

Teaching in Medical Sector of Bangladesh

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A good Medical Degree is not the only pre-requisite for medical teaching; along with degree some special initiatives can make one able to be a good teacher. Teaching is not an inborn quality. An ideal & holistic thinking with devotion, commitment & proper professional training develops a health manpower as teacher. In Bangladesh, there are 33 Post graduate Institutes of which 23 are Government and 10 are Non-Government. They admit 1974 and 169 students per year respectively. Total intake of students thus stands 2143 per year¹. After passing from these Institutes all join in different Institutes as teachers or consultants. Those who become consultants does not need any training but who works as teacher should be trained about teaching methodology & the person concerned should have a commitment. Centre for Medical Education (CME) was established in 1983 to develop Health Manpower in Medical Education. The Centre conducts regular courses & workshops but there is a serious lack of systemic approaches to staff development both at Institutional and National level². At present the State authority is giving permission to Medical Colleges to admit students from the day they start functioning. But in reality, a considerable period should be reserved as gestational period to allow the respective Institutions to build up the Academic infrastructure and to train up the newly recruited teachers before student admission. These structural and policy related challenges are faced by Medical Education in Bangladesh which are rather typical of many developing and emerging economies around the world³. To overcome those challenges and to improve the Medical teaching in our country the following issues should be fulfilled properly:

- All the teachers (Lecturer, Registrar and Assistant Professor) from the very inception of their appointment should get a training on teaching methodology for a considerable period in both government and non-government sector.

- Promotion of the teachers should be done by the competent authority as per BMDC proposal in both public & private sectors. Expertise on the subject, merits, performance, sincerity, honesty, discipline, commitment, devotion and loyalty should be considered.
- One Directorate General of Medical Education having at least one public & another private wing should be started for educational & performance audit.
- One separate Directorate should be established for financial, administrative & developmental audit purposes in both Government & Non-Government sector.
- Provision of continuing Medical Education for continuing professional development for renewal of registration should be started⁴.
- Centre for Medical Education should help in establishing Medical Education Unit in each Medical Institute (Private & Public) which will be responsible for efficient utilization of Medical manpower and will arrange appropriate training regularly⁵.
- Career plan for doctors in health sector should be in four categories, e.g. teacher, consultant, administrator and public health specialist.

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