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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Perception and Learning Satisfaction of Resident Doctors Amid COVID-19 Pandemic: Adaptation Experience at a Virtual Educational Course in Internal Medicine

Perception et Satisfaction D'apprentissage des Médecins Résidents au Milieu de la Pandémie de COVID-19 : Expérience d'Adaptation à un Cours Virtuel de Formation en Médecine Interne

^{1*}W. O. Balogun, ^{1,2}A. A. Afolabi, ³A. Fadipe

ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVES: This study aimed to assess the perception of the significance of the revision course and satisfaction of resident doctors with the West African College of Physicians (WACP) revision course in internal medicine.

METHODS: This was a post-training evaluation of resident doctors who had enrolled for the 2021 membership revision course in internal medicine between August 9–13, 2021. Data were collected through an electronic questionnaire composed of five sections: Sociodemographic characteristics, involvement in research, perception on the significance/expectations from the course, lessons learnt, and perception of the overall coordination of the revision course/recommendations. Descriptive statistics were summarized using frequency tables. Chi-square tests were conducted to determine the association between participants' sociodemographic characteristics and satisfaction with the WACP revision course.

RESULTS: The mean age ($\pm SD$) of the 119 resident doctors was 34.30 (± 4.81) years and the median duration (range) of residency training was 7 (4–10) years. All participants were currently in medical practice either in teaching hospitals (104, 87.4%) or secondary health facilities (15, 12.6%). Overall, 108 (90.8%) doctors were satisfied with the course. Variables that were associated with satisfaction with the WACP revision course included: duration in residency training (doctors that had spent two years or less in the residency training programme) ($\chi^2 = 21.703$, $p = <0.001$), place of residency training (teaching hospitals) ($\chi^2 = 67.461$, $p = <0.001$), and participation in research ($\chi^2 = 47.976$, $p = <0.001$).

CONCLUSION: The WACP revision course in internal medicine met its objectives. Engagement of resident doctors in research activities should be undertaken intensely. **WAJM 2022; 39(7): 678–684.**

Keywords: Medical practice, Medical education, Residency training, Internal medicine, Africa.

RÉSUMÉ

OBJECTIFS: Cette étude visait à évaluer la perception de l'importance du cours de révision et la satisfaction des médecins résidents à l'égard du cours de révision en médecine interne du West African College of Physicians (WACP).

MÉTHODES: Il s'agissait d'une évaluation post-formation des médecins résidents qui s'étaient inscrits au cours de révision en médecine interne pour les membres de 2021 entre le 9 et le 13 août 2021. Les données ont été recueillies au moyen d'un questionnaire électronique composé de cinq sections : Caractéristiques sociodémographiques, implication dans la recherche, perception de l'importance/attentes du cours, leçons apprises, et perception de la coordination globale du cours de révision/recommandations. Les statistiques descriptives ont été résumées à l'aide de tableaux de fréquence. Des tests de Chi-carré ont été effectués pour déterminer l'association entre les caractéristiques sociodémographiques des participants et la satisfaction du cours de révision WACP.

RÉSULTATS: L'âge moyen ($\pm SD$) des 119 médecins résidents était de 34,30 ($\pm 4,81$) ans et la durée médiane (fourchette) de la formation en résidence était de 7 (4-10) ans. Tous les participants exerçaient actuellement la médecine dans des hôpitaux universitaires (104, 87,4 %) ou des établissements de santé secondaires (15, 12,6 %). Dans l'ensemble, 108 (90,8%) médecins étaient satisfaits de la formation. Les variables qui étaient associées à la satisfaction du cours de révision du WACP comprenaient : la durée de la formation en résidence (les médecins ayant passé deux ans ou moins dans le programme de formation en résidence) ($\chi^2 = 21.703$, $p = <0.001$), le lieu de formation en résidence (hôpitaux universitaires) ($\chi^2 = 67.461$, $p = <0.001$), et la participation à la recherche ($\chi^2 = 47.976$, $p = <0.001$).

CONCLUSION: Le cours de révision WACP en médecine interne a atteint ses objectifs. L'engagement des médecins résidents dans des activités de recherche devrait être entrepris de manière intensive. **WAJM 2022; 39(7): 678–684.**

Mots-clés: Pratique médicale, Enseignement médical, Formation des résidents, Médecine interne, Afrique.

¹Department of Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

²Department of Community Medicine, College of Medicine, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

³Department of Staff Medical Services, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

*Correspondence: Dr. Williams O. Balogun, Department of Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.
Email: wobalogun@yahoo.com

Abbreviations: COVID-19, Coronavirus disease 2019; WACP, West African College of Physicians.