) meet expectation and
iii) exceed expectation.

Each time the response in post test value was on high or positive (+1) side.
The questions were like,
i) Whether they were satisfied with the work.
ii) Service completely & timely done.
iii) Doctors reliable and competent.
iv) Communication regarding informed consent, privacy confidentiality, benefit and harm of each procedure was properly done etc.
v) Satisfied with professionalism.

Mean pre test value was mostly 1 or need improvement &post test value was 1 step higher that is service meet expectation (2).

The response regards whether they were happy with knowledge & skill of the doctor remain same.

This patient feedback form help us to improve patient experience. We find out examples of good practice where lessons can be learnt. We should remember that both positive and negative feedback are valuable.

But I am lucky that after imparting knowledge and sensitization I gathered mostly position response from patients.

CONCLUSION:

Study of Bioethics proves to be effective for students to face harsh realities of life, helps them to take decision in life threatening condition, improves their confidence and make them more competent.[26,27,28,29,30]

The faculty also strongly agree that learning Bioethics improves students performance in examination and it improves Doctor-Patient relationship.

Administrators strongly agrees that if students are trained in Bioethics it will be easier for them to run the healthcare system.

And finally the patients are also satisfied with the system.

So learning Bioethics not only build up knowledge and improvement of competence but also repairs lacunae in healthcare system.

So in today's world of growing violence and mistrust between Doctor-patient, Bioethics help in improvement of Doctors attitude.

So this study shows that Bioethics needed to be incorporated in undergraduate MBBS curriculum.

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