



PERCEPTION AND EVALUATION OF FOUNDATION COURSE AT ENTRY LEVEL FOR FIRST YEAR MBBS STUDENTS IN MEDICAL COLLEGE.

Medical Science

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: As Medicine is a challenging profession that demands the study of a large volume of knowledge, acquisition of various clinical skills, self-directed learning, ethical behavior and professional attitudes.

Present study is used to know the student's perception towards the Orientation, Skill modules, Art of clinical examination, Medical ethics, Professional and Personality development, Sports and extracurricular activities, Enhancement of language and computer skills

Aim And Objectives: To assess the perceptions of students regarding foundation course by taking their feedback using a pre-designed and pre-validated Questionnaire. To lay a strong foundation to withstand academic challenges and to produce a competent Indian Medical Graduate.

Materials And Methods: It was a Cross sectional study, conducted for the incoming first year MBBS Students of 2019 - 2020 batch for a period of 1 Month (August) in Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad. 200 students voluntarily participated in this study. Their feedback was obtained by pre-designed and pre-validated questionnaire on a five point Likert scale.

Results: Perception and Feedback obtained from students was positive of which the maximum importance was given to ethics (78%), skill module (76%), communication skills (70%), professionalism (68%) followed by sports, field visit, orientation and yoga.

CONCLUSION: Foundation course for MBBS students at the entry level, as suggested by the MCI should be conducted which helps to reduce student's anxiety and boosts their confidence and helps to develop a competent Indian Medical Graduate.

KEYWORDS

Foundation Course, MBBS Students, Feedback, Perception.

INTRODUCTION:

As Medicine is a challenging profession that demands the study of a large volume of knowledge, acquisition of various clinical skills, self-directed learning, ethical behavior and professional attitudes.[1]

According to "Vision 2015" document on "Regulations on graduate Medical Education" and "Competency based undergraduate curriculum for the Indian medical graduate 2018" with the advancement in medical education MCI has introduced foundation course to be followed by all educational institutions to make teaching programs student oriented and outcome based.[2]

A structured "Foundation course" can help alleviate students worries, apprehensions and help them cope with forthcoming professional demands.[1]

Academic institutes throughout the globe design and implement foundation course for their students to facilitate who transit from rote learning to self-directed learning in professional course.[1]

The core objective being to familiarize students of first year MBBS with the campus environment, curriculum and academic programs and help them to face academic challenges in their course.[3]

present study is used to know the student's perception towards the Orientation, Skill modules, Art of clinical examination, Medical ethics, Professional and Personality development, Sports and extracurricular activities, Enhancement of language and computer skills.

Aim And Objectives:

To assess the perceptions of students regarding foundation course by taking their feedback using a pre-designed and pre-validated Questionnaire.

To lay a strong foundation to withstand academic challenges to produce a competent Indian Medical Graduate.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The present Cross sectional study was conducted on 200 first year MBBS Students of 2019 - 2020 batch for a period of 1 Month (Aug) 2019 in Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad, Telangana.

Prior approval for the study was obtained from the Institutional Ethical

Committee of Osmania Medical College.

The Foundation course was conducted for 1 month (175 hours) by faculty of Medical Education Unit, Preclinical and SPM departments for the incoming first year MBBS students of 2019 - 2020 batch at the entry level.

Table No-1. Structure Of Foundation Course:[4]

Subjects/ Contents	Total Teaching hours
Orientation	30
Skill module	35
Field visit to community health center	8
Professional development including ethics	40
Sports and extracurricular activities	22
Enhancement of language/computer skills	40
Total teaching hours	175

The topics were mainly focused as per MCI guidelines and were represented in table no-1.

Presentations were conducted in an innovative way like Group activities, Role play, Use of video - clips and Interactive sessions to make the students more attentive and receptive. Their feedback was obtained by a pre designed and pre validated questionnaire on a five point Likert scale.

RESULTS:

This study was cross sectional and conducted on 200 first year MBBS students. Their feedback was collected by using pre -designed and pre-validated questionnaires. The questionnaire consists of individual feedback for various components of the foundation course.

Table No - 2. Parameters Included In Sports And The Results Represented By One Student

S. No.	SPORTS	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Disagree
1.	Interesting	√				
2.	Well Organized		√			
3.	Satisfied		√			
4.	Not Satisfied					√
5.	Stress Buster	√				

Table No - 3. Parameters Included In Orientation And The Results Represented By One Student

S. No	Orientation	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Dis agree
1.	Well organized		√			
2	Effective		√			
3	Satisfied		√			
4	Not satisfied					√
5	Helpful to get information about MBBS course		√			
6	Helpful in building up confidence		√			
7	Will be able to apply what you learnt in future		√			
8	Time management was useful	√				
9	Stress management was useful	√				
10	Should have respect for cadavers	√				
11	Should have respect for the institute which you are a part of.	√				
12	Helps in improving access and quality to health care		√			
13	Should be a lifelong learner	√				
14	Patient care comes first to personal interest		√			

Table No - 4. Parameters Included In Yoga And The Results Represented By One Student

S. No.	YOGA	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Dis agree
1.	Effective		√			
2.	Will implement in daily routine.		√			
3.	As Stress Buster	√				
4.	Organized Well		√			
5.	Satisfied		√			
6.	Not Satisfied					√
7.	Important for Medical Education.			√		

Table No - 5. Parameters Included In Skill Module And The Results Represented By One Student.

