

Systematic Exposure Of Interns To Neurosurgery

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Objective:

Internship for a year is compulsory to obtain a medical graduate degree in Nepal. Due to advancement in medical science, interns are now supposed to rotate in subspecialty. We conducted this study to find out the perspective and interest of interns, and change in attitude after being exposed to a structured 2 week posting in Neurosurgery.

Material and methods:

A prospective anonymous questionnaire based study on survey monkey was conducted among the interns who had finished neurosurgical postings over a period of 5 years. Analysis was performed to identify the interest, traits learned during posting and benefits derived from subspecialty posting.

Results:

A total of 100 of 174 interns responded to the questionnaire. 80% were well aware of the subspecialties however only 24% had primary interest in neurosurgery. Their expectations were objective but mainly limited to learn emergency scenarios and read CT scans with few opting for learning surgical skills. Almost 90% saw basic neurosurgical procedures with 85% staying during off hours for clinical exposure. 81% presented topics during their posting. 86% appeared in ward leaving exam with as many as 86% recommending a longer duration of posting and advising their friends for serious attendance during the postings.

Conclusions:

We find a very high interest among the interns to learn and work in neurosurgery after being exposed to a structured neurosurgical posting despite having a low awareness in the beginning. We see a potential in harnessing best brains for the future of neurosurgery in Nepal.