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Cadaveric Clinical Workshops for Postgraduate Residency Training of the Professional Specialties and Societies with the School of Biomedical Sciences (SBMS), The University of Hong Kong

Tipoe G., Ho S.P., Wong P.W.L.

The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Introduction: SBMS provided human cadavers for surgical training of residents from various professional specialties since 2006. We conducted prospected survey for cadaveric clinical workshops with three main aims namely: 1) to evaluate their experience with regards to their first encounter with the cadaver and after the clinical workshops; 2) to assess whether the used of cadavers was valuable in learning anatomy in relation to surgery; and 3) To determine whether cadaver respect ceremony before each workshop further enhanced their respect for the cadavers.

Method: The survey form consisted of eight questions. Each question was rated from a scale of 1 to 5 ie. 1 = very negative and 5 = very positive. The survey form was clearly explained to the participants with an adequate time to fill in the survey at the end of the workshop. This survey was conducted from 2008 to 2014 with a total number of 26 clinical workshops and 463 participants or responses.

Findings: The first two questions were related to the first aim. e.g. How would you characterize your first encounter with the cadaver? 84 -94% was positive to very positive, 3-4% was neutral and less 1% was negative. The 3rd to 6th questions were related to the second aim. e.g. Does cadaver dissection enhance your learning about a particular surgical procedure? 95-75% was positive to very positive, 1.7-4% was neutral and less 0.5% was negative. The 7th and 8th questions were related to the third aim. e.g. Does simple ceremonial rite at the beginning of the dissection course help increase your respect for the cadavers? About 92% was positive to very positive, 6.5% was neutral and less 0.5% was negative.

Conclusion: The cadaver dissection was educationally valuable in promoting, enhancing and integrating learning of anatomy in relation to surgical skills. Overall, the cadaveric encounter was positive and further enhanced the respect for the cadaver.