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| Thesis Title | Awareness about Informed Consent among Final Year Medical Students at Baghdad and Al-Kindy Medical Schools: A Comparative Study |
| Year | 2015 |
| Abstract | Background: Medical ethics education must strive to move learners from knowledge acquisition and skills development to behavior change to provide excellent patient care, including the ability to identify the ethical aspect of medical practice and provision of valid consent This offered a wanted insight into how medical professionals perceive consent, while it un doubtfully important to explore the views of those who are still in training |
| | Objectives: The aim of study was to evaluate and explore medical students` awareness regarding informed consent. |
| | Method: The study was conducted at Baghdad and Al-Kindy Colleges of Medicine /University of Baghdad during the academic year 2014/2015. A cross-sectional study design was adopted with a modified questionnaire distributed to the final year medical students. 68.7% of students were reached and all of them responded. Results: The study shows that the students at both colleges were aware of the main components of informed consent (procedure information, explaining of risks, benefits, alternatives, patient's understanding) and its ethical and legal doctrine but with some divergent views by Al-Kindy students regarding: main purpose of consent is to improve doctor-patient relationship (p-value 0.014), consent inappropriate as most patients trust their doctor to decide what is best for them (pvalue 0.03), they depend on them to make decision and informing patients about alternatives may be confusing (p-value 0.001), for explaining of minor risks more than 1/1000 and major risks more than 1/10000 (p-values< 0.0001 and 0.014 respectively). |
| | Conclusion: The results of our study provide an interesting insight into how medical students perceive informed consent. This encouraging profiting golden opportunity of doctor-patient communication, though Al-Kindy students are more likely to adapt a paternalistic approach during informed consent. This offers guidance for inclusion of innovative and important medical ethics fields in teaching curricula through medical schools. |
| | Key words: informed consent(IC), awareness, medical students, ethics, autonomy, |