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ENHANCING MEDICAL EDUCATION: INTEGRATING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES IN INTERNAL MEDICINE AND CLINICAL PEDIATRICS CURRICULA

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ABSTRACT:

Introduction: Despite the fundamental importance of professional skills in medical education and their central role in a physician's career, the training of human capital in the healthcare industry often lacks a strong emphasis on these competencies. This critical study aims to advocate for curriculum design that prioritizes professional competencies, explicitly focusing on internal medicine and clinical paediatrics, to prepare medical students for their future careers better.

Development: The article discusses the current shortcomings in medical education and proposes improvements to the curriculum, emphasizing the need for skills-based training. It highlights the advantages of on-the-job training in clinical pharmaceuticals and internal medicine, illustrating how practical experience enhances clinical competence. The study underscores the importance of skills-based training in elevating the quality of medical education, a concept endorsed by leading global organizations.

Conclusions: Designing a curriculum around professional skills is essential for enhancing academic outcomes and ensuring that graduates are well-prepared, socially engaged, and capable of fulfilling the healthcare system's social mandate. Students can achieve excellent proficiency, readiness, and societal impact by integrating professional competencies into medical education.

Keywords: Internal Medicine, Clinical Propaedeutics, On-the-Job Training, Clinical Approach, Professional Competency.

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INTRODUCTION:

Since the beginning of human history, clinical medicine has been associated with illness. In his family and social context, man is the subject of this applied, pragmatic, and humanistic science. It oversees patient disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and prognosis and investigates disease as a human event. It is important to remember that the clinical method, unique to the medical field and closely tied to the various conditions of this professional task, forms the basis of health professionals' training. It also serves as the model of excellent clinical practice, which must be implemented to ensure true professionalism. It is the cornerstone of clinical medicine and its defining attribute. Therefore, we find deep humanistic and responsible ideals at the core of the clinical process. Three repercussions have resulted from the widespread crisis that the clinical approach is currently experiencing [1]:

- The relationship between the doctor and patient is gradually deteriorating.
- We have an increasing disdain for questioning and physical examinations.
- Overuse of medical technology in diagnostic procedures.

Even though the development of professional skills is one of the primary worldwide issues connected to human education, the training of human capital in the healthcare industry is not currently organized according to professional skills, which suggests that even the training of doctors does not address these skills. However, the main goal of a medical degree is to prepare students for careers in which they can function with a broad scope and solve public health issues because they will have the knowledge, values, and abilities to do so. The university training process in this career can be streamlined and reinforced with a stronger focus on Plan "D"-the envisioned goal of the profession. This can be achieved through skill development and on-the-job training, which forms the core organizational structure of the educational training process in the clinical sciences [2].

The application of this process is centred around health services. Mastering the clinical technique, which forms the foundational behaviour in the medical field, is one of the primary goals of practical training. Clinical education can be more closely linked to the essential elements of the entire training process and its two guiding concepts in Clinical Propaedeutics and Internal Medicine, which serve as two key guiding subjects, especially with the second, which is related to the integration of work and study through work-research and supports the entire realization of higher education's mission, which is distinguished by its scientific, technological, and humanistic nature. To contribute to society, they must develop revolutionary, cultured, competent, autonomous, and creative professionals with high ideals in politics, ethics, and the arts [3].

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Reasonable adjustments are necessary since the educational paradigms and mechanisms today are inadequate. Thus, from the authors' perspective, curriculum design according to professional skills represents an urgent and complicated curriculum transformation, downsizing, and improvement process, which the Department of Public Health authorities must immediately reflect. Education medicine can then help optimize the higher education standard for learners and educators, ensuring that new outcomes surpass the status [4].

The diagnostic interview and the visit are essential to an internal medicine service. Both are grounded in the profession's methodology and provide ideal settings for fostering the development of skills-based training through applying the clinical method beginning at the university level and for consolidating the body of knowledge (knowledge, know-how) to be used from the outset of a career. Modern healthcare professionals must understand transfer, transcending, and attitudinal knowledge (or knowing how to be) [5].

