

“Perceptions of Prosthetist & Orthotist on Interdisciplinary team members involved in the provision of Prosthetics & Orthotics and their roles in Prosthetics & Orthotics services at Dhaka, Bangladesh”

By

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The mandate to provide comprehensive treatment for the service men and women with severe injuries and disabilities that could not be managed effectively and efficiently by a single discipline health care professional thereby necessitated the formation of interdisciplinary team spirit to meet the needs of this population. From that point, the IDT (composed of all members of the treatment team as well as the patient and family) became the gold standard for the care coordination process. Eventually, the IDT became the cornerstone of the new field of medicine, physical medicine and rehabilitation which is focused on the restoration of the patient capacities has exploded in the past two decades due to the increasing complexity in patients care and that it enhances patient compliance, improves patient satisfactions, reduces health care costs, lowers mortality, reduces length of hospital or institutional stay and increases team members job satisfaction.

Methods: This was a questionnaire based quantitative cross sectional study. Data were analyzed by IBM Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software version 20 using descriptive and inferential statistics. The study was conducted at CRP, CDD, Endolite, NITOR in December 2018 to April, 2019, which involved approximately ($n = 50$) Prosthetists and Orthotists professionals at above centres.

Results: The total number of fifty (50) self-administered structured questionnaires was distributed, filled in and returned. The response rate was 100%. Out of 50 participants, most of them were male [68% ($n=34$)] and rest of them were female [32% ($n=16$)]. Among the participants [66% ($n=33$)] of were single, [34% ($n=17$)] were married. There were 50 respondents and the religion of the most of them were Islam [76% ($n=38$)]. [22% ($n=11$)] were Hindu, only [2% ($n=1$)] follow Buddhism. Among the total respondents, the majority having attained diploma [90% ($n=45$)] and only [10% ($n=05$)] were degree level. All the participants [100% ($n=50$)] worked in the prosthetics & orthotics department. In this thesis [18% ($n=9$)] were senior Prosthetist & Orthotist, most of the respondents had other designations [82% ($n=41$)].

Approximately [88% ($n=44$)] knew about the difference between IDT and MDT. However, on other aspects of knowledge questions, the average correct responses ranged between [82%, ($n=41$)] to [88%, ($n=44$)]. Approximately [76% ($n =38$)] of respondents stated that they had worked with an IDT during the past 12 months and

Major part of the respondents, [60% (n=30)] did not get exposed to any form of training on IDT approach and [40% (n=20)] got training. Majority of the respondents, [96% (n=48)] consult with the other health care professionals in decision making about patient care. Only [4% (n=2)] did not consult with the other health care professionals. Most of the respondents, [94% (n=47)] consult with the patients/their caregiver about the prosthetics / orthotics care and only [6% (n=3)] did not consult with the patients / caregiver about the prosthetics / orthotics care.

Conclusion:

Interdisciplinary health care team is facing a set of challenges that are not necessarily encountered by other types of team such as mono-disciplinary or non-health care teams. They seem to have knowledge, but no actual practice of Interdisciplinary team. The actual practice of Interdisciplinary team approach did not exist in these institutions and the roles and duties of Interdisciplinary Team members were not clear. This might be due to widely used multidisciplinary team approach enshrined in the daily clinical practice all over and /or other factors that are presently unknown. Thus more research is needed to identify underlying factors that might influence health professionals' own practice of Interdisciplinary team approach.