

Pricks

There has been a lot of gap between the demand and supply of PMR doctors, lately felt very acutely in India. Contrary to the times when a few who qualified found it difficult to find a place to work but now the positions are more than the people who qualify. Despite that it has been found that some still like to stick to the roots having no rewarding work at that place while some just keep waiting for the 'good' jobs to come up at a particular place. It has been believed by the seniors in the subject that if someone is not particular about choosing where to work, there are plenty of positions. One can rise on the ladder faster before many could not even dream of climbing halfway. Majority have been idling, some doing some different practices, a few even weird kind (excuse me for saying so) and some waiting for just the right job and the right opportunity to come by. The right opportunity is right now. We know that the specialty is now coming towards the bloom after the nascent stage. The time when the government is trying to fund medical colleges and hospitals to have the initiatives to start the departments of PMR, it is the force of doctors which is lacking all over the country. A few who could come and fill up the positions to be proud members of the fraternity and hold the pioneering positions in the not so glamorous places compared to the established ones are looking the other way, perhaps into the oblivion. What are we waiting for? The situation is like an egg and the hen. We have to produce hens without the eggs at present and we cannot wait for the hens to lay more eggs till the time hens are enough in numbers. Can't we at least initiate by being hens for a while at places where there have been no eggs to initiate laying eggs. Perhaps we have to be alone and fend for ourselves and have many set backs in a number of ways: academically, home front and emotional reserve wise. When man set out on the moon, the flight wasn't comfortable. The outcome was amazing and cherished by the whole mankind and perhaps it would remain to be in the times to come. The difficulties to be faced by the initiators of the novice departments would not be lesser. If man was to run away from the obstacles then so much progress would not have been made. When a PMR specialist inculcates the spirit of rehabilitation, the will to be alive and productive in his patients where is that spirit when it comes to self, trying to establish and restore the functioning of departments which are non-existent or impecunious, can't we revamp ourselves to face the challenges rather than taking the back seat letting

things to happen. Can't we actively partake to hold the torch to lighten up the dark areas in the country where PMR is required and crying out loud for those who could be the beacons? I believe the time is right here. On one hand people thought the country is not prepared to take the initiative to start the departments and now on the other hand are we ready when the country on the whole is making efforts. We had quite a few pitfalls in the recent past. It went to the extent of being ashamed of ourselves making noises here and there to coax the authorities everywhere to show them the significance of PMR. Once convinced, we sit back and keep thinking someone would come but not us. Why not? The others down the lines waiting are hesitant to risk the efforts. One success would bring many come up. Why don't we pick up those areas in the country where there is nothing at present? The result of pains and sacrifices made in this direction would definitely be more gratifying than a great paper in an international conference or a revolutionary research outcome of a heavily funded project on the international scale. The patients benefited would be the reward, those making efforts in the government would feel fulfilled and we won't ask the questions of hens and eggs from each other. Each one of us has to think hard. Can't we make little sacrifices and be in the lesser glamorous world for a while doing things from the scratch rather than sitting on the well established solid chairs? We have to introspect and think hard what we are doing at present is the right step towards nation building doing our part of establishing and spreading the services of PMR in the country. Let's do our part with devotion and sacrifice. Let us not leave any opportunity to initiate a new area with PMR, let's not think of self for the moment. Let's say even thinking of self is also important, after all remuneration is not that bad in the government sector to maintain a reasonably good standard of living. The travel gurus say that while on a journey the destination is not of sole importance, the journey itself may have many thrills. Let's embark and explore the possibilities to find our destinations and mould them according to our needs and that of our nation. The deal may not turn out to be that bad in the end, eh! Help the Nation, Help the Specialty and Help Yourself!

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