The condition of the doctor training paradigm at the moment

The rapid advancement sees the globalization of science and technology as an unavoidable requirement. Technology has played a major role in the exponential advancement of medicine as a

science. The key components of the clinical method, which applies to all healthcare practitioners, not just internal medicine specialists, remain the doctor-patient connection, questioning, and objective assessment. Work education, the therapeutic approach, and professional skills must thus be integrated to save this technique from the global crisis that has threatened it since the beginning of the 1960s [6].

As a result of the systemic structure of this process and its systematization, the flaws of the existing medical career training model could be emphasized from an ontological and praxiological standpoint. Among the flaws found, some planning elements are particularly noteworthy, including deficiencies in the curriculum design, given that each content topic's objectives and skills system are thoroughly created, Not so much the value structure that restricts humanistic learning. Additionally, the development of values is not encouraged in the political and extracurricular domains [5, 7].

The dynamics of the educational process are largely responsible for the substantial cognitive burden associated with skill development. The systematic assessment of training goals in the medical field lacks a methodology. The insufficient integration of significant higher education processes for the growth of professional values in the career of doctors through work education stems from a lack of knowledge about teaching methodologies that support the systematization of values in units with primarily educational content. Inadequate utilization of the primary and secondary care levels' human capital potential through a unified, flawless curriculum, making value formation genuinely collaborative. Since the professional development process does not integrate the acquiring of knowledge, skills, and values circularly, with a systemic approach, and in perfect balance, it remains an incomplete mechanism despite its dynamic and organized activity and integration between its dimensions [8].

The faculty's belief that developing moral principles is an extracurricular activity, which influences the subject's methodological preparation, limited pedagogical preparation regarding the necessity of curriculum transformation, and irregularities in the professionalizing approach that ought to characterize the university's educational organization forms are all related to the faculty's preparation and present a barrier to the faculty making the required changes to the medical career structure [9]. Lastly, we must address the elements related to the faculty's preparation. This clarified the conflict between the opportunities provided by the wide-based pedagogical model in higher medical education, which is backed by both the development of human capital and broad basic training in addition to competence-based training for the medical field. The professional abilities that the present medical university demands for the graduate to successfully perform and master the modes of professional action enable him to employ them to resolve the community's primary health problems (the fundamental component of your profession). Therefore, to ensure improved quality indicators, it is necessary to consider skill training in university clinical medicine. To advance in your medical career, you should develop methods to systematize and integrate society's core values into the medical sciences through interdisciplinary courses like Clinical Propaedeutics and Internal Medicine. This will enable general practitioners to receive comprehensive training [10].

The global training process, on the other hand, consists of three main components: educational, developmental, and instructive. The first is that education is required to equip students with the knowledge and abilities critical to their line of work. Additionally, from the start of the degree program, the student needs to be introduced to the subject of his trade to understand the critical connection between his actions and this object. This is referred to as the developer dimension, the core of which is the connection between work and study. For young people to have the power to change and advance society, they must also be ready to live in one where they are actively involved. This highlights the significance of the educational component, which considers how society, the family, and schools work together to shape a person's values and personality. These three essential components of professional training form a dialectical unit that aims to fully integrate the professional and prepare them for successful performance in society [11].

These days, the two guiding principles that form the training process's common thread are the relationship between study and work and the oneness of instruction and education. The first articulates

the inextricable connection between the instructive and educational components. It connects the cognitive with the axiological, motivational, and social commitment aspects in a dialectical manner using a systemic approach. The training components must be designed with a comprehensive perspective on the subject matter and harmoniously integrate the epistemic component of the knowledge system with the development of the young person's abilities and values. The aforementioned refers to the logical integration of the didactic and educational dimensions through a set of knowledge: "knowing" (knowledge), "knowing how to do" (skills), and "knowing how to be" (values). This pursuit of achieving professional performance necessitates a strong foundation in science, technology, and humanities, bringing us back to the "competence" concept [12].

