

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
IN SUPERSESSION OF MEDICAL COUNCIL OF INDIA
SECTOR-8, POCKET-14, DWARKA PHASE-1, NEW DELHI-110077
Eighth Meeting of the Board of Governors

MINUTES

Eighth meeting of the Board of Governors was held on 25th December 2018 (Tuesday) at 10.00 AM at Committee Room of DG ICMR, 2nd Floor, Opposite DG ICMR Room, ICMR, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi

The following members of the Board of Governors were present:-

Dr. V. K. Paul	-	Chairman
Dr. Jagat Ram	-	Member
Dr. B N Gangadhar	-	Member
Dr Nikhil Tandon	-	Member
Dr. S Venkatesh	-	Member
Dr. Balram Bhargava	-	Member

Leave of absence was received from Dr Randeep Guleria, Member BoG.

Dr. Sanjay Shrivastava, Secretary General, BoG - MCI also attended the meeting.

The Chair welcomed the members.

Following is the summary of proceedings and decisions of the meeting:

1. Need for having family physician:

The issue relating to need to have Family Physician cadre of doctor was discussed. Prof. Vinod K Paul, Chairman BoG initiated the discussion.



The BoG noted the following:

- (a) The BoG noted that the Council has prescribed the MD course "Family Medicine" in PGMER 2000. At present this MD program is run in three medical colleges and there are only five seats available in this discipline.
- (b) There are no specialist posts available in the discipline of Family Medicine in Government sector. Hence no opportunity for career enhancement. Perhaps this course is not very popular as no institution(s) is coming forward with request for permission to start this course.
- (c) The issue relating to whether the family physician is generalist or specialist was discussed. It seems that family physician is treated as generalist rather than specialist. However, it is noted that in developed nations (UK, USA, Australia etc.), Family Medicine is a specialty like Pediatrics, ENT, Surgery etc.
- (d) Possibility of having/ permitting virtual family medicine department was also discussed. The BoG felt that earlier attempts/ experiment in respect of other disciplines have not shown encouraging results in this regard.
- (e) Role of postgraduate doctors having MD Community medicine as family physician was also discussed. The BoG noted that there is no uniformity of training and involvement of MD Community Medicine postgraduate students in clinical care during training program. It was felt that in the list of qualifications of teachers for Family Medicine courses, MD Community Medicine (and Preventive and Social Medicine) should also be included.
- (f) The BoG also noted that the erstwhile Council and previous BoG developed B.Sc. (Community Health) curriculum for strengthening of rural health care system. But this course did not take off. The BoG decided to study various issues relating to this course. It was noted that this 3-year course was for a mid-level provider (higher than nurse, but lower than doctor) and NOT for a medically qualified professional.
- (g) The BoG decided to study various models of Family Medicine course by interacting with HoDs of the department running the family medicine program.



- (h) The BoG also decided to have a look at Dr Sarin Committee's report to have MBBS+2 years training, similar to PG diploma.
- (i) The BoG felt that there is need to make this program more attractive. It seems there is little demand both in the government and the private sectors.
- (j) Dr S Venkatesh, BoG Member was requested to find out the Government's view in this regard. It was also decided to write to the Ministry highlighting the concern of negligible demand of the Family Medicine course, and how to make the course attractive in terms of status, job opportunities, career progression and incentives.
- (k) The BoG resolved to discuss this issue after 3-4 weeks again.

2. Reforms in Teachers Eligibility: Prof Jagat Ram, BoG member initiated the discussion and presented the provisions contained in the exiting Minimum Qualifications for Teachers in Medical Institutions Regulations, 1998.

The BoG noted the following:

- (a) The intention of linking necessity to have publication was to encourage faculty members to carry out research work and encourage them to contribute to scientific literature / journals. But prescription of requirement of having research publication for promotion has not shown the desired result. The BoG discussed various factors responsible for this failure.
- (b) The BoG discussed various alternatives to promote research and improve skill of writing of medical literature/ research paper.
- (c) The BoG discussed the possibility of having a list of accredited journals subject-wise for consideration of valid research publication. The BoG resolved to discuss this issue in the Academic sub-committee. It was also decided to reach out to the Indian editors' groups also.
- (d) The BoG also considered the possibility of having the following requirement (as mandatory/ desirable) for promotion to next level:
 - (i) Medical Education training
 - (ii) Training in research methodology and Ethics
 - (iii) Professional training. Four weeks cumulative training during the tenure of Assistant professor, for promotion to the post of Associate Professor and



Three weeks cumulative training during the tenure of Associate Professor, for promotion to the post of Professor.

