Postgraduate Medical Education

Postgraduate Medical Education is one of the major systems to develop excellence in Medical Education. The system is divided into preclinical & clinical formats. In clinical format the major area is involvement of postgraduate student to learn advance issues of the field in which student is doing his/her degree work. While in preclinical fields the student is directed to undertake teaching strategies for undergraduate courses and do research to support his degree. In modern times the research is directed to fortify basic principles of the subject or clinically relate topics with the subject.

The basic principal of postgraduate education is development of most modern knowledge of the subject, development of clinical/basic teaching/scientific skills and aptitude guidance for continued medical education. The first postgraduate clinical training programmes, were launched following the inauguration of Aga Khan University Hospital in 1985. Since critical thinking and analysis are the keystone of scientific thought and the prerequisite for meaningful scholarship and research, it is essential for any educational programme to encompass aspects such as biomedical ethics, teaching skills, research methodology as well as communication skills\(^1\).

McGill University has also developed its objective to develop learning experience inherent to the clinical training offered should prepare the trainees to perform as clinical teachers in an academic milieu, to provide high quality medical services to their community as members of the Health Care Team, and will expose them to a rich research environment\(^2\).

While the Cambridge University looks at it as the Postgraduate degree is aimed at doctors and other professionals allied to medicine who have a teaching role and/or a role in training and appraising healthcare professionals. This includes doctors working in: primary care; secondary care at all levels from foundation year 2 to consultant grades; and other professionals allied to medicine that have a role in teaching both undergraduates and postgraduates\(^3\).

The programme is designed to provide practical solutions to teaching undergraduates or postgraduates as individuals, small groups and larger groups. It will look at the theory behind teaching in medical settings and how these apply in real life situations. It is also designed to provide help in developing skills in giving feedback, appraisal and assessment. Where possible the teaching will be adaptable so that it can help specific groups of teachers in their particular environment.

REFERENCES

1. Official website of Aga Khan University.
2. Official website of McGill University.
3. Official website of Cambridge University.

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