

Abstract:

Background and aim: Skill of establishing communication with patient is the basis of effective and successful therapeutic and care services and one of physician's clinical potency rudiments is to obtain communication skills for improved execution of their professional duties. The aim of this study is to determine level of medical students' acquaintance with and attitude into communication skills.

Materials and methods: This descriptive-analytical study was done on 100 medical students in externship and internship period within 2006-2007. Data were collected through two questionnaires; 25-items questionnaire about acquaintance and 26-items questionnaire about attitude, and were analyzed with SPSS software.

Results: Of 100 students 50 individuals (50%) were in the age range of ≤ 25 years old, 45 and 5 students (45% and 5% respectively) were in the 26-28 and $28 <$ age ranges, respectively. Other demographic characteristics were as following: 76 students (76%) male and 24 female (24%), single students had 83% (83 students) and 17% were married (17 students), 60 students were intern and 40 were extern. Score's mean of acquaintance was 8.75 ± 2.22 and score's mean of attitude was 94.29 ± 9.21 . The acquaintance of studied students was at moderate level in 85% and low level in 15%. And their attitude level was moderate and high level in 89% and 11%, respectively. ANOVA and T test and χ^2 didn't show significant relationship of acquaintance and attitude's scores to sex, age, marital status, educational level.

Conclusion: Regarding clinical skills' training necessity on the basis of current resources, it is indispensable to consider concerned subject in codified and authorized shape as a part of medical training curriculum.

Keyword: Acquaintance, Attitude, Medical students, Communication skills.