

09. Best practices and innovation of the department

1. Title of the Best Practice

Interns posted in Psychiatry present topics on common mental health disorders at the end of their postings

2. Objectives of the Practice

The knowledge regarding Psychiatry in MBBS students was not optimum. The patients with underlying psychiatric issues first attending other clinical departments are not referred to the Department of Psychiatry for evaluation. They were provided care under their departments and later referred to the psychiatry department, resulting in a delay in providing psychiatric care. Hence, there was a need to educate students about common psychiatric illnesses. The objective is to create more awareness regarding common psychiatric illnesses among MBBS students in their undergraduate days. Interns who are posted in Psychiatry also present topics on common psychiatric illnesses. The feedback is given immediately to the interns after their presentations. This practice makes them more efficient in identifying psychiatric illness in the community and practice and providing appropriate advice.

The Principle is to promote mental health, reduce stigma and identify people suffering from psychiatric illness as much as possible and provide the best care.

3. The Context

It is a common observation to find that the knowledge regarding Psychiatry in MBBS students was not optimum. This lack of awareness results in difficulty in identifying psychiatric illness in patients they see when they pass out as Professionals, leading to many psychiatric issues being unrecognized. Hence, apart from clinical work, we involve interns posted in psychiatry to present topics on common psychiatric illnesses to pick up psychiatric symptoms and provide appropriate help.

4. The Practice

Every intern posted in Psychiatry will present a topic regarding common mental illness at the end of their posting using PowerPoint as a medium. All the faculty of Psychiatry will be present during the presentation with active participation and discussion among the faculty and the interns. The feedback will be given to the presenter by the faculty immediately. This type of presentation is less likely conducted usually in minor postings.

However, some interns were less interested in presenting topics, and they were motivated by providing a case scenario and involved in this practice.

5.Evidence of Success

Interns improved in identifying psychiatric problems in patients. Some of the MBBS students who have passed from our Institution have chosen Psychiatry as their profession.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Some of the interns showed resistance to making presentations, and they were motivated by providing a case scenario and involved in this practice. There was a lack of resources like seminar hall room and projector initially, and later this problem was overcome after arranging the resources. Currently, this practice of interns presenting topics on common psychiatric illnesses is happening regularly.

ROLE -PLAYS

The department of psychiatry held roleplays for the VTH term students posted for making them competent in the Affective and Psychomotor domains like attitude and communication which is one of the innovative methods of learning initiated by our department.