S. No.	Skills Module	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Dis agree
1.	Interesting		√			
2.	Informative		√			
3.	Helpful in building up the confidence.	√				
4.	Will be able to apply what you learnt in future.		√			
5.	Not helpful.					√

Table No - 6. Parameters Included In Field Visit And The Results Represented By One Student.

S. No.	Field Visit	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Disagree
1.	Informative		√			
2.	Useful		√			
3.	Well Organized	√				
4.	Enjoyed	√				
5.	Helpful in communicative skills		√			
6.	Not Useful					√
7.	Students showed difficulty in communicating with patients, peers. teachers and/or staff.					√

Table No -7. Parameters Included In Communication Skills And The Results Represented By One Student.

S. No	Communication Skills	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Dis agree
1.	Effective	√				

2.	Not Effective					√
3.	Students should interact appropriately within small group		√			
4.	Students should interact appropriately within lecture setting.		√			
5.	Students should function appropriately within a health care team.		√			
6.	Should be sensitive to needs, feelings or wishes of others.		√			

Table No - 8. Parameters Included In Professionalism And Ethics And The Results Represented By One Student.

S. No.	Professionalism And Ethics	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Dis agree
1.	Have empathy	√				
2.	Be properly dressed		√			
3.	Convincing behavior		√			
4.	Will implement in your career.		√			
5.	Social behavior		√			
6.	Having discipline		√			
7.	Useful		√			
8.	Not Helpful					√
9.	Follow Hippocratic oath in all circumstances.		√			
10.	Students respects patient Confidentiality (Privacy)	√				
11.	Important in medicine		√			
12.	Crucial to good patient care		√			
13.	Relevant		√			
14.	Non Relevant					√
15.	Made me more aware of practice of medicine		√			
16.	Influence attitude and behavior of doctors		√			
17.	Plays crucial role in self-improvement.	√				

The feedback of various components of the foundation course are taken from 200 students compiled and the percentage is calculated and is represented in table no - 9.

Table No - 9. Over All Percentage Results Of Feedback Of Foundation Course

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
Sports	68 %	28 %	4 %	-	-
Orientation	62 %	34 %	4 %	-	-
Yoga	56 %	30 %	12 %	2 %	-
Skill module	76 %	18 %	6 %	-	-
Field visit	60 %	32 %	8 %	-	-
Communication Skills	70 %	30 %	-	-	-
Professionalism	68 %	32 %	-	-	-
Ethics	78 %	22 %	-	-	-

DISCUSSION:

Foundation course was focused on development of behavioral attitudes, ethics in the profession, extracurricular activities to distress the student, methods to familiarize students to the campus environment, learning techniques and ways to facilitate the stress coping strategies of the students to bring out a competent Indian medical graduate [11].

Medicine is a profession that requires not only knowledge and clinical skills but also high standards of behavior, attitude, ethics, professionalism.[6]

The present study was conducted on 200 first year MBBS students for a period of 1month and their feedback was collected by using pre-designed and pre-validated questionnaire. The participation in various sessions and feedback response was very encouraging, and maximum positive feedback was given to ethics, skill module, communication

skills, professionalism followed by sports, field visit, orientation and yoga.

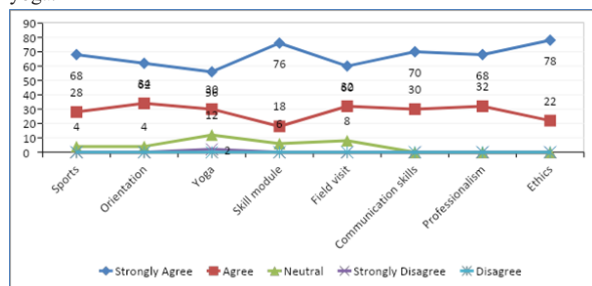


Table No-10.

STUDY LIMITATION:

This study carried out on 200 medical students of first year MBBS at entry level.

MBBS 2nd, 3rd year part I and II students and interns were not included in the study, as this competency based medical education is implemented from MBBS students of 2019-20 batch only.

CONCLUSION:

A structured foundation course can help to alleviate student's worries and help them cope with forthcoming professional demands.

The present study was conducted on 200 first year MBBS students belonging to 2019-20 batch for a period of 1 month and their feedback was collected by using pre-designed and pre-validated questionnaire. The participation in various sessions and feedback response was very encouraging, and maximum positive feedback was given to ethics, skill module, communication skills, professionalism followed by sports, field visit, orientation and yoga.

There is a need for such programs to lay a strong foundation for potential medical fraternity. Hence we recommend that such programs should be conducted regularly in all the medical colleges and at all the levels as far as possible.

MAJOR THEMES EMERGE FROM

STUDENTS:

The program relieved my anxiety.

Helped me to develop confidence to face the challenging medical course.

All my doubts were addressed in the program.

Helped me to communicate with peers, seniors and staff.

Very good beginning towards medical care.

All medical colleges should have such program.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None

Acknowledgements:

I thank my principal, staff and students of Osmania medical college, who has helped in this project.

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