Research Article

MEDICAL STUDENT'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN URMIA UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES 2016

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Student's evaluation is necessary for increasing the quality of educational system. Due to this the study aimed to investigate Medical student's academic achievement in Urmia University of Medical Sciences. **Material and Methods:** This cross sectional study was conducted on students in Urmia University of Medical Sciences. 128 students were picked randomly. Data were collected through a demographic checklist including: age, sex and GPA (grade point average). Data were analyzed through descriptive statistics, T test and Pearson correlation by SPSS v.19 **Results:** The mean of age was 21.25 ± 1.84. The mean of total GPA was 15.01 ± 1.2. 59 respondents were female while other were males. There wasn't any significant relationship between age and sex with academic achievement. **Conclusion:** The results of this study had shown a moderate academic achievement among students. It seems necessary to focus on educational contents and students examination system and supervise them precisely.

KEY WORDS: Academic achievement, academic performance, Urmia.

INTRODUCTION

Researchers believe that training creative human resources is one the most important reasons of development in developed countries. Students are the future human resources in a country and their academic achievement is the main scope of educational programs. Students can rich their goals and have a good social position in future if they study good. Failure in education could lead to social and personal problems for the students and it would get the student far from education system goals. Education and learning are stressful especially in medical fields which are basically stressful jobs.[1,2] Academic achievement means amount of educational learning in an individual.[3] So many factors effect on educational achievement. So many studies were conducted on this matter in Iran and foreign countries. The studies stated that marriage, acceptance, living location[4], history of working in a job, parents education, economic independency, family incomes[5], parents support and expectations[6], gender, number of children[7,8], age and Universities financial condition are factors which effect on academic achievement.[9,10] Student's evaluation is necessary for increasing the quality of educational system especially in Universities. This would help to make better educational programs and increases the quality of education.[11] Due to this the

study aimed to investigate Medical student's academic achievement in Urmia University of Medical Sciences.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This cross sectional study was conducted on 128 students in Urmia University of medical Sciences. Respondents were picked randomly. Data were collected through a demographic checklist including: age, sex and GPA. The scale for academic achievement was the GPA of students which is a mark from 0 to 20 in Iran. In this study grades under 20 were considered as poor grade, grades 14 to 17 were moderate and 20 to 17 were considered as good grades. Finally data were analyzed through descriptive statistics, T test and Pearson correlation by SPSS v.19.

RESULTS

The mean of age was 21.25 ± 1.84. The mean of total GPA was 15.01 ± 1.2. 59 respondents (46.1%) were female while other were males. The relationship between gender and academic achievement was not significant (p=0.798). So was the relationship between age and academic achievement (p=0.34). Males had more academic achievement than females. Table 1 shows the information about students' academic achievement.

Table 1. Information about students' academic achievement.

Mean of GPA	Frequency	Percent
-14	40	31.3
14-17	80	62.5
17-20	8	6.3
Total	128	100.0

DISCUSSION
The results of this study had shown a moderate academic achievement among respondents. Personal abilities are always emphasized as factors of success in several educational and occupational situations. But it should be considered that the abilities are not the only factor. Personal differences should be considered also.[12] Student's learning is usually evaluated due to his educational performance. Several factors can effect on educational performance. Some could make the educational performance better and some may make it worse.[13, 14] For example students with high amount of responsibility are usually highly motivated, they are hard workers and they take the responsibility of their works. These characteristics could help the student to have a better educational performance.

The limit of this study and most of studies which evaluate the achievement is using the GPA for evaluation. Achievement can't be evaluated with just the GPA. So many other factors are effective here also. If this system of evaluations is continued so many educational goals are missed in future.[16]

CONCLUSION
The results of this study had shown a moderate academic achievement among students. It seems necessary to focus on educational contents and students examination system and supervise them precisely.

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