1 - Pregraduate Education

PO-017 - (22723) - : IDENTIFYING THRESHOLD CONCEPTS IN HISTOLOGY: ENHANCING FOUNDATIONAL UNDERSTANDING FOR FIRST-YEAR MBBS STUDENTS

D.S. Rout (India)[1]; D.D. Kumar V (India)[2]

1 - All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhubaneswar; 2 - Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research

DR SIPRA ROUT
Bhubaneswar

DR DINESH KUMAR V
PUDUCHERRY

None
Identifying threshold concepts (TC) in histology is essential for MBBS students, as these foundational ideas are gateways to mastering the subject. Recognising these critical yet challenging concepts, which establish the relationship between structure and function on a transformative basis, allows educators to design targeted teaching strategies to overcome learning barriers. The present study was conducted to identify undergraduate students' perceptions of TC in histology.

A specific questionnaire was developed and validated. Two external experts validated the questionnaire. The questionnaire demonstrated good internal consistency (Cronbach’s alpha = 0.89). First-year MBBS students from the 2023 batch were asked to give their perceptions on the concepts in a 5-point Likert scale. The concepts were then clustered into nine categories, and the responses were analysed using descriptive statistics.

83 MBBS students from the 2022–23 batch participated, with a gender distribution of 67% male and 33% female. We found that the essential concepts that linked tissue organization and corresponding functional states, such as differentiation of parenchyma and stroma, received higher scores compared to the concepts that seldom required interaction of static and dynamic concepts, such as cellular components and regeneration.

The identification of threshold concepts through students' perceptions is potentially useful to improve the teaching and learning process with respect to histology. For educators, provides evidence of an approach that can be used to identify different pedagogical profiles related to the teaching of histology.

Palavras-chave : histology, threshold concept, medical education