

Conference Abstract

DAY 1 15th September 2023 (Friday)

ORAL 2

3.30-5.00 pm

Scientific Session 5

A Cross-Sectional Study to Correlate Cognitive Ability and Learning Styles using Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale and Vark Questionnaire Tools**Krishna Sree Yalamanchili, Vasudha Kulkarni**

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Background: Cognitive ability of an individual includes vocabulary, comprehensive, arithmetic and reasoning skills. An Indian medical graduate's intellectual ability is considered as an essential element to be clinically competent. As medical students we have to constantly nurture our clinical reasoning skills. In addition, identifying our primary learning styles is imperative to cultivate active learning skills. Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale is a validated questionnaire to quantify the cognitive ability of an individual. Similarly, the VARK (visual, auditory, reading and kinesthetic) questionnaire is a time tested tool to recognise one's learning style.

Aim: The present study aimed at identifying the cognitive ability and learning styles of medical students.

Methodology: 147 medical students of phase-1 MBBS at Akash Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre participated in this cross-sectional study. Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale and VARK questionnaire were administered to the participants after obtaining the informed consent. The scores of both the questionnaires were tabulated in a google spreadsheet.

Results: The mean score of the medical students for Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale was 74.7 (average) and 67.3% of the participants had kinesthetic type of learning style. The correlation between the scores of the two questionnaires were analyzed by applying linear regression analysis. p value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Conclusion: We found that the average intelligence scores correlate with kinesthetic kind of learning style. This infers that there is a linear relationship between cognitive and psychomotor domain of learning for an individual. This study provided psychometric information and unimodal learning style of the medical students. This necessitates faculty to effectively deliver to the learning needs of medical students.

Keywords: Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, VARK questionnaire, cognitive ability, learning styles.