

Medical Education

Students' Scientific Circle of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

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Abstract

The students' scientific circle is the kind of teaching obstetrics and gynaecology in a higher medical institution. The circle is an elective form of learning that allows the students to get deeper knowledge of a subject and to perfect themselves in the issues of diagnostics in obstetrics and gynaecology as well as to acquaint themselves with basic medical techniques. It helps identify students who are capable of scientific research and allows the students to improve their ability to analytical perception of professional information, the ability to present it to the audience, ask and answer the questions publicly. The article presents the results of practical and research activities of obstetric and gynaecologic section of the students' scientific circle of Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University.

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Problem statement and analysis of the recent research

The issue of teaching obstetrics and gynaecology to medical students has been discussed in the literature [5]. These data concern generally the improvement of technique of teaching a subject in seminars and lectures. [2]. At the same time, due attention is not paid to such form of education as a students' scientific circle. Training of a student in a circle is one of steps to the embodiment and realization of his dream of receiving specialization of an obstetrician-gynaecologist. The realities of our time put new tasks before teachers and students and the main thing among them is the preparation of highly skilled, thinking, prudent obstetrician-gynaecologist who will soon have to independently resolve difficult issues of providing assistance to pregnant and sick women [1]. It is very useful that the circle of obstetrics and gynaecology is attended by students who want to devote themselves to this profession, those who understand that only through persistent, long-term work they can gain knowledge that will become the base in the subsequent professional development and, consequently, will be defining during all their life [3]. It is especially urgent under conditions of changes in the academic program with a gradual reduction in class periods of obstetrics and gynaecology. The circle, which is an elective, optional form of learning, not only provides more in-depth knowledge acquisition that goes beyond the University program, but also helps understand the current state of science, logically coincides with the formation of the main paradigms of classical obstetrics and gynaecology without understanding of which it is extremely difficult to master the subject [4].

Main part

The experience of recent years in using this form of training at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University allows to draw certain conclusions on the improvement of organizational and ideological foundations of functioning of obstetric and gynaecologic section of the students' circle as a form of mastering the profession.

The obstetric and gynaecologic section of the students' scientific circle has always enjoyed popularity among students and each meeting was attended by at least 15-20 students of different courses. The meeting was held in an informal atmosphere, involving not only students, but also on-call residents of basic departments. Each of the participants used to be able to make suggestions on the organization and meeting topics not provided for by the routine academic program. In addition, the positive emotional component is known to promote deeper storage of the gained knowledge while in an ordinary seminar, the principle of "learned by rote, passed the exam, forgotten after an exam" works. With the purpose of more detailed acquaintance with the phenomenon of the "students' circle" as well as the search for new ways of increasing the number of the circle members, the leading motivation for visiting the circle was determined: to improve their knowledge of obstetrics and gynaecology; to draw the teacher's attention resulting in a higher score on the finale exam; to solve their own obstetric-gynaecological problems and other motivation. It is worth noting that when explaining other motivation, it was stated that the student is attracted by the head teacher of the circle, as well as by using various test methods in a number of meetings.

In general, each meeting of the circle consisted of the following parts:

- the theoretical section where the general non-conceptual subject was considered;
- clinical round and analysis of thematic patients;
- the solution of classical clinical tasks [1, 3], mastering of the methods of diagnostics and treatment, teaching of various obstetric and gynaecologic programs through trainings;
- research work.

Teaching process in the group meetings at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology is carried out by a team of professors and associate professors. Most of the teachers have a higher qualification category and practical experience in hospitals. The field of scientific interest covers almost all sections of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Regular self-education and self-improvement during the organization and participation in scientific forums, participation in the development of scientific topics allows to keep professionalism at the modern level and share rich experiences with the audience.

Already traditional final scientific and practical conferences of students and young scientists became the new and interesting final stage of education for students of the scientific circle. At such conferences, along with master's theses the best scientific and practical works of members of the circle are presented. The students are usually engaged in independent research works both within general cathedral theme, and initiative ones. We encourage creative interests of students, independent search for problems which are worth dipping into them. The theme of research work chosen together with teachers of groups, are developed within the 1st year of study and represent the review of national and foreign literature and a detailed clinical laboratory research on a particular question.

Topics which are presented are quite various:

1. Changes in the functional state of the immune system in pregnant women with a threat of late spontaneous abortion;
2. Functional state of hemostasis in pregnant women with lower limb varicose veins;
3. Polycystic ovary syndrome;
4. Perinatal diagnostics of chromosomal anomalies in pregnant women in the I trimester;
5. Clinical and microbiological aspects of the vaginal environment in pregnant women with a threat of late miscarriages and concomitant bacterial vaginosis;
6. Characteristic of the functional state of feto-placental complex threats during pregnancy with late miscarriages and concomitant herpes viral infection;
7. Ascending infection and its role in the development of local DIC-syndrome in pregnant women with initial late miscarriage.

The reports that are presented at the final conference stimulate the discussion with the involvement of both students and teachers. The best research is determined through an anonymous questioning. This type of training allows the teachers to identify students who are capable of scientific research and allows the students to improve their ability to analytical perception of professional information, the ability to present it to the audience, ask and answer the questions publicly. The reports of members of our scientific circle were positively evaluated not only at the student's scientific conference of the Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University. Our students won winning places at the conferences held in other educational institutions as well as won scholarships from the Pinchuk Foundation.

Conclusions

The goals of the circle include:

- to assimilate the learning material more deeply as well to familiarize the students with new insufficiently highlighted directions and achievements of modern obstetrics and gynaecology;
- to identify students capable for research activities;
- to improve the student's ability to analytical perception of professional information, the ability to present it to the audience, ask and answer the questions publicly;
- to improve the students' knowledge about the issues of diagnostics in obstetrics and gynaecology

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