Evaluation of Undergraduate Students' Perception towards Medical Research

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Aims & Objectives

The study was designed to evaluate the poor standards of undergraduate medical research in Indian Medical Collages and to compare sensitivities of different parameters in determining the lack of interest of medical students towards research.

Material & Methods

A prospective trial, comparing sensitivities of lack of awareness, lack of proper mentors, lack of infrastructure, lack of carrier as a researcher, publication issues and lack of medical rewards, in three hundred final year medical students was carried out.

A detailed questionnaire was formed to evaluate why the final year MBBS students were not enrolled in medical research and how they would be interested for the same. Following criteria were included in the evaluation: lack of awareness, lack of proper mentors, lack of infrastructure, lack of carrier as a researcher, publication issues and lack of medical rewards.

Statistical Analysis

It was carried out by using proportions and odds ratio.

Results are displayed with the help of pie chart.

Results

Evaluation of the questionnaire suggested that, lack of awareness in 46.3% (n=139) lack of Proper infrastructure in 17% (n=51), lack of medical rewards in 16.3% (n=49), lack of carrier as researcher in 10% (n=30), lack of proper mentors in 6% (n=18) and publication issues in 4.3% (n=13) were responsible for lack of research initiative from the students.

Conclusions

It can be concluded that lack of awareness and proper infrastructure were amongst the most frequent factors resulting in lack of research work by undergraduate medical students. Hence attempts should be made in improving the awareness and the infrastructure.

While medical rewards, proper mentors and publication issues were in minority. Hence proper resources should be utilized in creating awareness and improving the infrastructure.