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Thesis Title	Resident Doctors Knowledge and Attitudes toward Communication Skills: A Comparison of First and Second Year Resident Doctors for Different Hospital in AL-KARKH/Baghdad
Year	2013-2014
Abstract	Background: Excellent communication skills are essential to medical profession. Assessment to knowledge and attitude of resident doctors toward communication skills, doctor- patient relationship, is essential but, complex in nature. Basic or general communication skills are developed early in life, theoretical knowledge about communications skills come in subsequent years. Both personal and curricular factors influence how resident doctors master the relevant skills. Objectives: To Assess the knowledge and attitude of communication skills among resident doctors in Baghdad/Al-Kharkh hospitals, with comparison of these skills according to gender and the years of residency and to make a self assessment statement for resident doctors in communication skills. Methodology: A cross-sectional study conducted for the period from 1st of February to the end of June to assess the knowledge and attitudes of resident doctors toward learning communication skills at Al-karkh hospitals of Baghdad in Iraq. The study sample consisted of 143 resident doctors that were presented in the hospital at the time of interview. The questionnaires were distributed to all the participants and data was collected using communication skills attitude scale (CSAS) which consists of 26 items, 13 indicative of positive attitude and 13 indicative of negative attitude, (16 questions assess knowledge and 10 questions assess attitude) toward learning communication skills. Data were analyzed using Minitab software version 16. The mean score for the positive and negative attitude were measured and compared. Result: A good score for knowledge and attitude was found among resident doctors. Regarding the year of residence, the total male (knowledge + Attitude) resident doctors score in 2nd year was higher than 1st year, not statistically significant, but total female 1st year was higher than 2nd year, statistically significant higher than 2nd year, but in total attitude (Male + Female) resident doctors 2nd year score showed more and not statistically sig