EDITORIAL

Moving with the Current Tide in Anaesthesia Education

Medical Education has since changed from what we knew and practiced. A paradigm shift has taken place, and it will keep evolving with technological advancements, developments in AI and the fast-changing societal trends with implied lifestyle changes and disease patterns.¹

It is therefore required that Anaesthetists remain up to date and well grounded in knowledge, proficient in skills and display good leadership qualities laced with the needful professionalism, emotional intelligence, conflict resolution and proper communication skills. These are related to the appropriate training and development of the cognitive, psychomotor and affective domains of learning. We must remain facilitators of learning dedicated to our trainees with a change from 'teacher centred' to 'student-centred' learning. This approach involves some degree of intentionalism and interactiveness to ensure learning has occurred or the intended learning outcomes are achieved. ²

Some current approaches to delivery of learning must be sustained or commenced viz: (competency-based and simulation-based learning, learning through virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR), self-directed learning, and more. Ultimately, a consequence from these changes will be the implementation of a new curriculum for learning. 3-5,6

There is a need to imbibe formative assessment practices (assessment for learning) during the learning process that enhances feedback, early remediation and needed adjustments for successful outcomes in our trainees, and not summative practices (assessment of learning) at the end point when results are unfavourable with no remedy. Fruitful formative assessment practices will require reasonable engagement and contact time with learners, and over time the rewards remain mutually beneficial to both trainer and the trainee.⁵

Finally, it is important to know that a good trainer is a good learner! Continuous professional development through regular training and short-, medium- or long-term courses are very key to flow with the current tide, remain up to date in practice and in the training of future anaesthetists. The role of faculty development workshops such as 'training of the trainers' (TOT) cannot also be overemphasised.³

Conflicts of Interest: None to declare.

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