- (iv) Examiner ship internal and external for promotion to the post of Professor and Dean/ Director/ Principal.
- (v) Assessor for Medical Council of India for promotion to the post of Professor and Dean/ Director/ Principal
- (vi) Requirement of generating at least one Government agency funded research project
- (vii) The BoG felt there is need to have review of exiting Minimum Qualifications for Teachers in Medical Institutions Regulations, 1998. Including qualifications prescribed for pre and para clinical subject teachers.
- (viii) The BoG noted that there is discrepancy in qualifications prescribed for equivalence of Armed Forces Medical Officers with Associate Professor/Professor of Medical College. Further, it was observed that postgraduate courses have been started in a few military hospitals, other than mentioned in the list, teaching experience of which is considered for appointment as Associate Professor /Professor in Medical College.

Prof. Jagat Ram, BoG Member was requested to prepare recommendations based on the points discussed in the meeting.

3. Representation of PG Diploma Doctors for their career prospects to the post of faculty. Prof B N Gangadhar initiated the discussion.

The following issues were discussed.

- (a) Possibility of educational qualification enhancement available for PG Diploma holders;
- (b) Possibilities available for non-academic career progression;
- (c) Whether any opportunity can be made available for academic career progression;



(d) The provisions contained in the Minimum Qualifications for Teachers in Medical Institutions Regulations, 1998.

The BoG felt that this issue needs re-discussion after consideration of the suggestions made by the BoG members in respect to the above mentioned points. Prof. B.N. Gangadhar was requested to prepare a paper for further discussion.

4. Presentation of the Competency based curriculum: Prof. Vinod K Paul, Chairman BoG initiated the discussion. Dr Rajlaxmi made power point presentation highlighting the features of the Competency based curriculum. The following decisions were taken:

- (i) AETCOM module to be made available on council website
- (ii) Training of trainers and training of teachers to be reviewed periodically and it may be ensured that each medical college has sufficient trained teachers to implement Competency based curriculum for batch admitted on 1st August 2019.
- (iii) PG (Super-Specialty) curriculum to be put up on the Council website.
- (iv) The Chairman BoG informed the BoG members about two National Workshops to be held in the Council with participation of Coordinators of Nodal and Regional Medical Education in the month of January 2019. The Consultant Academic Cell was requested to circulate the detailed program to the BoG.

5. The Chairman BoG requested to forward name of senior faculty members for constituting Academic Sub-committee and for the following committees.

- (a) Measures to enhance faculty in medical colleges and attract more faculty in Medical Colleges
- (b) Measures to create more UG and PG seats
- (c) Measures to improve quality of faculty members
- (d) Measures for meeting shortage of specialists in the Country
- (e) Measures to improve standard of Medical research and publications
- (f) To draw a list of journals subject-wise which could be considered standard list for counting publication in respect of faculty members for the purpose of promotion
- (g) Review of Minimum standard requirement (MSR) prescribed for Medical College/ Hospital.



It was noted that some the above tasks may be assigned to Academic Committee.

6. It was felt that the guidelines developed for considering in-house experience as sufficient for teacher qualification for PG SS courses be also applied to new/emerging PG courses (such as Emergency Medicine, Geriatrics, etc.)

7. It was decided to have another meeting of the BoG to continue discussion on the above points and also consider the following Medical Education reforms,:

- (a) Issues relating to Internship – By Prof Randeep Guleria and Prof Balram Bhargava
- (b) Research in Medical Colleges, Requirement of dissertation (thesis) and possibility of running PG (SS) in same department (with separate unit)
- (c) Problems of deemed universities, Empowering Health Universities, Assessment process and prospects for PG diploma qualified doctors
- (d) PG Curriculum reforms
- (e) Provision of private - private partnership for establishment of medical college

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

