

# Student

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### Student Perceptions of a Programme in Family Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, Colombo, Sri Lanka

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#### Background

Family medicine is an integral part of global undergraduate medical curricula. The recently introduced two week programme in family medicine for 3rd year medical students at the Colombo Medical Faculty reflects this initiative. It is important to evaluate the perceptions of these students as primary consumers.

#### Method

The study population comprised 26 third year medical students who have completed the family medicine programme. A pre-tested self-administered questionnaire assessed general attitude on family medicine, and perceptions on content and competencies through several questions each on a Likert scale of 0 to 5. Response rate was 100%.

Based on themes emerging from the feedback, a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was conducted with 22 students. Data was recorded verbatim, collated and analyzed.

#### Results

All reported having insight and understanding of concepts in family medicine, and awareness of organising a family practice.

The majority reported interest towards learning family medicine (n=19, 73.1%). This was reinforced at the FGD.

Mean level of perceived understanding of content areas was