

FORMULATING SUITABLE UNDERGRADUATE ADOLESCENT MEDICINE CURRICULUM IN PAEDIATRIC POSTINGS WITH UNIQUE INCLUSION OF SIMULATED PATIENTS AND REAL PATIENTS: NDUM EXPERIENCE

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ABSTRACT

A suitable curriculum for Adolescent Medicine in undergraduate Paediatric posting is necessary because the Faculty of Medicine and Defence Health (FMDH) is committed to its inclusion and the students needed to be trained on how to communicate with Adolescents in some clinical practices, after their graduation. It had been proposed in 2013 and implemented over the past 4 years at the FMDH, National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM). The unique inclusion of simulated patients in Year 3 had proved to be educationally beneficial (Aye S & Mohd Noor MA 2015). Subsequent inclusion of adolescent real patients with students as observers, in year 5, at the Adolescent Health Clinic at an affiliated teaching hospital was found to be satisfactory. Limitations & challenges met were remedied as best as possible. However, the feasibility of the Year 5 students to make the psychosocial assessment at first hand needs to be explored, in order that the students could put to practice their skills acquired in year 3, with simulated patients, to real patients at the adolescent health clinics at the adolescent health clinics.

Keywords: Paediatrics, undergraduate curriculum, Simulated patients, Adolescent real patients.