Research culture: Publish and publish

The medical practice has moved towards evidence-based and research-guided approach. Gone are the days when the physicians treat the patients based on their experience only. To keep up with the growing advancement in the field of medical science is the need of the hour. The medical practice is based on guidelines and protocol which have been formulated after rigorous scientific work and put through tests of clinical trials and metaanalysis.

The trend of research culture in this region is gradually gaining momentum. There are data available from our region and we know where we stand in global arena. It is the duty of academic physicians and scientists to encourage the research culture and hand over the trend to next generation of physicians. It is our responsibility, being involved in medical academia, to cultivate the research culture to our fellow colleagues and students.

Research changes practice and changed practice leads to perfection. Not only research forms the foundation for innovation, it strengthens the quality of care. But research should always be carried out following a robust methodology and adequate review of literature. As any research is resource consuming, there should be avoidance of duplication of work as much as possible, more so in the region like ours where we thrive for resources. The aim of a researcher should be to add a building block in the existing science so as to broaden the horizon for further research.

The adage of “publish or perish” has changed to “publish and publish” because even if the research work is best accomplished but not published, it would not have any scientific value. Our generation is blessed to carry out research because this generation has access to knowledge and facts which forms the basis for any research question. Although, there is still a barrier of language for researchers in this part of the world because the global scientific academic considers English language as the lingua franca of science. Nevertheless, most of our medical trainings are completed in the same language which is globally accepted which makes the task much easier.

The academic centre must focus on producing human resources who are well versed with different methodology of research. The universities should encourage the publication of scientific manuscripts and its dissemination. The investment into research culture is going to pay back the society for generations and generations to come.

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