

Letter to the Editor

An implementation program for Foundation Course in Competency Based Medical Education Curriculum

Sir,

After a gap of nearly two decades, Medical Council of India (MCI) has revised, rather revamped, the Undergraduate (UG) medical curriculum, making it competency based (CBME) and learner centric.¹

The revised CBME curriculum includes one month Foundation Course (FC). The objective of the FC is to sensitize the learners with essential knowledge and skills which will lay a sound foundation for their pursuit of learning across the subjects in MBBS course and, later on a career in medicine.²

In the proposed Graduate Medical Education Regulations-2019 (GMR-2019), the MCI has given guidelines for designing the one month time-table for FC. A representative one month schedule, prepared by the Medical Education Unit (MEU) and the Curriculum Committee (CC) shall be followed at the Gujarat Adani Institute of Medical Sciences.

Tables 1 to 6 show framework of the FC including topics and time distribution for the topics as suggested in the MCI's FC document. A few additional topics are also included to apprise students about the concept of Indian Medical Graduate, essentials of life and professional attributes.

The objective of submission of this letter is to share the draft with fellow colleagues and to get inputs for improvisation.

- These sessions are prepared as interactive sessions.
- The Foundation Course will have compulsory 75% attendance. This will be certified by the Dean of the college.
- The time committed for the Foundation Course may not be used for any other curricular activity.
- Evaluation (Process and Product): Program effectiveness questionnaire from faculty and students and reflections from the students
- Reporting: The Curriculum Committee will submit the schedule and report shall forward the same to Nodal Centre/Regional Centre within two weeks of the last day of the Foundation Course.

The effective implementation will require committed efforts of 30 faculty members (12 Professors, 11 Associate Professors and 7 Assistant Professors), two language and one fine arts teacher, and 4 non-teaching members (Librarian, IT-personnel, Coach for sports and motivational Guru).

Table 1: Foundation course at a glance.

Subject/ Content	Hours (MCI)	Hours (Our time-table)	Remarks
Orientation	30	31	To be conducted in 1 st week of foundation course (White Coat Ceremony)
Skills Module	35	35	First aid, basic life support, learning skill, communication skill, bio safety and biohazards
Field visit to community health centre	8	8	Visit to Primary/ Community Health Centres
Professional development including ethics	40	41	AETCOM (Cadaveric ceremony), Introduction to research
Sports and Extracurricular activities (ECA)	22	14- Sports 08- ECA	2 hours ECA and 4 hours sports per week for 4 weeks. (Last two hours of Wednesday, Friday, Saturday)
Enhancement of language/ computer skills	40	40	Can be outsourced (CCC/ CCC ⁺ level certificate course syllabus can be included)
Total hours	175	177	

Table 2: Time-table for 1st week (orientation week) of foundation course.

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
09:00 - 10:00		Welcome speech by Dean Ice breaking (All 4 first year HODs)	Being a medical student: keen observation is key to success	Introduction to medical ethics	Academic Ambience	Immunisation requirements of health care professionals
10:00 - 11:00	Campus-a global Village Hostel allocation college and hospital visit	Introduction to library/ academics departments	Professional qualities of a physician	Commitment to lifelong learning as an important part of physician's growth	Introduction to alternate health care systems and history of medicine	Introduction to research
11:00 - 12:00		Introduction to 4 (1 st year) departments. Anatomy: 11:00 - 11:30 Physiology: 11:30 - 12:00 Biochemistry: 12:00 - 12:30 P and SM: 12:30 - 13:00	Expectations of physician from society and Peers	Physician's role and responsibility to society and community	Mentorship program at our institute	Sports, Kho-Kho
12:00 - 01:00		Gender sensitivity in medical profession	Expectations of society and patients from doctors			
01:00 - 02:00	Lunch break					
02:00 - 03:00	Being in white coat and beyond	Introduction to the MBBS program	Health care delivery system in India	National health programs	Bio-safety/ needle prick injuries	
03:00 - 04:00	White coat ceremony	Group dynamics	Introduction to extracurricular activities and sports	Time and stress management	Sports, Indoor games	
04:00 - 05:00						

Table 3: Time-table for 2nd week of Foundation Course.

