The Difference in Communication Skills Between Native Russian and Foreign Medical Residents

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Kazan State Medical University

- Has more than 200 years of experience in medical education
- Its ranked 12th out of 1298 higher educational institutions
- Is listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools
- Collaborates with 44 foreign partner organizations: medical schools and research institutes worldwide
- Received Institutional Accreditation by RCPSC in 2017
- Received RCPSC Internal Medicine Program Accreditation in 2019
Kazan State Medical University

- More than 6000 students from 57 countries
- More than 1000 residents, and PhD students
- 1800 Professors and Faculty members
- 65 Basic Science and Clinical Departments
- 44 post-graduate programs
- 39 fellowship programs
The International Conference on Residency Education
La conférence internationale sur la formation des résidents
Historically
• Medical trainees were from similar cultural backgrounds

Curricula were structured to build
• Trainees’ clinical skills
• Physical assessment
• Knowledge base
• to establish the diagnosis
Patient-Provider Communication

**Systematic approach to teaching communicative skills** of young health care providers allows to

- Influence on many outcomes & health behaviors
- Reduces human and economic costs of care
- Builds up trust
- Establishes relationships and involves patients in shared decision-making

Methods and Tools

The goal: to assess difference in communication skills between native and foreign post-graduate medical trainees

Study subjects:
• 190 cognitively intact patients

Tools: self-administered questionnaire (modified and translated into Russian from “CanMEDs Teaching and Assessment Tools guide”)
Data analysis

• SPSS 23.0
• Using Mann-Whitney U test
• $P \leq 0.05$
Conclusion

• Overall, foreign residents scored significantly higher than native Russian trainees on 12 out of 14 communication skills aspects and on perceived medical care

• Diversity in medical and post-graduate residency training is beneficial in enhancing patient-provider communication skills
Discussion

- Suggested approaches of learning and teaching communication skills in clinical practice
  - Skilled based systematic and experiential\(^2,3\)
  - Mindfulness and self-awareness development\(^4\)
  - Combination of the above\(^5\)

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Further Research KSMU

Further assessment is required to identify factors associated with differences in communication skills among medical trainees at KSMU and assess:

- **Barriers to communication skills learning, and teaching** in clinical practice at the levels of:
  - Trainees (personal beliefs, experiences)
  - Trainers (their role models, personal beliefs, trainers communication and teaching skills)
  - Training Competency-based curriculum
  - Institutional level (communication skills considerations)
  - Patient preferences and beliefs