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Approaches of medical faculty students towards continuing professional development

Zeliha Cansever(1), UZ Avsar(2), H Acemoglu(2), A Deniz(3)

(1) Mevlana University, Department of Medical Education and Informatics, Konya, Turkey

(2) Ataturk University, Department of Medical Education, Erzurum, Turkey

(3) Mevlana University, Department of Physiology, Konya, Turkey

Corresponding author: Assistant Professor Zeliha Cansever, Mevlana University, Medical Education and Informatics, Konya, Turkey. E-mail: dr.zelihacan@hotmail.com

Background & Aim: One of the aims of medical education is to adopt the principle of lifelong learning. Continuous professional development help individuals to develop their knowledge and skills, obtain personal development that is necessary for their professional lives, reach their career goals and gain build confidence and credibility. It includes training courses, conferences, courses as well as self-learning activities.

Objective: The aim of this study is to determine CDP activities and approaches preferred by students and raise awareness about the CPD.

Method: The study population consists of the freshman students of medical school. A questionnaire including 26 questions with 2 open-ended questions and 5 sections were administrated. Participation is on a voluntary basis. This is a descriptive study. The data was expresses as n number and %.

Results: The number of students included in the study was 239 with N=120 female (50.2%) and 119 male students, respectively. Most of the students (n=175, 73.2%), who didn't participate in CPD activities, have expressed that they were not aware of these activities. The lack of interest and necessity were some other rare reasons. Most of the students want to be a specialist in their fields (n=191, 79.9%). They think that these activities should be sponsored by the university, a project or the council of higher education. The most preferred activities were video presentations, skill trainings, courses and trainings on the Internet.

Conclusion: CDP activities help students to be ready for their career by developing knowledge-related professional skills. Supporting these students by raising awareness in these activities is our responsibility.