



# INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (HQs.)

(Registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860)  
Mutually Affiliated with the British & Nepal Medical Associations  
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**11.08.2021**

**New Delhi**

To,

**Shri Rajesh Bhushan**

**Secretary**

**Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**

**Government of India**

**Respected Sir,**

**Sub: IMA requests inclusion of the Family Medicine as a mandatory department in the Minimum Requirements for Annual M.B.B.S. Admissions Regulations, 2021 to fulfill NMC requirement of Chapter V, 24(1)c, 25(1)J and Chapter VIII, 57(2)(p).**

IMA, the largest professional body of the modern medical professionals, brings to your kind notice, today India is studded with the scenario of the super-specialty centred, fragmented, focal, expensive, segmented and instruments-oriented health care delivery system. The Indian traditional Family Medicine concept envisioning continuous, cost-effective, comprehensive, community-oriented wholistic health care is on the ebb of extinct. However, the reincarnation of Family medicine concept and culture in our country will bring affordable and accessible health care to our community.

As per the National Medical Commission (NMC) act 2019 sections 24 (1) c, 25 (1) J, 57 (1), Undergraduate Medical Education Board shall develop a competency-based dynamic curriculum for addressing the needs of primary health services, community medicine and family medicine to ensure healthcare in such areas, in accordance with the provisions of the regulations made under this Act. Also, it mentions promoting and facilitate postgraduate courses in family medicine.

Family Medicine MD was introduced by MCI in 2012 but only five medical colleges developed Family medicine Departments and postgraduate MD courses out of 542 medical colleges in India. As there is no department of family medicine is existing as per the CBMC medical education requirement, hence students are not exposed to the Department of Family medicine resulting in neither takers nor avid interest in this specialty in the postgraduation too.

By making the MD program in Family Medicine widely available, this new generation of Family Medicine postgraduates can provide comprehensive medical and surgical care to the communities in the rural, suburban and urban areas. All the members of a family can get benefitted from attending one Family Medicine post-graduate doctor's facility instead of going to 4 or 5 different specialists.

**Purity of Profession – Parity in Healthcare**

All communications intended for headquarters office should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary General



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This can only be fulfilled by making mandatory Family medicine departments by National Medical Commission. This will make all the medical colleges have a family medicine department and dedicated faculty to teach family medicine curriculum as per NMC Gazette requirements. Having a separate family medicine department will also promote medical students to pursue post-graduation courses in family medicine which will produce a diverse family medicine workforce that meets the health needs of the community.

Today the General practitioners who are serving as the primary care physicians in the rural areas need handholding and empowerment through continuous professional development training. It will not be possible for them to leave the practice and get trained in the mainstream medical colleges. NMC shall device such methods of recognizing the General practitioners across the country with the structured short term worked based learning modules to make them also a trained family physicians.

IMA College of General practitioners is doing multiple structured professional training programme to uphold them periodically.

We once again appeal to you sir to:

1. Ensure family medicine departments to be initiated in each medical college and encourage more colleges to start PG degree courses in Family Medicine.
2. Empower the general practitioners with structured professional development programs to make them trained family medicine specialists.

Awaiting your positive response.

Thanking you with kind regards

**Dr. J A Jayalal**

**National President, IMA**

**Dr. Jayesh Lele**

**Honorary Secretary General, IMA**