

OP25.4

Knowledge of and attitudes towards family medicine of Spanish medical students who completed the degree in the academic year 2014-2015

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Background & Aim: The experience of students during specific courses has a significant impact on their attitudes towards specialities. The objective of this study is to determine knowledge of and attitudes towards Family Medicine (FM) of medical students, with and without previous curriculum in primary care (PC) or FM, in their last year of the degree.

Methods: Cross-sectional study. Three hundred and five students at the end of the 6th year of the degree in the 2014-2015 academic year, from several Spanish Medical Schools, were asked to respond the brief CAMF, a questionnaire with 21 closed response items. Students from Albacete Medical School responded a “pencil and paper” format in classrooms and the others responded on line. The students’ answers were analysed and compared in relation to having taken a course in PC/FM (Mann-Whitney U test).

Results: The mean age was 24.19 years (SD:3.02); 68.8% were women. Most of them (26.2%) were from Albacete, the rest belonging to other 12 medical schools; 75.2% of them took a course in PC/FM. These students showed a significant lower level of disagreement with “FM is highly regarded within the Medical School” ($p=0.021$) and a higher level of agreement with “low efficiency of a health system directed exclusively to diagnosis and treatment” ($p=0.017$) versus those who had not studied it. There were no differences for the other items; 56.7% of all students “would like to become a family doctor in the future”, but only 14.7% considered “FM as their first career choice”.

Conclusion: Medical students who take a course in PC/FM showed in general similar opinions towards them that those who do not. Spanish medical students in the last year of the degree have a little interest by FM.