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Evolution of Teacher Competencies in Current Medical Education Scenario: A Review

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Abstract:
Medical schools navigate through the complexities of modern healthcare and technological advancements, the competencies expected of the educators are undergoing a significant transformation. This evolution is crucial to ensure that graduates are prepared to meet the diverse and demanding needs of contemporary healthcare consumers.

Introduction:
In the dynamic field of medical education, teachers play a pivotal role in shaping the future of healthcare.[1] Traditionally valued for their clinical expertise, today's educators are navigating a transformative journey to meet the diverse needs of contemporary medical practice.[2-4] In the realm of medical education, the role of teachers has always been pivotal, shaping not only the knowledge base of future medical professionals but also their clinical skills and patient care ethics.[5-9]

From Expertise to Holistic Teaching
In earlier days medical educators were solely recognized for their clinical proficiency.[10] While this remains essential, modern teaching demands a broader range of competencies. Educators are now expected to:

- **Embrace Diversity:** Understanding the interconnectedness of health with overall well-being, educators collaborate across disciplines to provide comprehensive patient care. [11]Educators must understand and teach how medical health impacts the overall health. Collaborating with professionals from various fields is essential to provide comprehensive patient care.
- **Harness Technology:** Advancements in digital tools and simulations are revolutionizing medical education. Educators must integrate these technologies into teaching to prepare students for a tech-driven world.[12] Advances in technology are revolutionizing practice.[13-15] Teachers need to stay abreast of digital tools, virtual simulations, and telehealth applications to enhance learning experiences and prepare students for modern practice.[16]
- **Adapt Teaching Strategies:** Recognizing that every student learns differently, educators employ diverse methods like active learning and problem-solving approaches to cater to individual learning styles[17-20]. One-size-fits-all teaching methods are giving way to adaptive strategies that cater to diverse learning styles and individualized student needs. Educators must be adept at using active learning techniques, case-based learning, and problem-solving approaches.
- **Promote Ethics and Cultural Sensitivity:** In a globalized world, ethical decision-making and cultural competence are critical. Educators must instil values to ensure students become compassionate and respectful professionals.[21] With globalization, medical professionals encounter patients from diverse

cultural backgrounds and ethical dilemmas. Teachers must instil cultural sensitivity, ethical decision-making skills, and professionalism in their students.

- **Encourage Evidence-Based Practice:** Teaching the latest research and empowering students to critically evaluate evidence is essential for delivering high-quality care grounded in scientific rigor.[22] The emphasis on evidence-based medicine requires educators to not only teach the latest research but also encourage students to critically appraise evidence and apply it to clinical practice.

Challenges in Adopting to Newer Competencies

Despite advancements, challenges persist. Limited resources and resistance to change can hinder the adoption of new teaching methods.[23] Evaluating the effectiveness of innovations also requires robust assessment tools and ongoing support for faculty development.[24,25]

- **Time and Resources:** Integrating new teaching methods and technologies requires investment in faculty development programs, infrastructure, and continuous training.
- **Resistance to Change:** Some educators may be reluctant to adopt new methods, preferring traditional approaches they are familiar with.
- **Assessment:** Evaluating the effectiveness of new competencies and teaching methods poses a challenge, requiring robust assessment tools and metrics.

Conclusion

To overcome the challenges, institutions must invest in faculty development programs, workshops, mentorship initiatives, and collaborative projects. These methodologies will empower educators to adapt and thrive in a rapidly evolving educational landscape.

As medical education continues to evolve, educators must remain agile and proactive. By embracing interdisciplinary collaboration, leveraging technology, and prioritizing professional growth, they ensure graduates are not just skilled clinicians but compassionate caregivers and lifelong learners.

With the core principles of medical education remaining steadfast, the competencies expected of the educators are evolving to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world. By embracing interdisciplinary collaboration, leveraging technology, and prioritizing professional development, medical schools can empower educators to prepare future generations of medical professionals for success in the dynamic landscape of healthcare education; by way of effective designing of contemporary faculty development programs.

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