

Change of knowledge and attitude of post graduate medical students of Bangladesh by plagiarism education

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Abstract:

An attempt to tackle plagiarism locally, an exercise has been developed and evaluated by pre-test and post-test questionnaire on 50 post-graduate medical students within one higher educational organisation in Bangladesh to understand the current knowledge and attitude of learners on plagiarism. The comparative data between pre- and post-intervention have highlighted a general lack of understanding of the basic concept of avoiding plagiarism which improved after the intervention. For the question how to prevent plagiarism, in pre-intervention responses, only 36% answered that a paraphrased sentence should be referenced. However after intervention, responses to the same question significantly increased to 72%. Likewise pre-intervention for a question of whether an article can be submitted to another journal if the decision is delayed, almost half of the student (48%) were not sure what should to do. But after intervention, all respondents (100%) understood that an article cannot be submitted to another journal if decision delayed. For a question of making two or three articles with same introduction and method from same thesis/research, all most half of the respondent (46%) answered “yes” and approximately half do not know the answer (40%) before intervention. However after the intervention all respondents (100%) felt they should not make two or three articles with same introduction or methods. Also after intervention all respondents (100%) felt self-plagiarism is taking paragraph/picture/graph from own article without reference. These results indicate that the intervention of plagiarism education improved the awareness of this group of postgraduate medical students in Bangladesh.

Keywords: Bioethics, copy cut-paste, plagiarism, publication ethics.