

AB007. OP-7 The knowledge, attitude, and behavioral levels of 5th and 6th grade medical students on obesity, bariatric and metabolic surgery: a survey study

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Background: The knowledge and attitude level of medical students on combating obesity, which is an important public health problem for the world and our country, is extremely important. This survey study aimed to measure the knowledge, attitude and perception levels of 5th and 6th grade medical students on obesity, bariatric and metabolic surgery in our country.

Methods: A twenty-five-item Likert-type survey was prepared considering similar studies and the conditions of our country. After being applied to the expert group and a small group of students as a pretest, ethics committee approval was obtained and it was implemented through SurveyMonkey. The responses were obtained by reaching students through social media groups, student associations and work groups.

Results: The survey was answered by 625 students. The margin of error of the survey was calculated to be around 4% at a confidence interval of 95%. It was found that the basic obesity assessment levels of the students were high. The rates of the response that surgery is required for three main indications among the bariatric and metabolic surgery indications were respectively 76%, 69%, 52%. It was found that of the students, 72% did not know about the mortality rates of the surgery and 53% would not refer his/her relative to surgical treatment when indicated. The rate of the students thinking that the faculties provide adequate

education about obesity, bariatric and metabolic surgery was 45%.

Conclusions: In this report where the preliminary results of a large survey study were presented, it was determined that the knowledge and perception levels of the students in our country on the basic assessment of obesity were acceptable, while their attitudes towards bariatric and metabolic surgery were negative. These results suggest that bariatric and metabolic surgery should be more included in medical education programs.

Keywords: Obesity; bariatric and metabolic surgery; knowledge; medical education

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Ethical Statement: The authors are accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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