

Understanding medical students' motivation and preferences to select medical studies and work in rural areas in North India

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Propositions

1. Quality of healthcare delivery depends on successful planning and equitable distribution of the health workforce. [this dissertation]
2. In overcoming shortages of health care workers globally, understanding motivation and preferences of medical students to select medical studies and work in rural areas is a necessary prerequisite.[this dissertation]
3. The three factors underpinning the motivation of medical students to select medical studies, namely scientific, societal and humanitarian factors, cut across the traditional dichotomy between intrinsic and extrinsic motivation. [this dissertation]
4. Lack of studies from low-income countries regarding motivating factors of medical students to select medical studies warrants more research in these countries to inform policymakers. [this dissertation]
5. The motivating factors for medical students to select medical studies are different in low, middle- and high-income countries. [this dissertation]
6. For educators, policymakers and implementers it is essential to be aware that substantial financial incentives coupled with an unchallenging professional environment discourage doctors to work in rural areas, whereas, willingness to give back to communities, broader clinical exposure and high status and respect encourage them to work in rural areas. [Valorization chapter]
7. The diversity of India – where each state faces highly specific challenges – calls for more studies on health professionals. [Valorization chapter]
8. Critical shortage of the health workforce, inadequate skills and uneven distribution pose major barriers to achieving health-related Sustainable Development Goals [Sustainable Development Goals, UNDP 2015]
9. The ability of a country to meet its health goals depends largely on knowledge, skills and motivation of people responsible for organizing and delivering health services. [World Health Organization, 2009]