

## Knowledge, Attitude, Practice and Barriers of Research among Medical Students

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### ABSTRACT

**BACKGROUND:** Understanding the concept of evidence-based medicine needs strong research knowledge. Yet, the emphasis of a research-oriented curriculum for undergraduate medical students is not developed to its fullest form. **OBJECTIVE:** The objective of the study was to evaluate knowledge, attitude, experience, and the barriers of research among medical undergraduates. **METHODOLOGY:** A descriptive cross-sectional study was done among medical students. The study participants anonymously filled out a five-part questionnaire consisting of (1) demography (2) knowledge (3) attitude (4) practice (5) barriers). Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics. **RESULTS:** A total of 250 students took part in the study, of which 53.6% were males, and 46.4% were females. 47% was the knowledge score regarding the concept of research and its methodology. Sixty-five percent agreed to the importance of research in medical school, and sixty-three percent believed that research would facilitate a better understanding of the subject and clinical practice. Nearly 61% opined that research was not a waste of time and did not interfere in studies. Barriers for research were lack of awareness (62%), interest (57%), funds (56%), time (56%), and difficulty in follow-up of patients (45%). Almost 40% of students disagreed to lack of encouragement from the faculty. **CONCLUSION:** The study participants had fair knowledge regarding research and expressed a positive attitude towards involvement in research activity. Some of the barriers were lack of awareness, time, funds, and difficulty in patient follow-up.

**Key word:** Awareness, barriers, medical undergraduates, research