

An Innocent Assessment.

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ABSTRACT

Assessment is a criterion to satisfy the norms laid down for the process of recognition of the Institution for the teaching of MBBS as per the desire of Medical Council of India. Recently Medical Council has been also subjected for the remedial measures to fulfil the aspiration of the policy of the government. Whatever, the change required it should be aimed for the equality of all the subjects without disparity in the progress of the any one in Medical Education so that all could participate in changing scenario of the newer reformed concept for the service of humanity.

Keywords: MCI, Assessment, Medical Education.

INTRODUCTION

In the morning at 8 am, we have received information that a taxi appears to be from Delhi has come to the office of the principle of medical college and three persons appeared to be from MCI want to see the principal and we have also heard saying that as yet principal office did not open. Immediately we rushed to the office and event has started. We offered a cup of tea to welcome but they did not accept perhaps like an investigating team, might have not liked, although they belonged to the teaching community but this was an ideal place to show the honesty. They have been asked to follow the secret laws by MCI during the assessment. Some of the head of the departments of Institutions had been asked to report and got themselves introduced with smiling face to the great people of Assessment team. In the meantime principal office have seen the sun rise and opened, all the staff needed for the inspection assembled with documents needed and they further asked for the instructions for inspection. There was limitation of the time. Out of three, one was senior; perhaps convenor and two others all were from different medical colleges being shorted from the list available in the MCI. After a brief talk the convenor remained in the main college building and one was asked to proceed towards the hospital departments / clinical side and other to the basic subjects for the assessments. Assessors were in hurry due to limited time. They remained excited to carry forward the work within limited time. The basic science assessors came to the department for the assessment and looked few points and hardly gave time to see the department as a whole. He devoted few minutes without interaction in the department. Since it was an assessment therefore,

they would have seen in details. In the meantime department handed over the prepared list as required in MCI frame work. The convenor of MCI often behaved as a great person and coordinated the compilation of the documents.

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Nearly at 12o clock the assessors came from the hospital and exchanged the informations for the final compilation. I asked several times to the assessor to see the Anatomy department thoroughly but he did not accept because job appeared to be non-technical and far away from the sentiments of medical education. It appear to me that there job was like stock verifier as per the MCI desired specifications for the teaching of MBBS, necessary for the requirements of recognition of MBBS course in an institution. What I have noticed that assessor remained isolated and confined to the papers in hurry to finish the work at the earliest. After the lunch we were asked to assemble in a lecture theatre with all the faculty members with original documents for verification and physical appearance. What i have also heard that one of the assessor asked principal, have you sent the money for the inspection? If you did then give the receipt. This indicates that good amount was given by the institution for inspection, for this great event of recognition process. Without fee no inspection will be done in independent India, although MCI is an autonomous body as per the enactment of the constitution of India. These days MCI is also in a

trouble from various quarters for the reasons often seen in the newspapers. Gradually we reached to a time when every department along with heads started showing the documents along with their physical presence, as usual happens in the prison, the prisoners used to collect and give their attendance every day. Does it look like professional affairs a place of academic excellence which will become the production centre, for the future generation of the doctors? What a scenario and how would the people judge this phenomenal assessment which takes place in turmoil and tension where faith is also in the problem. In the civilized society an assessment of the academic nature, where the teachers were standing in a queue although they had all documents including MCI registration pan card, salary statement and appointment for the proof of working in the prestigious institution, What will happen when some of them will leave the institution who have joined the duty on deputation for the inspection only and others may have to leave the institution to save the loss of finances in private medical colleges after inspection. Although institutions are earning huge money. Since some have become a big business centre of live saving institutions so called medical colleges. I remember once an inspector of MCI came to my institution, I took him around for showing required equipments. In mortuary room while seeing embalming machine he said that I have come from an institution where we did not have such in our own institution, although I have been picked up to assess your institution. How could the people appreciate all if their mind-set is different and psychologically not compatible for this assignment and do feel complex. Even some of them also asked our salary pattern and assessor sent there resume for the appointment. There are instances where the disparity in pay exist and the people are not happy, however, they have been doing job of MCI as assessors.

