

Status of Medical Physiologist and Medical Physiology Teaching: Bangladesh Perspective

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Preamble: The status of physiologist and physiology in medical colleges and institutes has been a concern of the physiological societies¹ and Bangladesh Society of Physiological (BSP) as well. The newly formed BPS has undertaken an initiative the future of the medical physiologist and learning objective² of the medical physiology education in Bangladesh.

Present framework: Apprehension have been raised that physiology is being eroded in the medical curriculum, with potentially grave consequences for both medical students and the physiology teaching and research communities. Duration of study has been reduced to 1 ½ years from previous 2 years, keeping the content same as before. In this regard, competent authority overlooked the recommendations of physiologist. On the other hand, assessment systems were extensively modified like MCQ, SAQ, formative, structured oral, OSPE. Are we all, ready to fully or partly implement this assessment system? Answer of this question is a great deal of debate. Approximating the changes in curriculum 2002, the teaching staff should be reviewed in a positive direction with women empowerment^{3,4} with out any delay.

Emergence of clinical (medical) physiologist: Faculty of basic medical sciences awarding master of philosophy degrees, particularly from the 2002 in different medical college of Bangladesh in addition to BSMMU and the availability of funding for biomedical research has been started in the 2006. Still there is a delicate scarcity of M Phil and Ph D degree holder Physiologist to taught physiology both in private and government medical education sectors.

Gender diversity with M Phil physiology degrees was inclining towards the female since 2002 and onwards, the reason(s) needs to be explored³. The largest percentage of postgraduate physiologists was employed in departments of

Internal Medicine at abroad, but we are not at all thinking about these sorts of employment.

Medical student's prophecy: Medical students reliably rate physiology as one of the premedical courses that best prime them for medical studies. They believe that a strong physiology education is a key to their success in both medical studies and vividness⁴ in clinical location. Physiology and physiologists remain depressing within medical education of Bangladesh but it should not be; because, medical education includes the strong foundation that only physiology can provide for it.

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