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The early orientation of first year students to the teaching hospital

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Background & Aim: Atatürk University Medical Faculty is applying a course aiming the early orientation of first year students to the teaching hospital since 2012. Our aim was to check student's expectations and factors which are effecting these expectations and choosing medical faculty.

Methods: Before and after sending students to hospital orientation a questionnaire was applied. There was some general information questions such as age, gender, high school they graduated, presence of chronic disease and being in a hospital as a patient or caregiver before choosing medical faculty. The obtained data were analyzed with SPSS 18.0. The significance level of $p < 0.05$ was accepted.

Results: Totally 469 students completed the pre-and post-tests. Mean age was 18.8 ± 1.4 years. The ratio of girls was 49% ($n=230$). Of the students; 16.8% ($n=79$) had a doctor in their family, 5.5% ($n=26$) had chronic illnesses and 36.7% ($n=172$) were hospitalized previously. Previous hospitalization or in related with a doctor as a factor that affect student's medical faculty choice ratio was 20.9% ($n=98$). Girls (92.6%) are better answered than boys (87%) the questions about functions of outpatient clinics ($p=0.04$). Girls (87.4%) are better answered than boys the questions about functions of inpatient clinics ($p=0.01$). The ratio of expectation about quality of health services and facilities was higher and statistically significant in previously hospitalized students (68.2%) ($p < 0.05$). Before orientation, ratios of correct answering to the questions about features of outpatient clinics, inpatient clinics, surgical branches and basic medical sciences were 90%, 64.8%, 96.8%, 84% respectively. After orientation all this ratios became 100%.

Conclusion: We determined that the most important factor which affecting the ratio of expectations about quality of services was previous hospitalization. Before orientation, the first year's students had less information especially about hospital yards. After orientation all of them answered all questions correctly. We think that early introductory course for newcomer medical students is beneficial.