

OP 5: COMPETENCIES AND READINESS FOR INTERNSHIP OF THE MEDICAL GRADUATE IN FACULTY OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA

Sathiadas G

Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Jaffna

Introduction: Since 2008, attempts were made to convert the medical curriculum into outcome based curriculum from the traditional one.

Objective: To assess information seeking behaviour, appraising research, clinical skills, communication skills and readiness for personal development.

Methods: A prospective study was done from 2010 to 2012 (186 final year students). Self-administered questionnaire was used.

Results: The students were confident on common clinical skill and ward routines. 45% practiced IV insertion (adults), blood taking (adults) and giving IV drugs more than 20 times. None attempted a lumbar puncture. Practical procedures such as venepuncture in children and resuscitation were performed minimally (1-5times). Number of attempts increased (p value <0.001) after the introduction of log books in 2011. Text book was the first choice for reference for 39% of the students and 52% read less than five journals per month and none read more than ten per month. Confident rate for communicating with colleagues in difficult situations was 84.3%, functioning as a team member (76.3%), independently finding ward procedures (59.3%) referring to seniors (81.4%), managing own time on and off work (61.0%), working independently away from home (52.5%), increasing physical demand (54.2%) and handling advice and criticism(52.5%). They were not so confident in coping with additional tasks and decision making skills. Internet browsing for medical topics: 40.7% less than five times per month. 54.2% of the students needed a lot of guidance in appraising a research paper and no one was confident in appraising all types of research.