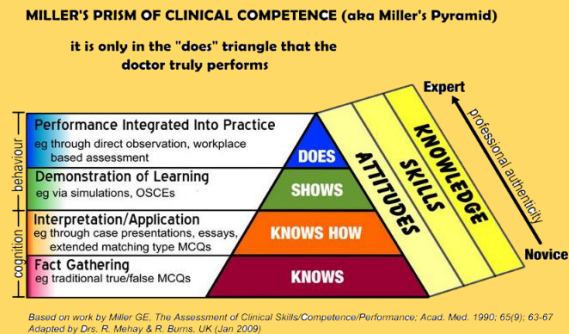


Report on the workshop on 'Objective Structured Clinical Examination- a formative assessment method 'at Faculty of Dental Sciences, RUAS

Dentistry is predominantly a skill oriented profession built on sound cognitive domain. The pyramid of learning competencies given by GE Miller clearly depicts the stages the learners have to go through and the methods the course leaders have to adopt to reach the tip of the pyramid, just to ensure the graduates are 'Fit for Practice'.



It was also observed by the learners that they needed more training especially on critical steps, the course leaders were also of the opinion that the students needed more specific training to improve their confidence. Hence, a two day workshop was conducted on 5th and 6th of November with sessions on educational objectives, assessment, blue printing, planning OSCE stations, training standardized patients and plan for implementation. Two from each department were nominated by the Head of the department with clear objective that they would be primarily responsible for implementing OSCE.



Dr Medha Joshi, oriented the participants on educational objectives, setting up stations on OSCE and training of Standardized patients. Dr Joshi has Master in Health Profession Education from UIC, Chicago and vast experience in the field of Health professions education. The session on change game was handled by Ms Jayanthi, DTSLD. She was successful in communicating the participants on 'the change is inevitable, let's embrace the change' and also brought out the attributes for change agents.

The feedback analysis demonstrated the acceptance of the workshop by all participants and the pre and post - test comparison also demonstrated good improvement in the knowledge levels of the participants.

The entire process was divided into training phase, planning phase and implementation phase. Now that we have completed planning phase, the course leaders have just embarked on the planning phase. This includes, orienting and sensitizing the other staff members in the department, identifying competencies, developing stations, piloting and validating. The next academic year will see a revised curriculum with OSCE for undergraduate training.

A community of practice has been initiated to assist the course leaders in the process. The practice of focused training added with specific constructive feedback will result in a patient safety environment and a positive academic atmosphere with the constant interaction between the course leaders and students.



In future, the plan is to initiate similar methods (Work Place Based Assessment Methods) in the postgraduate training so as to prepare graduates who have acquired competencies such as, professionalism, communication skills, clinical reasoning, patient management, researcher which are central to patient care and safety.



Such initiatives will build positive academic atmosphere in the institution, accountability amongst faculty, compassionate attitude and competent students and safe environment for patients.

The aim is to produce graduates to whom we can refer families and friends with confidence for oral care.

Dr K Pushpanjali

Chairperson- Health Profession Education Unit

Dean

Faculty of Dental Sciences