

Foundation Course for First MBBS – Are the Students Prepared to Face the Challenge?

Renuka Devi. M. R*, Devaki. P. R

Department of Physiology, Sree Balaji Medical College and Hospital, Chennai

ABSTRACT

Background: Foundation course are introduced by the Medical council of India as a part of revised competency based medical education for a period of one month to enable the students to equip themselves to face and also to go through the challenge. Various modules are included in the foundation course to enable the students face the challenge of the medical curriculum.

Aim and Objective: To analyse the students feedback on the foundation course introduced by the Medical Council of India in first year as a part of revised competency based medical education.

Methodology: Around 150 students of first MBBS were recruited for the study. The students have completed attending 50% of the foundation course in the mid of August 2019. Feedback was obtained using questionnaire which were designed based on the orientation program module, professional development and ethics module which was completed by them. The results were analysed statistically.

Results: 97.6% of the students have told that they were benefitted by this foundation program and that the fear of big course has become light in front of them. They are well oriented towards the health policies of the country, integrity, patient care, ethics and attitude, revised curriculum, new environment.

Key words: Foundation course, MBBS course, Medical council of India

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Corresponding author: Renuka Devi. M. R
e-mail ✉: renukadevi.mr@bharathuniv.ac.in
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MINI REVIEW

There is a big transition in the minds of the students from school education to medical college. The practice of medicine is an art, not a trade, a calling, not a business- a calling in which your heart will be exercised equally with your head They have to be equipped mentally to face a big challenge that is to enhance themselves into competent first contact Indian Medical Graduate amongst the competitive world and also to deliver good patient care. Foundation course are introduced by the Medical council of India as a part of revised competency based medical education for a period of one month to enable the students to equip themselves to face and also to go through the challenge. The modules introduced are orientation, professional development including ethics, sports and extracurricular activities, language enhancement and computer skills, field visit and skill module. This study aims at analyzing the feedback from the students related to the usefulness of the foundation course to face the MBBS programme [1].

To analyse the students feedback on the foundation course introduced by the Medical Council of India in first year as a part of revised competency based medical education.

Around 150 students of first MBBS were recruited for the study. The students have completed attending 50% of the foundation course in the mid of August 2019. The topics which was completed were the Medical profession and the physicians role, Alternative health systems, History of Medicine, Orientation to medical ethic, Attitude/ Professionalism, Health care system and its delivery, National Health Policies, Universal Precautions, vaccination, patient safety, Biohazard safety, Principles of primary care in general, Principles of primary care in community based care, Doctors role in scene of crime, Orientation to research, Concept of Professionalism, Medical ethics, Role and responsibilities of doctor in society, Behaviour, attitude towards - peers, seniors, faculty, health care workers and patients, language skills, computer skills and so on. Feedback was obtained using questionnaire which were designed based on the orientation program module, professional development and ethics module which was completed by them. The results were analyzed statistically [2].

Foundation course are introduced by the Medical council of India as a part of revised competency based medical education for a period of one month to enable the students

to equip themselves to face and also to go through the challenge. The modules introduced are orientation, professional development including ethics, sports and extracurricular activities, language enhancement and computer skills, field visit and skill module. The students come from different boards of education, different socio economic status different scores, and different parts of the country. This foundation course was designed by MCI based on the diversity in the student population. This will increase their confidence level to face the vast curriculum of MBBS course. They can orient themselves to the objectives; know their responsibilities, do's and don'ts, safe guard themselves in times of crises. It is not that the graduates without this foundation course are not competent, the question is whether all are competent, is it standardised, whether 100% quality of competent doctors assured by the institute. This initiative by the MCI aims at standardisation of the graduates as well as

the curriculum. We aimed at analyzing the feedback from the students related to the usefulness of the foundation course to face the MBBS programme. The students have completed attending 50% of the foundation course in the mid of August 2019. Table 1 shows that most of the questions in the feedback had positive response that is more than 95% students say that the topic has helped them. This brings us to the conclusion that the foundation course will be greater help to them [3].

According to (Table 1), 97.6% of the students have told that they were benefitted by this foundation program and that the fear of big course has become light in front of them. They are well oriented towards the health policies of the country, integrity, patient care, ethics and attitude, revised curriculum, new environment [4].

Table 1: Showing the % of students saying yes for various questions in the feedback.

QUESTIONS	% OF YES
The first day address by the administrators and insight into the orientation course was useful	99.3
Orientation to medical profession and the role of physician in society was useful	99.3
I have a better understanding about the alternate health system than before the session	81.3
I had a better understanding about the history of medicine	89.3
I was Oriented about the medical ethics	99.3
I assure that I will have better attitude and professionalism than before	98
I gained knowledge about the health care delivery system in our country	100
The introductory classes on language enhancement was useful	96.7
The bio statistics and computer classes will help me to pursue research in this field	99.3
I understood about the National health policies	97.3
I had better understanding about patient safety.	99.3
I understood about the importance of primary care.	100
I had good orientation about the academic ambience	98.7
I am oriented towards the revised competency based medical education	100
The MBBS programme was explained to me.	100
Came to understand about the self-directed learning	96.7
The self-introduction among our self-helped to know about us .	97.3
I was well oriented about research.	95.3
I came to know about the value of integrity and honesty.	99.3
I understood about the expectation of patient from doctors .	99.3
I understood about how to behave with peers , friends	100
I am fully ready to encounter further sessions	100
Orientation classes has helped me for the smooth transition from school to medical college	98.7

The Foundation Course in the first month of the MBBS curriculum has helped the students to move confidently towards the institutional goal [5].

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