

Communication Skills (Physician – Patient)

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Although our ability to communicate skillfully has significant impact on the care and outcome of our patients, there is considerable variation in the recognition of the value of teaching communications skills to the medical students (future physicians).

Teaching communication skills in Saudi medical colleges received little or no attention apart from some personnel or departmental efforts.

Effective communication has been linked with increases in physician and patient satisfaction, adherence to treatment plans, more appropriate medical decisions, better health outcomes and decrease in the incidence of malpractice claims.

I will discuss the need to design a course on physician - patient communication skills teaching and assessment in Saudi medical colleges