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### Dentistry should be a part of medical curriculum



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The separation of BDS as a profession rather than a subject of medical science seem artificial and contrary to forward thinking; and require to be amended. By convention MBBS and BDS curriculum is overlapping but their field of work has remained separate. The doctor patient ratio of 1:1700 in India is less than WHO recommended 1:1000. To deal with the situation government is roping on one hand AYUSH doctors whose educational philosophy is not supported by modern medicine and on other hand Dental colleges whose working field is restricted and overlapping the field of oral surgery; and so these Government's efforts are questionable.

Our country has unique problems in healthcare and solutions should be unique as well. Instead of adding more medical knowledge to dental students, we should add basic dental knowledge to MBBS curriculum. The subjects like dental pathology and community dentistry can be taught under pathology and community medicine. In medical education after MBBS, MD/MS in dentistry can be offered instead of running separate BDS/MDS courses, Dental colleges and DCI. In this manner providing healthcare and medical education system would be simplified and doctors can manage health of all parts of the body even in peripheral services. Upgrading dental colleges as medical colleges and merging DCI into MCI would be convenient in our Indian perception. There is need of medical professional, who can deal with all body parts including dental at primary care level.

#### Conflicts of interest

The authors have none to declare.

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### Knowledge and attitude towards body and organ donation among doctors in Lanja – A rural town in India



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**Aims and objectives:** To study the attitude and knowledge towards body and organ donation among doctors in rural India.

**Material and methods:** The present study was conducted in a rural town called Lanja, in Konkan region of Maharashtra. A specially designed questionnaire covering various aspects of organ and Body donation was distributed amongst all Doctors of Lanja region of Western Maharashtra in a "Lanja Doctors Association" meeting and later their responses were analyzed statistically.

**Results:** 100% of the doctors (31) attending the meeting consented to participate in the study. Awareness regarding organ donation was found to be high. Most claimed newspaper and television as their source of information regarding organ donation. There was awareness regarding eye, liver, heart and kidney donations but very less awareness regarding all other forms of Organ or Body donation. All were aware of need for legal supervision but awareness regarding the existing laws was found to be poor.

**Conclusion:** Doctors in rural Maharashtra had high levels of awareness and a positive attitude towards body and organ donation. However knowledge regarding "brain-death", legalities and ethical issues was poor. A teaching intervention in the form of lectures at MBBS level, or CMEs, etc to address these issues could help increase the knowledge of the doctors.

All over the world, people on organ transplant waiting lists die every year due to shortage of donor organs. The success of organ donation program needs education of the population regarding organ donation for which doctors play a key role.

#### Conflicts of interest

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### A study on predicting academic performance in first year MBBS students



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**Aim and objectives:** This study is aimed on predicting the preparedness of first year MBBS students to face their curriculum, it also reflects their learning outcome, approaches to studying this competent course, impresses on the habits that the professional students need to develop during the course, through the study skill inventory and help them to contract required learning skills.

**Material and methods:** Over 150 first year MBBS students who gave their consent were requested to fill the questionnaire to predict their academic performance. This project was designed to assess the preparedness of students of the first MBBS level in a medical college towards facing the academics using a questionnaire of 50 items on a Likert format and close ended type questionnaire. The data was analysed for individual item responses.

**Results:** Two important constructs came out as the determinants of preparedness of students. In our results students revealed their willingness to take on this tough curriculum but were inadequately prepared.

**Conclusion:** The preparedness of the student to take on this curriculum has an added advantage over the unwillingness of students which can be predicted using this study skill inventory.

#### Conflicts of interest

The authors have none to declare.

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### Changing trends in medical education



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**Aims and objectives:** This study is an attempt to see the changing trends in medical education especially in vast field of Anatomy. There are number of specialties in which it can be group like embryology, morphology, surface anatomy, gross anatomy, so modern