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The desicion support systems as a tool to facilitate the decision-making process in the selection of specialities in medicine

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Background and Aim: Although medical students get familiar to different specialties during the medical education, this is not always lead them to choose relevant area for them to practice. Choices they made depend on mostly what they want to be instead of what they really can. On the other hand there are limited sources to help graduates for a proper decision. Those are mostly profession tests which are based on psycometric scales and not specific to medicine. There are so many factors which should be taken into consideration when making a choice and human brain can not take into consideration more than two or three factor. The aim of this study was to create a tool which takes into account the features of different medical specialties and preferences of doctors to help them to make a rational choice for their futures.

Method: A methodological study is designed. for the first step 10 faculty members and 10 senior assitants are asked to determine the characeristics which differs the medical specialties from each other than 60 faculty members were asked to evaluate these characteristics. After an iterary process, compromise is provided. Second step was arranging focus group session from last year medical students to understand what kind of considirations they have when deciding for specialty training. Third step was building a decidion support system by using Analytic Hierarchy Process. Analytic Hierarchy Process - AHP) is developed by Thomas L. Saaty (1977) and it is a decision making technic which uses defined multicriteria.

Results: A tool have been developed and it will be shown during the presentation.

Conclusion:: A useful technic for decision making may help more skillful and happy doctors.