Time	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12
09:00 - 10:00	Inter-personal relationship	Proper hand washing technique	Biomedical waste management	Students involvement in research ICMR STS	Self-directed learning	Field visit to PHC/ CHC
10:00 - 11:00		Documentation and medical records		Universal precautions		
11:00 - 12:00	Language, English language	Language, English language	Language, English language	Language, Gujarati Language	Language, Gujarati Language	Sports, Basketball
12:00 - 01:00						
01:00 - 02:00	Lunch break					
02:00 - 03:00	Computer skills, Fundamentals of computer, computer settings, typing practice in typing tutor software	Computer skills, Introduction to MS Office and MS Word, MS Excel and MS PowerPoint	Learning pedagogy	Computer skills, MS Word	Learning strategies	
03:00 - 04:00			ECA, Debate			
04:00 - 05:00			Sports, Tug of War			

Table 4: Time-table for 3rd week of Foundation Course.

Time	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16	Day 17	Day 18
09:00 - 10:00	Basic Life Support and first aid training	Basic Life Support and first aid training	Cadaveric ceremony	Concept of professionalism, consequences of unethical and unprofessional behaviour	Learning from patients and other members of health care team	Field visit to PHC/ CHC
10:00-11:00				Teamwork in medical profession	Communication with patients and families (Role plays)	
11:00 - 12:00						Sports, cricket
12:00 - 01:00						
01:00 - 02:00	Lunch break					
02:00 - 03:00	Computer skills, MS Word	Computer skills, MS Excel	Community based learning	Computer skills, MS Excel	Peer assisted learning	
03:00 - 04:00			ECA, Painting		Sports, Kabaddi	
04:00-05:00						

Table 5: Time-table for 4th week of foundation course.

Time	Day 19	Day 20	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24
09:00 - 10:00	Value of integrity, honesty and respect in medical profession	Animal ethics	Professional behaviour	How to behave with your superiors	Importance of attendance	Field visit to PHC/ CHC
10:00 - 11:00	Introduction to IEC of our institute	Anti-ragging guidelines and introduction to anti-ragging committee of our institute		Maintaining confidentiality	Rights of a doctor and MCI etiquettes	
11:00 - 12:00	Obtaining patient consent		Privileged communication in medical ethics		What it means to be a medical student	
12:00 - 01:00		Book Exhibition				
01:00 - 02:00	Lunch break					
02:00 - 03:00	Computer Skills, MS PowerPoint	Computer Skills	Online learning (e-learning)	Computer Skills, Revision	Group learning	
03:00 - 04:00		MS PowerPoint	ECA, Elocution		Sports, Group activities, dance, music and skit	
04:00 - 05:00						

Table 6: Time-table for 5th week of foundation course.

Time	Day 25	Day 26	Day 27
09:00 -10:00	Role modelling	Reflective writing	Maintaining a diary and portfolio management
10:00 -11:00			The secret of life (video clip)
11:00 -12:00	Inspirational/ Motivational talk		Concluding remarks by Dean
12:00 - 01:00	Lunch break		
01:00 - 02:00			
02:00 -03:00	Computer skills Test	Assessment driven learning	Open house and feedback of foundation course
03:00 -04:00		Simulation based learning	
04:00 -05:00			

Ajeet Kumar Khilnani^{1*}, Jitendra Patel²

¹Department of Otorhinolaryngology, ²Department of Physiology, Gujarat Adani Institute of Medical Sciences and GK General Hospital, Bhuj, Kachchh, Gujarat, India

***Correspondence to**

Dr. Ajeet Kumar Khilnani,
E-mail: ajeetkhilnani@gmail.com

desk/for-colleges/ug-curriculum. (Last accessed on 16.04.2019).

2. Medical Council of India. Vision 2015. New Delhi: Medical Council of India; 2011. Available at: http://www.mciindia.org/tools/announcement/MCI_booklet.pdf. (Last accessed on 16.04.2019).

REFERENCES

1. Competency Based Undergraduate Curriculum. Available at: <https://www.mciindia.org/CMS/information->

Cite this article as: Khilnani AK, Patel J. An implementation program for Foundation Course in Competency Based Medical Education Curriculum. *Int J Res Med Sci* 2019;7:2865-8.