



Research on self-learning effectiveness of the supervising physicians training program of Chinese medical care institutions in Taiwan

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Objectives

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) and western medicine practices have co-existed in Taiwan for decades. In the past, Taiwan has no clear post-graduate training system for the cultivation of Chinese medicine after graduation, in order to institutionalize the clinical professional education of TCM physicians, the Ministry of Health and Welfare of Taiwan has since 2009 promoted the "The supervising physicians training program of Chinese medical care institutions" to foster physicians with comprehensive medical treatment capabilities.

Table 1. Self-learning effectiveness of the supervising physicians training program of Chinese medical care institutions in Taiwan 2017

NO.	Training Courses	Reached the level (%)	Partly reached the expected level (%)	Not reached the level (%)
1	TCM Internal Medicine	30.76	62.62	6.59
2	TCM Gynecology	29.3	63	7.69
3	TCM Pediatrics	23.9	69.5	6.67
4	Acupuncture	34	60.4	5.67
5	TCM Traumatology	25.9	66.4	7.7
6	Chinese Medicine	31.6	62.3	4.9
7	Emergency	38.9	52.9	8.3
8	Western General Medicine	31.6	60.1	8.33
9	Basic Training courses	38.5	57.4	4.1

Methods

The survey was conducted in 2017 for TCM physicians who have been trained in training hospitals for more than one year, and was investigated by a self-assessment questionnaire for Chinese medical physicians. The questionnaire contains basic demographic data and the level of progress of nine courses, such as the newly specialized Chinese internal medicine, TCM gynecology, TCM pediatrics, acupuncture, TCM traumatology, general Chinese medicine, emergency, western general medicine and basic training courses, The questionnaire was conducted in three case-reporting conferences held in September-October in 2017. This study aimed at understanding the degree of progress in the training courses of TCM physicians, and analyzes the effectiveness of the trainees' self-learning.

Results

A total of 157 trainees replied to the questionnaire, with a response rate of 85.8%, the respondents were slightly more than male (56.7%), the age distribution was 26-30 years old, accounting for 38.2%. Summary of questionnaire results was shown in table 1. TCM trainees thought that the training courses had reached the level and partly reached the expected level, the basic training courses (38.5% and 57.4%) and acupuncture (34% and 60.4%) and Chinese Medicine (31.6% and 62.3%) accounted for a higher proportion of the other training subjects. Overall the progress of the remaining training subjects were Chinese internal medicine (30.8% and 62.7%), TCM pediatrics (23.9% and 69.5%), TCM gynecology (29.3% and 63.0%), Chinese traumatology (25.9% and 66.4% respectively), western general medicine (31.6% and 60.1%), and emergency care (38.9% and 52.9% respectively).

Conclusion

Based on the effectiveness of the training of TCM physicians, we know that after receiving the trained physicians, the trainees in the field of TCM treatment are considered to have a considerable degree of progress, and feel to approach the level and above. It's suggested that the hospitals and government should involve more teaching resources such as improving clinical training venues, subsidies and rewards to strengthen the supervisors' teaching skills and to enhance the quality of TCM physicians clinical training.

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