

Induction of Research Orientation in Medical Students

Involvement of Medical Students in Research Groups is an important manifestation in Medical Education particularly in preclinical education. The trend was set in American Medical Schools to appraise students of modern research strategies and their outcome in the development of Medical Professionals.

Since the research in drugs and treatment found an up roaring diagnostic and prognostic turn after second world war and the drugs were used by chemical manufacturing it was need of the time to develop clinical skills in this area. As a result it was decided to involve medical professionals for drug discovery research. The best option was enthusiast medical students who could spare time for this purpose.

The development of technology in diagnostic and prognostic fields also brought a great change in making medical professionals aware of such clinical involvements. In Pathology particularly the involvement of Technology in Chemical Pathology, Microbiology, Serology and particularly in Immunology & Serology and Virology made a grand change in research set up and developed enthusiasm amongst medical students.

Thus curricula development involved in making great research orientation and contribution by medical students particularly in preclinical years. This trend also developed the involvement of medical students in research publication which would be able to develop the selection of field of choice.

In Pakistan unfortunately due to lack of research funding and resources very few institutions could cater this need. The Aga Khan University developed its medical college and inducted this system in a few decades. Reason is that they are independent institution with lots of financial resources as well as the faculty who could assist in research development.

The development of research facilities can also be developed by other medical institutions by making joint projects with international research organisations and funding supplemented by Higher Education Commission. This would not only help our medical students to come up-to international standard but also reorganise our medical education.

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