Based on a Martian principle, the second guiding concept is the connection between study and work. Its core in university courses is to ensure, beginning with the curriculum, the mastery of professional action methods through skills to provide the training of professionals suited to their performance in the company [13].

INSTRUCTION IN SKILLS:

There is a wide range of interpretations for the word "competition," which is why your definition is so contentious. Competency-based training gained popularity in the 1970s in nations that had adopted it in one form or another, including Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Spain, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, and Jamaica. Its name originated in the market world as a need to achieve greater results in exploiting and training human capital. The idea of "competence" started to be reinterpreted in the context of regional and global discussions on concerns about education quality in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Determining what constitutes "skills" is challenging [14].

Many different approaches have been taken in pursuit of this goal. As a result, the phrase has been discussed from various viewpoints, including corporate, curricular, social, behavioural, psychological, and occupational ones. Following the systematization of definitions, the definition of "professional competence" adopted by these researchers assumes that it is a complex psychological configuration that integrates and combines, in strict unity, individuals with cognitive, metacognitive, motivational, attitudinal, axiological, ethical, and phonological components. Functional, which selfregulates effective and real performance in a certain endeavour field, aligns with the socially desirable performance model developed within a particular historical setting. It is thought that the development of professional skills should be an open and adaptable process in all competence-based training [15]. The design of health sciences programs must prioritize improving the calibre of professionals who receive training and possess the necessary information, skills, and values to recognize, prevent, and resolve community health issues. Additionally, these curricula must be pertinent to the demands of the current healthcare system. The various functions developed in the professional model in each educational area or scenario and the skills the student acquires through work training activities are identified above all other specific academic results by skills in the training field. Remember that when applied in social practice, all student capabilities, knowledge, skills, and values become competencies. It is impossible to comprehend skills outside of the precise context in which they are employed; in other words, skills cannot be isolated from the unique circumstances of the instructional scenario in which they are demonstrated. Skills are acquired throughout the whole training process [16].

In conclusion, professional skills have evolved into a dialogue tool between education and employment because they uphold the requirements that every curriculum project be pertinent to the social mission and that its professional profile be consistent with professional performance. This leads people to believe that the training they receive from professional skills benefits their overall development and increases their chances of being integrated into the modern society in which they live. Therefore, the term "competence" has a very dynamic meaning: it refers to the activation of several mechanisms, processes, and phonological resources that regulate an individual's performance in particular situations and trigger an effective action in them, in line with a problem that requires this response with maximum effectiveness in its evaluation and ethical-axiological commitment [17].

Rather than being a property of the subject that possesses it or not and which guarantees success in the activity. This variety of arguments leads us to observe that nearly all definitions of skills reveal them as regularities: having values, knowledge, and abilities (knowing, knowing how to do and knowing how to be). Furthermore, they become a contextualized, integrative, all-encompassing, dynamic, mobilizing, and flexible category; they imply transfer capacity and allow gradations. They also reveal themselves through effective performance in professional performance, which gives them an eminently practical character that can only be evaluated in action [18].

Since prestigious international organizations like the World Health Organisation and the Pan American Health Organisation, among others, are pushing competency-based training, it is becoming increasingly necessary. As such, the Ministry of Public Health, the competent national authority, should think carefully about this issue within the context of universalization. The author contends that one of the new paradigms in higher education is the improvement of curriculum transformations based on professional skills, specifically in medical training since all of this can enhance the standard of university training for faculty members. To support a person's social and professional needs, skills training is an all-encompassing, integrative proposal that is sophisticated, contextualized, and grounded in a body of theoretical references [19].

