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Conference Abstract

A Study of Learning Styles of Students at Health Faculties

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Abstract

Purpose: The aim of the research is to identify the learning styles of the students, improve education system and help the students to find their positions in this system.

Theory: Every student has his/her own style of getting and processing information. If the learning style of the student is not compatible with the teaching method of the instructor, students tend to feel themselves failing, start not to attend to classes, and tend to get lower grades from their mid-terms and finals, which causes their motivations to decrease drastically.

Methods: This research is a descriptive one, based on the learning methods model that had been designed by Felder and Silverman in 1988. By using the questionnaire of 44 questions that had been designed by Felder and Silverman, which is called "Index of Learning Styles", this model classifies the students under four different categories:

- Visual/Oral
- Feeling/intuition
- By doing/ By thinking
- In order/ Global

Findings: To conclude, the research revealed that students are classified in a dissolving pattern in every aspect of learning. But, the chart in discovery part shows that certain aspects reveal polarization.

Discussion: This research is a step to student focused, education adaptation process that has been popular in last twenty years. However, medicine and health sciences are just in the beginning of this process. To improve the quality of education, this process should closely be followed.

Keywords:

learning styles, medical students, ILS, index of learning styles

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