

**ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT'S PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL ATTITUDES: WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT OUR MEDICAL STUDENTS FROM THEIR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH?**

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**BACKGROUND:** Undergraduate research gives our MBBS Year 3 medical students opportunity to consolidate their evidence-based knowledge gained in previous two years of their medical education and apply the research principles to the selected topic. Medical students are frequently recruited as subjects for this students-led research. Favourite research topics include medical students' knowledge and attitudes towards different medical and health problems. Objectives of this paper are to assess student's professional and personal attitudes and identify factors that should be addressed in medical education planning. **METHODS:** A systematic review of MBBS Y3 research papers written during six years from 2005-2011. Selection criteria include primary studies with recruited subjects of medical students in Year 1-5 at the University of Hong Kong. **RESULTS:** 33 out of 90 papers (36.6%) were included in this review. Different categories of students' characteristics (knowledge and skills, perception of learning, lifestyle and behaviour, attitudes towards medical or health problems) have been analysed with the intention to identify psychological, physical and social students' needs important to tackle in medical curricula. **CONCLUSION:** Undergraduate research provides us with the relevant and useful insights into various aspects of medical students' learning experience, professional attitudes as well as personal life. These should be considered within the context of a holistic learning environment for the medical education curricula planning.