Psychiatry

Background
Less than one percent of psychiatric patients in Ethiopia have access to psychiatric treatment. Jimma University is planning to launch a 2-year training program in mental health for nurses and health officers.

Goals
• To produce qualified clinical officers in mental health
• To reduce the huge mental health treatment gap

Challenges
Jimma University has only one psychiatrist teaching medical students and all other trainees and caring for inpatients and outpatients.

CIH @ LMU
A collaboration has been established between the Departments of Psychiatry at Jimma University and Ludwig Maximilians University. The collaboration aims at sending psychiatrists from LMU who will offer courses to the trainees at JU.

Student Exchange

Follow-up of participants from LMU
Five former participants were interviewed, and 60 were evaluated with questionnaire, 30 controls, and 30 who have been in Jimma. Scales with up to 9 items were formed, based on the Tuning Project (Medicine) outcomes. Alpha ranged from .62 to .78. Significant differences were found for 2 of the scales, „consultation” and „communication” (cf. graph below)

Conclusion: Sociocultural learning in the exchange programme led to improved communication skills and better ability to carry out a consultation than in matched controls.

Teacher Training

Follow-up of participants from JU
Thirty-eight participants mainly from academic teacher training courses completed a questionnaire. Current work situation and adoption of the „12 roles of a Teacher” (Harden RM) were assessed.

Conclusion: Former participants are active as teachers, have adopted practices as assessor and role model, and have benefitted personally. Hence, training of academic teachers is effective.

Results. The majority of respondents is currently employed by a university (71%), and 60 % of the these is actively teaching. Among the 12 Roles of a Teacher that scored highest were „Student assessor” and „On-the-job role model”. When asked to rate „the impact of your learning during a training conducted by the JU-LMU Link”, the item that scored highest was „I benefitted personally from my training conducted by the JU-LMU Link”.


Harden RM, Crosby J (2000). The good teacher is more than a lecturer - the twelve roles of the teacher. Medical Teacher, Vol. 22, No. 4, 2000