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Problem-based learning (PBL) implementation in dental schools at Saudi Arabia

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Problem-based learning developed in medical education in the mid-1950's and since that time it has been implemented in over 60 medical schools around the world. The term "problem-based learning" is widely interpreted in medical education, this term now have more attention at dentistry. Fincham et.al., revealed in their article published in 2001 discussing "the changing face of dental education" that some forms of PBL has been a feature of medical education for several decades, but has only recently been introduced into dental schools. In response, many dental schools around the world set about constructing new curricula that were more responsive to student learning and more sensitive to evaluation mechanisms. Dental schools in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) were increased as well due to the high demand of new advanced curricula. Gerzina et.al discussed in 2003, the history of (PBL) in medical education that originated at McMaster University in Canada in the 1960s. Since that time, many visions of PBL have arisen worldwide in a variety of fields and at different levels of education. Matters related to implementation, faculty development, admissions and assessment addressed by Fincham et.al, they also discussed the rationale for the introduction of PBL pedagogy into dental education, the modalities of PBL being introduced and the implications of the introduction of PBL into dental schools. The aim of the study is to provide descriptive data about problem-based learning method of education and its implementation in dental colleges in Saudi Arabia. The study revealed that all subjected factors related to PBL implementation agreed with high level of sample population. There are significant effects on PBL implementation by the sample population which means that participated dental colleges will be capable for conducting and implementing problem based learning session as part of the course syllabus.

Biography

A Alharbi is freshly graduate from Riyadh Colleges of Dentistry and Pharmacy she had her BD in Dental sciences in 2015 after finishing a one year intern-ship program serving in several dental clinics.

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