

Review of: "Attitudes, and Knowledge of Pharmacy and Medical/ Dental Students towards, and Barriers to Inter-Professional Education and Collaboration in the United Arab Emirates"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

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Dear editorial team,

General comment

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This study evaluated attitudes and knowledge towards and barriers to inter-professional education and collaboration among pharmacy and medical/dental students. This will suggest the gaps for improvement of the curriculums, which will lead to better health care services. Furthermore, information gathered from qualitative research interviews will contribute to enhancing the understanding of the attitudes towards and barriers to inter-professional education and collaboration by providing valuable insights.

While the study has merit, there are some major flaws that need to be addressed before it can be considered for publication:

Specific comments

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The majority of comments related to the need for greater emphasis on clarification of the background information, research methodology, data presentation, and conclusions.

Comments

Abstract:

1. The abstract does not clearly present the results of the knowledge, attitude, and barriers to inter-professional education and collaboration.

2. The conclusion does not answer the objective.

Introduction:

1. Line 3: "Inter-professional education" should be added in front of IPE. It was the first time that it was mentioned.

2. The study included students from two universities who were all in their final semester of coursework, regardless of their year of study. In order to enhance the quality of the study, it would be beneficial to collect and summarize all pertinent information regarding the participant selection process in the "study area". This approach should be moved to the introduction section, as it will provide a more complete understanding of the study and enable the reader to comprehend the background of the research methodology better.

3. It is crucial for students to have hands-on experiences during clinical practice, especially when dealing with patients.

Can the authors provide more information on students' experiences with patients and interprofessional collaboration?

Methods:

1. Could the author please provide more information about the participants included in the study? It would be helpful if the author could share details about the university, faculty, and year of the students who participated in the research.

Additionally, providing more information about the research instrument would be great, such as the number of questions in each section (knowledge, attitude, and barrier) and the number of responses to the questions.

2. Did the knowledge score be summarized and compared between groups of students?

Results:

1 Table 1 would be more informative if it showed details of each group of students (P and MD).

2 Was there any difference between Table 3 and Table 4? By incorporating a graph, the information presented in Tables 3 and 4 can be effortlessly comprehended.

3 The statements listed in Table 5 appear to be subjective opinions. Knowledge can be objectively verified as true or false.

Discussions:

1 A lot of points to discuss and compare with previous studies, great.

Conclusion:

1 While the text may seem to suggest an opinion or recommendation, it does not necessarily reflect the actual findings of the study. It's important to carefully review the results before drawing any conclusions or making any decisions based on the information presented.

