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by

Hira Aslam

5TH Year, MBBS, FMH College of Medicine & Dentistry Lahore

Doctors! Some call us angels. As doctors we are supposed to have qualities; good listeners, caring, time giving, putting patients' needs before ours. Do we have these qualities to be a doctor?? Or are we all running a race to have just a prefix "Dr." with our names??

The picture depicts the bitter truth of today's world. It shows a doctors' office where patients are entering and leaving, only difference between two lanes being that they are holding prescription in their hands while leaving the office. Leaving Patients have same confused look that they had when entering the office. It shows they have no idea what doctor did and prescribed them, they are not at all satisfied with doctors work.

"One ailment per visit" sign is present at the entrance of doctor's office. As doctors we are obliged to listen to every complaint a patient presents with. Once a wise man said "The good doctor treats the disease; the great doctor treats the patient" which means a doctor should treat the patient as a whole not just a single disease. Treating one disease per visit is only a way of earning pots of gold without caring for patients.

Nowadays only thing that matters to doctors is NUMBER OF PATIENTS they check. More the number of patients, more the amount earned. Therefore to gain that, time between patient and doctor interaction has to be reduced. That's exactly what we observe in our usual hospitals.

Patients visit a doctor not only to get medication or a prescription note but also to get counselled, to get information and most importantly to share every detail and symptom of the disease which patient cannot share with any other person. For that, time is required which most of the doctors unfortunately are not willing to give to the patients. Don't some patients say "by just talking to the doctor am feeling better"? Well it is true only when doctor's focus is on giving his full attention and time to the patient and not on number of patients checked.

As every coin has two sides, this picture also depicts another point. The other aspect is DOCTOR PER PATIENT RATIO. Ideally there should be 200 doctors for 1000 patients but in Pakistan its doctor for 1000 patients. Despite the increase in number of medical college we still lack a good number of doctors. Such picture is also generated in situation when there are a whole lot of patients and only one doctor available.

All the rush, not giving adequate time to the patients; leaves the patient unsatisfied and creating distress in them. Most of the time, disease is left untreated which creates anxiety in the patients. In our country a large portion of the population is not able to afford expensive treatments or doctors hence they consult a hospital, which is cheap economically. In such hospitals doctors imitate the same picture. Consequently patients are left untreated, unsatisfied, and distressful. Such patients will not visit doctor again and next time will consult a quack or hakeem who will give them time.

This has become a common practice in our country, it is time we, doctors change our attitude towards patients and concentrate more on patients' needs rather than on money we are making from patients. We should be honest with ourselves, our centre of attention being on our patients and not the funny money we are making nowadays.

On the other hand, doctor patient ratio should be balanced so that workload on doctors is not increased. By balancing the doctor patient ratio, outcome will be improved, workload will be defined and most importantly patient will be happy and satisfied.