

EDITORIAL

MEDICAL PROFESSION: STUDENT ADMISSIONS IN MEDICAL COLLEGES. “A GREAT HYPE”

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Medical field is an attractive profession and most of the student dream from their primary school to opt that in future as a career. There may be different motives for that, like service to humanity, attractive life style, safe and protective future career and so on. Every year large number of students apply for admission in medical colleges and less than 5% succeed in that.¹ A large number of leftover students can't get admission in private/public sector medical colleges here due to low merit, try to go abroad to other countries like Russia, China and Afghanistan and get their medical degrees.

With time medical students' preferences and empathy changes towards many points, even some of them leave the field and join some other profession like police/District administration, politics or business etc. majority of them are reluctant to serve in rural areas. Quite large number of them succeed to obtain residency in foreign developed countries. Proper policies on national and international levels should be made to guide medical students and motivate them to achieve that agenda.²

Medical field is very dynamic, as it has variety of different specialties and students can select their own choice of subject. Like one interested in surgery or medicine etc. can become a good clinician,

someone can become a good teacher or researcher. Also, the others can become a good administrator or even politician. A student interested in sports can become a sport's surgeon and then can fulfill his ambitions. Some one interested in law can opt forensic medicine and then work in liaison with law enforcing agencies. In the last few years, there is increased admissions of female students in the medical colleges, both in low- and high-income countries. This increased female participation in medicine is often called as 'feminization of medicine'.³ In our country, the volume of female medical staff is gradually increasing due to many reasons such as open merit policy for admission in medical schools, to get a better match for marriage and also this profession is as an acceptable one for women. This will have an important impact both for policy and practice of medicine in Pakistan.⁴

There must be proper career counselling workshops for students about field selection keeping in mind the interests of the students. Medical colleges admissions should be focused on different aims, like required doctors per population. Also, the syllabus should be target oriented to prepare workforce accordingly like working in rural and underserved area.⁵ These doctors should have more knowledge in community medicine.

KEY WORDS: Medicine; Admissions; Students; Profession; Career.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST
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All the authors agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.



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