

NARRATION OF THE “PROJECT PROFESSIONALISM PUNJAB”

The video clip shows a class of undergrads on the “history taking and examination of a case of breast cancer”.

The teacher shown in the video delivered a lecture on this topic and provided the requisite information on the blackboard as an orthodox type of teaching methodology to a large group (students more than 40). In the interactive period the teacher asks a student to demonstrate the same on a female patient.

The attitude and body language of a student shown reveals that:

1. He was not attentive while sitting in the class and was not actively involved in the learning process. It also shows that the teacher was lacking something to attract /focus the interest of the student on the topic under discussion.
2. The attitude of the student shows lack of true spirit of learning reflecting his attitude towards the professionalism this fact has been shown by the following observations:
 - a) He missed important ethical / religious issues like obtaining consent of the patient and explanation of the procedure to be done on the patient (attitude).
 - b) Missing important information (lack of recall) like family history of breast cancer or exposure to certain carcinogens.
 - c) The exact methods of examining a patient of breast cancer (lack of skills development).

In summary the professionalism attributes like a recall, skills, attitude, ethnic and religious factors, competency and other issues were not addressed properly in the learning process of this student. The video also reflects that although the teacher taught them very delicately still he was not able to:

1. Engage the interest / focus of the students on the topic.
2. His facial expressions (angry look) shows the lack of softness and gentleness.
3. Some of the effective teaching / learning tools have not been used to enhance the teaching of the undergrads.
4. Large group teaching methodology was not adopted as the students sitting on the back benches were not properly indulged in the active learning process. The topic taught to the student is suitable for a small group comprising 5-10 students as a bedside / OPD teaching of the medical graduates.

CONCLUSION:

The video clip seems to be a part of a funny movie and do not reflect any impression of teaching of undergrads medical students. The casual attitude of the student and the harsh attitude of the teacher is against the minimally accepted level of the professionalism. The analysis of the story may help to find out the flaws of the professionalism both in learning process of the students and the teaching methodologies used by the teachers and also to find out ways and means to include them.