

Changes of perceptions among students and faculties after taking a postgraduate course in sex and gender medicine in South Korea

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Summary We have designed a postgraduate level course and conducted a survey to observe how much the course changed the perception of participants, on SGM in Korea. The course was very effective to increase perception of importance of the issue among participants.

1. Relevance

Sex and gender medicine(SGM) evolves the knowledge and understanding of human health and disease. Therefore, it is emerging discipline within healthcare research and education in western countries but there were no education courses on the subject in Korea, previously.

2. Aims & Objectives

We have designed a postgraduate level course and conducted a survey to observe how much the course changed the perception of participants, both students and faculties, on sex and gender in medicine.

3. Methods

A survey was on attendees' perception and knowledge about sex and gender in biomedical research and medicine at the beginning of the semester and then was repeated after the semester was finished. Fifteen topics which are main issues of SGM were selected for the course.

4. Results

Ten faculty members and 12 students participated in this class and completed the survey. Participants improved awareness and attitudes about SGM after class. They regarded education and research funds were the most important factors for SGM to be established in biomedical fields followed by government policies.

5. Conclusions

The first postgraduate course in SGM in Korea was very effective to increase perception of importance of the issue among faculties and students. Through this experience the attitude and knowledge about sex and gender can be changed. More opportunities should be given for medical students and faculties in Korea.

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