

Deprivation and Discrimination of Physiotherapy Education and Dignity in Bangladesh Resulting Poor Rehabilitation

Editorial

Physiotherapy is a demanding and rising profession all over the world because of its evidence based practice, zero side effects and multidimensional application from pregnancy to birth; birth to old aged people. Wide variety of applicability makes this profession noble, prestigious and universal acceptability. In Bangladesh Bachelor degree of Physiotherapy started immediately after liberation war to rehabilitate disabled people and yet now more than 2000 registered physiotherapists are working in private chamber, non-government organization, hospitals and sports team but no Government post and regulatory body. Bangladesh Physiotherapy Association is trying heart and soul to upgrade profession liaising with Government. It is regretting that only one medical University named Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University has no physiotherapist as like Bangladesh Sports Education Institute. Medicine faculty of Dhaka University has medical, dental and physiotherapy course. Hundreds of medical and dental colleges are in Bangladesh but no single physiotherapy college and permanent teacher as well. We know non-communicable diseases are in rising trend in Bangladesh along with rest of the part of the world results high prevalence of disability and deformity; requires urgent need of rehabilitation.

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Volume 5 Issue 2 - 2016

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Received: June 21, 2016 | **Published:** July 06, 2016

Day by day every profession is upgrading but some medical professionals known as physical medicine are trying to suppress physiotherapists so that they cannot deal patients as a first contact practitioner. Besides Department of physiotherapy has been changed to physical medicine department where electrotherapy based treatment is provided by technician. This deprivation and demotion bring depression among physiotherapists and ultimately patients are suffering because they are not getting quality services from graduate physiotherapists. Concern authority and policy maker should think about this burning issue seriously to ensure quality health service for all.