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MCI puts PG faculty in a quandary

Seeks 2-Year Training For New Specialty

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In a classic case of putting the cart before the horse, the Medical Council of India (MCI) has been insisting that faculty teaching post-graduate courses in emergency medicine (EM) must have at least two years training in the field knowing fully well that being a newly identified specialty, there is no way anyone could have been trained in the country in a recognised course. Thanks to this insistence, most medical colleges that started the PG course and students who joined them are being harassed by recognition being withheld. Colleges trying to start the course are denied permission too.

India being a country with one of the highest numbers of road accidents and

STATUS OF PG SEATS

Total number of seats for PG course in emergency medicine

State	No. of seats		
	Govt	Pvt	Recognised
Andhra Pradesh	2	4	0
Assam	2	0	0
Delhi*	14	0	14
Gujarat	7	0	5
Karnataka	0	15	1
Kerala	2	6	0
Maharashtra	0	7	0
Puducherry*	8	0	8
Tamil Nadu	0	4	0
Telangana	0	2	0
	35	38	28

*Delhi-14 seats in AIIMS and Puducherry-8 seats in JIPMER, both autonomous and don't need MCI recognition.

highest incidence of non-communicable diseases like cardiovascular ailments, lakhs of people land in the emergency department of hospitals every day, but have few trained in emergency management to attend to them. Despite such an urgent need for doctors trained in emergency medicine, the MCI's stance has put the brakes on adequate numbers being trained in

this specialty.

In the meeting of its post graduate medical education committee in June 2016, making two-year special training in emergency medicine an essential requirement for recruiting faculty was found to be "not feasible because these courses were not existing in the country earlier". A sub-committee was constituted to suggest changes in the mandatory qualification.

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Even after admitting the absurdity of asking for a qualification that was not possible to obtain, the MCI continues to refuse recognition for this course on the same basis.

PG committee meetings were also held in March this year and the general body met on March 29, but minutes of these meetings are not yet in the public domain. Queries sent by TOI to the MCI president and secretary on the issue received no response.

MCI had identified EM as a specialty and got it gazetted on July 21, 2009. By Dec 15 that year, a notification was issued specifying the qualifications needed for faculty for EM — PG degree in general medicine or surgery, respiratory medicine, anaesthesia or orthopaedics with two year training in EM. The minutes of the post graduate committee meetings show that the first colleges to get permission to start MD Emergency Medicine were BJ Medical College (on Dec 29, 2009) and NHL medical College (in February 2010) both in Ahmedabad, despite their faculty not having the

required qualification.

With no 'legitimate' EM training offered in India before it was recognized as a specialty in 2009 and faculty qualification being decided in December 2009, it was almost impossible for anyone to get the mandatory two-year training in EM needed to be faculty. Out of 51 seats under MCI jurisdiction, just six - five in Gujarat and one in Karnataka, have been recognized till date.

The arbitrariness in the process of granting recognition is evident in how the MCI raises the issue of faculty not being trained in emergency medicine selectively. For instance, in August 2014, when denying recognition to the EM course in St John's Medical College Bangalore, this issue was brought up, but in the same meeting Medical College, Baroda got recognition though its faculty did not having training in EM as evident in the assessment form of the college in February 2014. Just two weeks later, Vydehi Medical College, Bangalore was not given recognition for the same reason, but in 2015 it was recognised for one seat with the same faculty.

ಆರ್.ಎಲ್. ಜಾಲಪ್ಪ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ವ ಆಟಿಸಂ ಅರಿವು ದಿನಾಚರಣೆ



ಕೋಲಾರ ಏ ಜಿ ವುಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ಡಾ|| ಕೆ.ಎನ್.ವಿ. ಪ್ರಸಾದ್ ಆಟಿಸಂ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸ ನೀಡಿ ರೋಗ ಲಕ್ಷಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾಯಿಲೆಯನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚುವುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಮಾನಸಿಕ ರೋಗ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ಡಾ|| ಮೋಹನ್ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಕಾಯಿಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚುವ, ವಿವಿಧ ಟೀಸ್ಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸಲಹೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದರು.

ವಿಶ್ವ ಆಟಿಸಂ ಅರಿವು ದಿನವನ್ನು ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸ್ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ದೇವರಾಜ್ ಅರಸ್ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನಸಿಕ ರೋಗ ವಿಭಾಗದಿಂದ 'ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಆತ್ಮ ಸಂಕಲ್ಪ ಸಮೃದ್ಧತೆಯ ಕಡೆಗೆ ಎಂಬ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಘೋಷಣೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಆಚರಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ದೇವರಾಜ್ ಅರಸ್ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲ ಡಾ|| ಎಂ.ಎಲ್. ಹರೇಂದ್ರಕುಮಾರ್ ಉದ್ಘಾಟಿಸಿ ಆಟಿಸಂ ಕಾಯಿಲೆ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡುಬರಲಿದೆ. ಈ ಕಾಯಿಲೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಭಾವನಾತ್ಮಕ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆ ಕುರಿತವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಲಹೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದಲ್ಲಿ, ಅವರ ಭೌತಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗೆ ಸಹಕಾರಿಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆಂದು ಪ್ರತಿಪಾದಿಸಿದರು.

ದೇವರಾಜ್ ಅರಸ್ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಆಪ್ತ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನಾಕಾರ ಗುರುರಾಜರಾವ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ ಆಟಿಸಂನ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಪೋಷಕರ ಹಾಗೂ ಶಾಲಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ, ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರ ಪಾತ್ರವನ್ನು ವಿವರಿಸಿದರು.

ಸಮುದಾಯ ವೈದ್ಯಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ಮತ್ತು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣದ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಡಾ|| ಸಿ. ಮುನಿನಾರಾಯಣ ಕಾರ್ಡಿಯೋಲೊಜಿಸ್ಟ್ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಿದ್ದರು.