It aims to equip people with the knowledge and skills they need to undertake, share, transfer, and transcend situations and attitude-forming or knowing-how-to-be. On the other hand, professional skills cannot be viewed as a fleeting trend or an up-and-coming initiative in the healthcare industry since they represent a difficult process of curriculum change and scaling that calls for a critical mass of leaders and cannot be handled editorially. The field in which one is sufficiently competent, with the goal that a professional skills-based curriculum enables achieving outcomes beyond conventional ones [20].

As a result, developing curricula demands a high level of specialization, inventiveness and imagination, humanism, experience, and a feeling of community within the setting where the graduate will operate. It is, therefore, neither to be understood as a fleeting, accidental, or meticulous act nor as the product of the ideas and experiences of some "eventually" assigned to its preparation [21].

How do clinical practice and professional skills connect?

Work Education (E.T.), based on the Martí and Marxist principle of the study-work link and conducted in the healthcare and clinical setting, is the fundamental organizational form of the educational-training process in the clinical cycle of the various careers of Higher Medical Education. It is distinguished by being a primary human activity in an atmosphere of profound humanism, which positively affects the graduate's graduate's development of the kind of personality that society demands. It stands for a rigorous academic and scientific procedure that ensures a thorough, reliable, and capable education. With the teacher serving as the best model, E.T. is closely associated with the educational-pedagogical process itself and promotes teaching values characteristic of doctors, including humanism, responsibility, dignity, patriotism, solidarity, dependability, honesty, and justice [22].

Value is all that encourages a person to fully realize their potential as a human being and act in a way that is humane, without which a person would lose their sense of humanity. Value is a multifaceted concept that can be personal, familial, professional, or societal. It is also constructed in the same settings humans use to live their material and spiritual lives. It strives for excellence or perfection. As a result, they stand for social constructions created through interpersonal communication, introspection, and discussion, where each society develops its own set of values per its history, culture, customs, and socioeconomic growth. Forming values in higher education is inextricably tied to the educational and evolutionary aspects of training, acknowledging the university's significant role in both processes [23].

This is a topic of utmost significance and validity. Still, we haven't reached the required degrees of systematization. Thus, systematic, dialectical, purposeful, complex, multifactorial, dynamic,

extended, staggered, global, individualized, contextualized, flexible, and professionalizing processes are all used to describe value development in higher education [24].

Different kinds of E.T. exist:

The visit card, the case presentation, and its diagnostic treatment are prominent examples. These are essential activities in hospital departments of internal medicine services or primary care settings, and they provide the best environments for developing "training for skills" beginning at the university level. These two forms of E.T. take shape during the fifth semester of the degree during the Clinical Propaedeutics rotation, and they continue to solidify throughout the Internal Medicine rotation in the sixth semester. Despite having their own goals, these educational scenarios serve as ideal, interactive settings that support the development of values through communication between patients, family members, students, and teachers due to the doctor-patient relationship fostered in the medical field—interview [25].

The student understands the meaning of these qualities to be a good doctor in this relationship, keeping in mind that clinical medicine has a much more practical component than theoretical medicine and a strong emotional component associated with the connection between theory and practice in every doctor-patient encounter. Therefore, the program perfected in 2014 states that the subject Clinical Propaedeutics and Medical Semiology, which lasts 20 weeks in the fifth semester of the degree (third year), has 476 hours, of which 325 belong to the E.T. (68.27%); the subject Internal Medicine, on the other hand, has a duration of 20 weeks in the sixth semester and, according to the 2018 specialization, has 360 hours of which are dedicated to E.T. out of 454 total (79.29%). It has been noted that both subjects' available time is devoted to the various E.T. modalities, of which the two previously mentioned will be considered for over half of the time [26, 27].

The hospital or community visit card (V.P.), which enables didactic-attentional organization in the reference subject teaching-learning process and concretizes the medical education process, is the fundamental modality of work education. Values, to the point that it is recognized as a regulated and exclusive E.T. modality in the medical field. In addition, it involves quality management through the relationship of education, competence, and performance; it integrates research, teaching, and medical assistance activities based on the transformation of the health status of the patient and his community; and it prepares the future professional to apply the clinical method and to be able to carry out their work in a hospital or the community, in any place and circumstance, with a high degree of humanism and responsibility [28].

