

SUBJECT PREFERENCE FOR POST GRADUATION IN MBBS INTERNS 2017 BATCH OF NKP SALVE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCE AND RESEARCH CENTRE, NAGPUR

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Abstract

Background: The subject the interns choose for post-Graduation directly implies the spectrum of doctors which will be available for the health care system. Many factors like higher income, prestige, hospital-based practice, job availability, parents' field etc. affect the subject choices for post-graduation study. The aim and objective are to assess the choice of branch for post-graduation among 2017 batch Interns of NKPSIMS, to study the factors influencing their decision, To know their willingness to work in rural areas.

Materials and Methods: A cross sectional, questionnaire-based study was designed and performed in April 2022. Total 130 interns were participated in the study. The questions were intended to know the choice preference of the interns as regards clinical/para-clinical/non-clinical branch, specific preference towards one branch and the factors influencing it. **Result:** In this study, 97.6% of the interns were interested in pursuing a PG course. The 2.4% who weren't interested, wished to become IAS/Medical Officer. About 95.28% interns were interested in a clinical subject while 4.72% interns were interested in para-clinical subjects. **Conclusion:** Medicine, surgery and allied subjects were preferred subjects in our study Para-clinical and Nonclinical subjects were lagging way behind the clinical branches.

INTRODUCTION

The subject the interns choose for post-Graduation directly implies the spectrum of doctors which will be available for the health care system. There are various factors on which such choices depend like higher income, prestige, hospital based practice, job availability, parent's field etc.^[1,2] Apart from this personal life experiences, interest to work in community-based settings and passion to provide care and service to patients.^[1]

Internship presents an important stage in a medical graduate's life as this is the time when the interns get a first-hand experience of different subjects in medical field clinically.

Through this study we hope to find out the subject-wise preference for PG course among 2017 Batch Interns.

Aims & Objectives

- To assess the choice of branch for PG among 2017 batch Interns of NKPSIMS.

- To study the factors influencing their decision.
- To know their willingness to work in rural areas.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A cross sectional, questionnaire-based study was designed and conducted in April 2022.

130 interns participated in the study and informed consent from all the participants was taken before starting the study.

The questions were intended to know the choice preference of the interns as regards clinical/paraclinical/non-clinical branch, specific preference towards one branch and the factors influencing it.

RESULTS

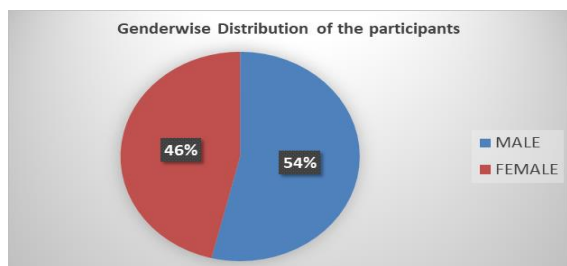


Figure 1: Gender wise distribution of the participants
Out of total 130 interns, 54% interns were male and 46% were female.

Table 1: Distribution of interns according to type of branch

Type of branch	No. of interns	Percent (%)
Clinical	121	93.08
Para-clinical	6	4.62
Total	127	100

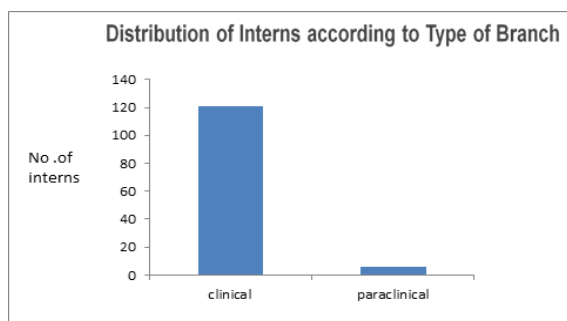


Figure 2: Distribution of Interns according to type of branch

Table 2: Distribution of interns according to choice of subject

Choice of subject	No of interns	Percentage
Anaesthesia	2	1.57%
Dermatology	9	7.08%
Ent	3	2.36%
Medicine	34	26.77%
Obs-Gynae	14	11.02%
Orthopaedics	15	11.81%
Ophthalmology	13	10.23%
Paediatrics	12	9.44%
Psychiatry	2	1.57%
Surgery	10	7.87%
Radiology	7	5.51%
Community Medicine	4	3.31%
Pathology	2	1.51%
Total	127	100%

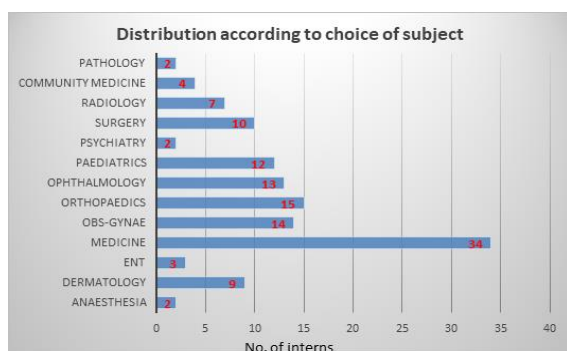


Figure 3: Distribution according to choice of subject

DISCUSSION

- In this study, 97.6% of the interns were interested in pursuing a PG course.
- The 2.4% who weren't interested, wanted to become a Medical Officer.
- 89.7% interns were interested in a clinical subject while 4.7% in para-clinical and 5.5% in non-clinical subjects.

This indicated that inclination towards primary care or diagnostic specialties was not significant.

- We found that Medicine was the most sought for branch with about quarter of the interns preferring it as their choice of subject which was similar to the results obtained by studies performed in Manipal Medical College, Malaysia and among Japanese Medical Students.^[1,2]
- Female interns in our study preferred for Obs-Gynae and Ophthalmology more than male interns. Similar results were obtained by studies in Japan, Turkey and Switzerland.^[3,4,5]

CONCLUSION

- Medicine, surgery and allied subjects were preferred subjects in our study
- Para-clinical and Nonclinical subjects were lagging way behind the clinical branches.
- Measures and incentives should be put up in such subjects to attract more young doctors as these are the branches which work towards basic primary health care of the community, diagnostic sciences and are the ones who become the teachers of basic sciences.
- Promotion of interest among interns and better work facilities should be sought after.
- Being a study concerning one medical college it may not reflect the true picture in India for which large scale quantitative studies are needed.

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