After the verification, the team finally prepared the documents. The media were also never the less busy in messaging the news of the events. It flashed out different type of informations in the newspapers and society at large. People started speculating what would be the effect after this inspection in an institution. The red alert of the institution finally ended, people now could avail casual leave and could go for work which was earlier prevented due to fear of inspection. Physical presence is must whether you are crippled but must be alive. If anyone failed to participate in the inspection he would be considered second class citizen, till next inspection. Every rule and norms is prepared by great MCI since it is autonomous. The criteria of staff position often changed and much frequently being done in basic departments.^[1] Although which needs further strengthen to decide the future prospect of the medical sciences.

Sometime assessors used to ask some different type of questions which enabled us to think that they were not amongst us and forget the fraternity and behaved as a members of national investigating team.

Every inspection takes place in the environment of fear, fright and flight. Sometimes a letter is issued by the principal that HOD should ensure success during inspection otherwise they will be held responsible without considering the role of heads in existing situation of management of the institutions.

Various types of drama are staged during MCI visits. The Govt and local agencies also become generous in giving money for the purchase of equipments etc., but what happens after that God only knows and everything rolls back to its original positions. The emphasis on quality of education which is likely to be given in future in an institution is never considered during inspections.^[2] The nature of the inspection is different at various institutions. If it is a private institution it will be different and if it related to Govt institution, the perception will be quite different. However, the procedure will be the same but the environment and support will be different. If you read the news in the Times of India dated 27.9.2016, its editorial writes 'Right medicine it is mentioned that MCI performance has been blighted by the fundamental conflict of interest. MCI which regulates medical education and licences and doctors, is perhaps least credible of India's regulators. Medical education in India and its subsequent impact in medical care has been adversely affected by MCI, emphasis on infrastructure in colleges and not qualities of students. Niti Ayog draft legislation'. Selection of assessors rigged, panel and PM told. This was heading in times of India dated 28.8.2016. It appears to be that the assessors inspection is one day show and after that what happens in future and what had been the status in the past never realised. It is better not to comment at this moment. Let the perception match with the quality of the medical education prepared for the service of the suffering. Because ultimate aim is to see that the medical graduate do the best for eliminating the pain in ailing who needs best possible care. The total impact is based on the quality of the doctors and infrastructure during training and practice of the art of medicine. I do not like people should criticize MCI being supreme regulator and gets bad name in the eyes of the Supreme Court and others like Niti Ayog.

The MCI drama finally ended with news published in the Times of India on 25.11.2016, that Niti Ayog committee recommends privatisation of medical colleges. Medical council of India decides all corporate to start medical colleges, despite concerns that it will commercialize education. Majority in MCI board said it would improve

stands at another attempt to improve the standards of the medical students, will have to clear exist test for “Dr” tag. The students will have to pass the medical test national exist test , (NEXT) , it is said that the test is expected to create a level playing field in the medical education , (TOI 30.12.2016)_.

An article published by Arvind Panagariya, entitled Niti Ayog, published in Times of India on 2.12.2016, he writes that a big bang reform, the Ayog has proposed is the replacement of MCI Act 1956, by a medical education commission act to over hall medical education in India. The proposal would require entrance and exist examination and replace input norms in the assessment of medical colleges by outcome norms. This process of assessment will continue to see a best possible environment in the Medical Education in future reform.

CONCLUSION

Some relevant facts of Assessment have been described. Questions of the some of the concerned problems still appears to be unanswered in view of the quality of Medical Care in existing assessment criteria. Intake and output of graduates depends upon the infrastructure & dedicated teachers who could infuse the devotion so that best possible services could be provided to the ailing without any obstruction and differences. Self-assessment & retrospection is ethically requires as to how much efforts could be done to improve the Medical Education in present circumstances of political change and desire of the country.

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