

Chittagong Medical College: A Center for Shaping Professionals Since 1957 The Sojourn for Mission & Vision

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Educational institutions are for grooming up the future human resources for the nation to be operated, individually and collectively. At birth humanhood is not different from that of an animal. Along with the growth It can be said that education shapes phase wisethat animal as human to good communicative cultured social members, then to vocationalists and finally to pandits or professionals. Education comprises three dimensions, knowledge, skill and attitude. These dimensions are ever expanding off new add-ons through gatherings by research, developments and other endeavors. Medical Educational Institutions are very special outfits for production of professionals. Institutions must prepare human resources to maintain and improve health throughout life. The main purpose of a medical college is to offer medical education, clinical care, health promotion, disease prevention and research while training doctors to be skilled, ethical and compassionate.¹ In this behalf as such the institution should have mission and vision statement and narrative.

The mission includes academic excellence, professional development, ethical conduct, quality health care and respect for dignity. Mission Statement in other words the 'Purpose'. A concise explanation of the institution's reason for existence. It describes what you do, who you serve and how you do it every day. The vision represents the long-term goal or aspiration. The criteria should include educational leadership, a patient-centered approach to care, positive community impact, global engagement and a commitment to innovation. Vision Statement or the 'Dream' is a futuristic, aspirational declaration

of what the institution wants to become or the world it hopes to create. It is the 'destination' that is ever expanding tailored to time and space and add-ons.²

Technological advances, rising costs, and other key issues in access, availability and affordability continue to hinder universal health care coverage. For countries with limited resources where demand versus availability is at a crux in that situation Boelen's concept of Five Star Doctor is an appropriate solace. The Five Stars are the certain essential capabilities a doctor should have. These are: Care provider, Decision maker, Communicator, Community leader and Manager.³

Some real-life influences that matter where intelligent customizations are necessary. A prudent medical college should be able to balance academic excellence with real world health care delivery. Ethical standards should be aligned properly with social norms having a clear strong foundation. In absence of that foundation, medical education risks producing technically skilled but socially disconnected doctors. Community engagement is apriority aspect for equitable healthcare.

Through years of learning and growth, people have come to balance equality, equity, diversity, inclusion and justice. French Revolution provides the real motto for the balancing which are: Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite (Liberty, Equality, Fraternity).⁴ A well-established interpretation of Maslow's Hierarchy of Human Needs places health care on the third level, recognizing it as one of the five fundamental rights.⁵ To carry forward part of these cherished desires Chittagong Medical College was established in 1957 as the second such institution of the country. Since then, it is grooming up doctors and scientists who have been providing service to the humankind and spreading science not only in the country but also all over the world with good standing and creating expanding Bangladeshi Doctors Diaspora.

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In 2006 the then Principal of Chittagong Medical College raised a motion to the Academic Council to adopt a Mission and a Vision Statements for the institute. It is to be the visualized spell out of the perceived inner desire of faculty, alumni and others concerned. While phrasing the mission and vision statements relevant attributes and tenets around the professional exercises were considered. The finale that was adopted by the Academic Council is now in sight and sounds.

Mission: Making Safe Doctors & Scientists for Nation & Beyond

Vision: Lead in Education & Science & Health

From East to West and North to South around the Globe Faculty and Alumni are rekindling that mission and vision through thoughts and deeds that mission and vision Chittagong Medical College has stamped in their heads, inserted in hearts and fixed in hands.

(Conflict of Interest: Author, as Principal in 2006, originated the Mission and Vision statements.)

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