

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

Our last editorial on “How to improve the quality of post-graduate medical education?” generated lot of discussion on whatsapp group of “Society of Surgeons of Pakistan”.

Highlights of the discussions are as follows:

Very well written articulate and to the point editorial Prof Tariq congratulations for highlighting longstanding issues in our Post-graduate education. It is important it is multifaceted issue. There is need of open discussion the point of view of post-graduate shall also be given value. Some times students have serious and genuine reservations against supervisors and places of training

Prof. Ashhar Channa, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Chandka Medical University, Larkana.

One important thing is there any assessment of supervisors. How many trainees under their supervision and their performance and result after completing their training. College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan started online examination without upgrading its Q Bank system and the faculty members are not interested to improve it.

Dr Mahmood Ahmed Khan, consultant surgeon at Pakistan Rangers hospital and President Elect of Society of Surgeons Pakistan, Karachi Chapter.

What I have seen is a severe decline in clinical and surgical skills of surgical trainees.

Prof Amjad Seraj, Principal, Dow Medical College, Karachi.

Both sides are at fault. It's a long discussion, we need a national dialogue why standard of College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan has gone down.

Prof Tabish Chawala, Aga Khan University

Lack of communication and commitment towards teaching and training is bilateral. College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan acknowledgement and communication is too sluggish to move on!

just as an example, our faculty is waiting for workshops, no response at all, not even replying any email.

My residents waiting for approval of topics (not the synopsis) for four months now, no email reply despite of multiple reminders. They went in person, the concerned person at College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan not available and so on.....

Dr Ghulam Murtuza, consultant General Surgeon, Karachi

National residency program, College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan council and all faculties are involved in improving and adding Q Bank. Recently every fellow from all disciplines are invited to add Q Bank sitting from home. Very less number of fellow visiting their dashboard for information, updating and improvement of college. This is our college and being fellows we are responsible for visiting our dashboard of fellowship and supervisorship.

How many supervisors submitted their trainees e-log book in time.

These are few points of our responsibilities, if anyone fulfilling these responsibilities can raise the voice.

Points raised by Prof Tariq Mahmood and Dr Mahmood Khan are important and to be discussed.

Prof Abdullah Muttaqi, Jinnah Medical and Dental College

Sure agreed we had a lot of shortfall. There is a need to monitor the monitor.. the professor imparting training.

Prof Najeeb ur Rab Ansari, consultant Plastic Surgeon, Ministry of Health, Oman

Most of the supervisors are those who did their four mandatory supervisors workshops and got certificates. Who will check their competency. Moreover they are also the examiners of Fellowship of College of Physicians and Surgeons (FCPS), Member of College of Physicians and Surgeons (MCPS) and Intermediate Module Examination (IMM). No 50 MCQ's. No ATLS and no other requirements.

Dr Tanveer Alam, Abbasi Shaheed Hospital, Karachi.

Much needed. We are far away from International standards.

Specially in surgery. Medical anaesthesia and gynae doctors are done well outside but surgery I guess needs more confidence in training that's why surgeons struggle to find consultant job

Dr Khorram shahr Rais. Consultant general surgeon in Salman Habib hospital, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Plenty of comments are coming, time to enjoy the accolades. Unfortunately my list is long and perhaps understanding differently may be unpalatable too.

Therefore I had put it down as a word document that I read again yesterday, my ideas remain unchanged and I will share it with you sometime.

Prof Rizwan Azmi, Ex-Professor of Surgery, Aga Khan University Hospital, Professor of Surgery, Liaquat Medical College, Karachi.

Lastly my comments will be that our candidates should be rotated to different hospitals in Karachi and we should make it compulsory for all trainees to finish their Basic Life Support course (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support course (ACLS), Advanced Trauma Life Support course (ATLS) before appearing in the final exam.