

**6 Ruby 1.9****Survey of factors that affected 1st year residents for selection of their specialties in Shiraz University of Medical Sciences in 2004**

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*Purpose:* The aim of this study was to survey 1st year residents of Shiraz University of medical sciences in 2004 to determine factors that influenced their selection of a specialty field.

*Method:* A questionnaire was distributed to 98 first year residents of Shiraz University of medical sciences in 2004. The influence of more income, interest, facility during education, family priority, better scope, chance of matriculation, field prestige and level of satisfaction with

the specialty field was assessed. Results were analyzed by using SPSS program.

*Result:* The response rate was 69.4% (68 of 98). Only 32.4% of respondents identified the most important aspect influencing their choice of specialty was interest in that field and least important aspect was facility during education. (29.4%). 56.7% of respondents had high level of satisfaction with their specialty.

*Discussion and conclusion:* Residents use many criteria in selecting a field of specialty such as interest, facility during education, better scope, more income, family priority, chance of matriculation and field prestige. Knowledge of these influential factors should help training programs offer appropriate career guidance. Many of them were unsatisfied due to insufficient teaching and working long hours and experiencing periods of little sleep.

## Posters

**6 Ruby 2 Selection for medicine****6 Ruby 2.1****More women in medicine – is there a problem? A literature review of the changing gender composition, structures and occupational cultures in medicine**

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*Aims:* The purpose of this presentation is to highlight some of the evidence, issues and explanations about the effects of the increasing numbers of women in the medical profession. Internationally, there are increasing numbers of women entering medicine. Although each country has different health care systems and social contexts, all still show horizontal (women concentrated in certain areas of work) and vertical (women under represented at higher levels of the professions) segregation.

*Summary of work:* We conducted a literature review which identified evidence that delineates some of the effects of gender on the culture, practice and organisation of medicine:

*Summary of results:* (1) There are increasing numbers of women in medicine and completing explanations about the effects on the practice and organisation of medicine. (2) There is some evidence about the effects of gender on the culture, practice and organisation of medicine. (3) There are problems with some of the research methodologies used and we identify areas for further research. (4) There is a need for further research to explore the impact and implications of these changes in the gender composition of medicine. This would have immediate relevance both for workforce planning and understanding the changing nature of health professions' education and health care delivery.

**6 Ruby 2.2****Admission system, personal characteristics and academic performance**

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*Background:* Public Spanish universities employ a common admission scoring system for students based on high school grades and the PAU (Access university essay). Aiming to know the predictive values of this admission method and

other student factors, we studied whether there is a relationship between any of those variables and academic performance in the first year discipline Gross Anatomy.

*Summary of work:* We analysed the group of students admitted to our Medical Faculty in 2004-2005 and studied the relation between sex, age, admission marks, educational background, motivation for medical studies or personal interests and the scores obtained in Gross Anatomy.

*Summary of work:* The students had had high admission scores. However, this fact was not related to the results obtained in the subject studied. Factors like sex, motivations for choosing medical studies and educational background showed differences in their relationships with the admission scores and with the scores obtained in the discipline. Interestingly, the students who were not sure why they had chosen medical studies and those who had chosen them only because they like them, obtained better scores in our discipline than those who had chosen them for humanitarian, economic or scientific interests. Besides, activities like playing sports showed to be a beneficial factor.

**6 Ruby 2.3****Medical and dental students in Portugal: personality traits**

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*Background:* Both medical training and professional performance require a broad range of analytic, clinical, personal, managerial and social skills (Gonella et al., 1993, Diamond et al., 1995). Entry selection mechanisms and high academic demands may, among other factors, have relevant impact on the personality profile of medical students and its development during medical training. Pertaining knowledge may be pivotal in advising relevant school strategies. This longitudinal study aims at understanding: (1) specificities of personality profiles of medical students; (2) the contribution of personality factors to academic attainment; (3) the impact of medical school on the development of personality traits; (4) the contribution of personality traits and academic achievement in professional performance.

*Summary of work:* The five-factor model (FFM) of personality was adopted. First year students from five different Faculties in our University were enrolled and asked to fill-in the personality inventory NEO-PI-R (Costa &