

PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PPDP)

1. Introduction

- This program was developed parallel to the Action Plan of National Higher Education 2007-2010 (Higher Education Ministry of Malaysia) that decided to focus on personal & professional development of Malaysian in order to produce:
 - Creative and innovative individual
 - Integral and ethical individual
 - Individual that responsive to the change
 - Critical thinker and problem solver
- PPDP was introduced in 2006.
- PPDP is a combination of two components: the Student Development Unit and the Bioethics and Communication Program.
- This is done to better facilitate and coordinate to soft-skills component in the curriculum as well as to increase the number of teaching approaches that can be used to promote and foster the development of good personal attitude and professional behaviour in the undergraduate.

2. The objectives of PPDP are:

- To increase knowledge and to promote awareness among the medical students regarding leadership and teamwork.
- To increase communication skills among medical students.
- To enhance knowledge among the medical student regarding teaching and learning skills.
- To develop understanding regarding community and community service among the medical student by exposing them to the community and community service activities.

- To develop and inculcate adaptation skills among the medical student.

3. There are 6 modules. The modules comprise of:

- Bioethics and medico legal
- Communication skills
- Leadership and teamwork skills
- Teaching and learning skills
- Community placement
- Adaptation skills

4. Bioethics and medico legal

- Integrated into the curriculum
- Phase I
 - Bioethics and Social Health Block
- Phase II
 - Clinical and Bioethics Block
- Phase III
 - Posting rotation to all departments
- Teaching methods
 - Seminar
 - Role play
 - Lectures. The topics comprise of:
 - Phase I
 - So you want to be a doctor?
 - Doctor in society
 - Caring personality, humanity and empathy
 - Professionalism
 - Human body, cultures and ethics
 - The oath of doctor and its implication

- Principles of medical ethics and its role in medicine
- Phase II
 - Professionalism
 - Informed consent
 - Ethics in medical profession
 - Ethical issues in women health
 - Ethical issues in terminally ill patient
 - Etiquette and bedside manner
 - Confidentiality
 - Rights of the patients and the doctors from different religions and cultures
 - Good medical practice
- Phase III
 - It will be coordinated and organized by the departments separately.
- Forum. The topic comprises of:
 - Phase I
 - Challenges to doctor's life
- Audio-video
- PBL
- Clinical Skill Center – simulated patient
- Assessment methods
 - MCQ
 - SEQ
 - OSCE/OSPE

5. Communication Skills

- Integrated into the curriculum
 - Lectures
 - The importance of good communication skills in medicine

- Introduction to communication skills
- Intrapersonal & interpersonal communication
- Role play
 - Interpersonal communication
- Clinical
 - Informing diagnosis and management plan
 - Breaking bad news and counseling
- Motivation and communication skills workshop

6. Leadership and teamwork skills

- Objectives
 - To improve knowledge and awareness about how to be an effective team member
 - To understand the concepts of leadership and its importance/role in learning of medicine.
 - To inculcate leadership and teamwork skills in the medical students
 - To understand and apply the concept of group dynamic in daily work.
- Activities
 - Indoor game
 - Workshop
 - Treasure hunt
 - Public speaking
 - Outdoor visit

7. Teaching and learning skills

- Objectives
 - To improve knowledge about various methods of teaching and learning

- To help and support students' preparation for the examination.
- To improve students' academic performance and achievement
- To improve students' learning ability
- Activities
 - Phase I
 - Lecture on learning in PPSP
 - Lecture on utilizing IT in learning
 - Lecture on application of mind-mapping in PPSP
 - Lecture on examination skills – MCQ, SEQ, OSPE
 - Trial examination – MCQ, SEQ, OSPE
 - Phase II and III
 - Seminar on preparation to face professional examination

8. Community Placement

- Objectives
 - To expose the students to various organizations in the community
 - To create students' interest in giving their service to the society
 - To inculcate teamwork spirit and leadership in society

9. Adaptation skills

- Objectives
 - To help and support the students' adaptation ability in the medical courses
 - To improve students' ability to cope with stress
- Activities
 - Phase I
 - Lecture on qualities of a good doctor
 - Lecture on why we fail?
 - Lecture on coping with stress

- A day in a doctor's life – attachments in HUSM wards
- Phase III
 - Workshop on “Menuju Puncak” (motivation seminar for final professional examination preparation)
 - Workshop on House Officer preparation