

## Editorial

### DYNAMIC OF THE DENTAL EDUCATION

Dentistry has been recognised as a blend of art and science, particularly in the clinical restorative areas.

It is a well-known fact that science is the foundation for all health care, in both medical and dental fields. Although the ultimate goal of both the medical & dental education is to produce health care professionals to serve the ailing community. However regarding professional education & training Medical & dental education are altogether different, that is why internationally different professional teaching institutions and entities are established.

Dentistry today is going through a transformation phase due to the rapid changes in technology. To produce competent dental surgeons, dental institutions must cover both the art and science aspects of dental education. In today's environment cosmetic dentistry require an artist's touch for optimal appearance of a patient's smile. However, even with all the advances in new adhesives and tooth-coloured bonding materials, the dentist must have a scientist's understanding of the underlying gum and tooth structure knowledge.

Medical education always focuses on the knowledge base of the medical graduates to produce qualified practitioners in all phases of the diagnostic, clinical and surgical specialities. Medical institution emphasises basic science education to prepare its students in the future for intensive clinical training during their subsequent internships, residencies and speciality programs. In the beginning years, medical students are not prone towards the technical ability and manual dexterity to perform the necessary surgery as compared to the dental students.

In Dentistry dental students are supposed to excel in both the basic science as well as technical and manual dexterity to be a competent dentist in the future. For a general practitioner dentist, one has to be equipped with basic medical science as well as with different disciplines of clinical dentistry.

Therefore, we educationists in the dental institutions have to realise that without science, a dentist would be nothing but a technician, not a real doctor. Similarly, without the technical skills which are required to manipulate restorative materials, the dentist will diagnose the dental problem but will not be able to treat. We have to develop the curriculums that will cover both the aspects of the dentistry.

Therefore, both the science and technical dexterity must be fundamental and equal components of the dental curriculum in our dental education system.

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