

The consequences of pandemic have provided government of India an opportunity to make medical education a public good. Do you agree with this view? Comment.

The COVID-19 pandemic has opened the pandora's box highlighting the medical infrastructure and logistics gaps for the 1.3 billion populated country.

Need for Medical Education - Public good:

1. Lack of awareness:

1. People lack awareness on understanding COVID-19 and its implications.
2. It has extended on vaccine hesitancy in India showing 99% rural India still not been vaccinated for COVID-19.

2. Life Style change and implication:

1. The 0.1% death in the pandemic amount to co-morbidities due to life style change and its implication.
2. Lack of health consciousness and lack of medicine knowledge added to it.

3. Over the Counter medicines:

1. The Anti microbial Resistance increased in India shows that 1 in 4 Indians has AMR bacteria in their gut.

2. This is due to lack of proper medicine knowledge and unwilling for over the pocket expenditure (OPE) by people.

Medical Education as public good:

1. Precautionary measures:

1. Curriculum about medicines in school education by NCERT and SCERT is the necessary precautionary measure.
2. The next generation can be safe from AMR, lifestyle diseases and mental disorders — Recommendation by WHO.

2. Increases the Scientific involvement:

1. Increase in Scientific medical courses can attribute to addressing norms of 1:1000 WHO doctor:patient ratio. India currently has 1:1450, thus to combat pandemic India need more doctors to adhere medical education.

3. Self motivated Society:

1. Medical education as public good creates society to be with basic knowledge about diseases and how to control and prevent pandemic.
2. (e.g) Japan - Mask culture is due to medical education as public good.

Conclusion: Thus for a healthy nation, the people has to understand through knowledge and awareness which is core to tackle pandemic.