

BeSST is a national group of people interested in how behavioural and social sciences are taught in medical education through NOSM and the Centre for Rural and Northern Health (SRHN). It used mixed-methods studies to track NOSM medical and social determinants of health. The authors argue that the study of social determinants of health is essential within the undergraduate medical programme.

In our April 2014 poll, the majority of respondents (85%) indicated that teaching on social issues within the undergraduate medical programme of their school.


Dr Catherine Kennedy, AMEE Education Officer www.mededworld.org/Resources/Resources-Items/Behavioural-and-Social-Sciences-Teaching-in-Medicine.aspx

Glossary

A database of the expanding vocabulary used in medical education

Social science is, in its broadest sense, the study of society and the ways in which people behave in the world around us. It extends our knowledge of the world beyond our immediate experience, and helps us explain why people behave the way they do. Social science includes a wide range of disciplines, such as: demography, social research and statistics, geography, economics, education, law, social policy, political science, medicine, and the social and life sciences in general. The teaching of the social sciences has been part of the medical curriculum in many countries for over 50 years, and increasingly the methods, theories, perspectives and approaches of the social sciences are being applied within medicine and medical education. The two branches of the social sciences that have been most commonly associated with medical education are psychology and sociology.

References


MedEdWorld Updates highlight useful and easily accessible sources of information on key and important topics. The following updates have been selected to contribute by leading experts from around the world.

The Socially Responsible Physician


Method of the Month – Teaching social science in medicine

MedEdWorld has launched by AMEE to help all with an interest in health professions education engage with the issues of social science, medicine, and the MedEdWorld community by registering as a user for free or joining as a member at www.mededworld.org.

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JOURNALS

A selection of key articles recommended by the MedWeb2World Community

ILLIGE, A. (2013) Gender matters in medical education: A Medical Education, 47, 59-70. This empirical study isolated the reality of gender in medical education and identified the underpinning factors that influence this issue.

BRIDGMAN, C. (2013) How and why social science training can contribute to medical education Research in Medical Education, 4(4), 364-374. This study explored the methods by which social science training can contribute to medical education and identified the potential benefits of this training.

CANNON, P. A., BEST, R. A., & BRENNER, T. J. (2011) Importance of the role of the participant in medical education BJA Education, 45, 36-43. This study emphasized the importance of the participant in medical education and identified the benefits of involving participants in the educational process.


WEBINARS

Hour-long interactive presentations with experts in medical education

A selection of texts with MedWeb2World


GOLDNI, P. (2018) What is social accountability for a medical school and how can it be measured? A global online medical education community. This webinar explores the concept of social accountability in medical schools and provides strategies for its measurement.


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