Because the patient, the student, and the doctor all have closely related educational and health goals, the various stages of the clinical method can develop very didactically during the medical act. However, the most important thing is that the working group, under the direction of a professor or leader, learns to manage the patient who has already been diagnosed or is in the process of being diagnosed, which is why it is an essential procedure for medical training, where the principles must be followed. didactic elements of the teaching process in education, especially the part that explains how theory and practice are related. At the secondary or primary level of care, Diagnostic Discussion (D.D.) is a type of E.T. aimed at helping medical students develop the reasoning skills required to integrate and assess information from a patient's history, physical examination, and paraclinical examinations to make a diagnostic decision that informs the therapeutic plan and associated prognostic assessments [29].

Table 1: Medical Education Crisis and Proposed Solution

Aspect	Description	Reference
Crisis in Clinical	Deteriorating doctor-patient relationship, Disdain for questioning and	[1]
Approach	physical examinations, Overuse of medical technology	
Root Cause of	Lack of training in professional skills	[2]
Crisis		
Proposed Solution	Curriculum design based on professional skills	[4]

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Table 2: Importance of Skill Development in Medical Education

Importance	Description	Reference
Core Function of Clinical Trai	ng Mastering clinical techniques	[5]
Strengthened Link Bety	en Develop skills through clinical method	[5]
Education and Training	from university level	
Holistic Professionals	Develop transferrable, attitudinal	[5]
	knowledge	

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Table 3: Flaws in Current Medical Training Model

Flaw	Description	Reference
Outdated Educational	Needs immediate and complex transformation	[4]
Paradigms		
Curriculum Design	Lack of focus on value system	[7]
Deficiencies		
Faculty Preparation	Limited pedagogical training and outdated	[9]
	professionalizing approach	
Assessment of Training	Lack of methodology	[8]
Goals		
Integration of Values	Deficient	[8]

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Table 4: Key Components of Global Training Process

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Component	Description	Reference
Educational	Equips students with knowledge and skills	[11]
Developmental	Introduces students to the profession	[11]
Instructive	Shapes students' values and personality	[11]

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Table 5: Two Guiding Principles of Training Process

Principle	Description	Reference
Integration of Instruction and	Connects cognitive with social and	[12]
Education	ethical aspects	
Connection Between Study and	Ensures mastery of professional actions	[13]
Work		

Teaching trainees the route to diagnosis is, thus, the primary goal of the D.D. At this point, the group members, especially the younger ones, learn to consider the patient's health issue and broaden the diagnostic options to develop a preliminary diagnosis. Thus, another didactic scenario embodies the didactic principle of connecting theory and practice. This principle encourages students and teachers to work synergistically as members of the basic working group with the patient and his family. It also connects the knowledge system, skills, and values fundamental to professional competence. As a result, it advances their education and, in essence, helps students' oral presentations and group discussions to grow [30].

Everything said is predicated on the premise that a doctor who properly balances theoretical knowledge, practical application, and human attitudes is the epitome of a competent physician. Enhancing one's mode of action, which aligns with the growth of one's performance through professional competence, qualifies and shows up in all the roles considered in the training model's professional profile (administrative, investigative, didactic training, and curative) the health system specialist in medical university [31].

CONCLUSION:

National methodological authorities urgently need to assess the proposal to structure a curriculum through on-the-job training based on the professional competencies of the medical vocation, using Clinical Propaedeutics and Internal Medicine as pilot scenarios. To support the intended shift in education toward reinforcing fundamental principles, which aligns with the attributes of the present medical university. This would enable us to strive for better outcomes to produce a more transcendent graduate who actively participates in society while practising his career.

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