

Unconditional Acceptance

There has to be an Unconditional Acceptance of whoever comes for healing. We must treat each person who comes for healing as an embodiment of the divine. We must be human about mistakes that may happen. We must bring sensitivity back. Unconditional Acceptance encompasses dignity, respect, equality, spirituality, care, hope and human rights.

A Privilege

In Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, we are taught that unless you get involved with peoples' lives, you cannot really learn, and you cannot help them properly. If you get involved, they help you, and you can help them. You cannot separate the work from the life. We have tried to get our students and staff to recognise it ~~is~~as a privilege to work here, and, you also get paid.

The Most Important Skill

The most important skill is examining people. With the technological advances, we are tending to push people into MRIs or abdomen scans without examining them. That will not do for medicine and most certainly not for Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. Training people so that the skills of examining are not lost is vital. The joy and the magical effect of touching the patient, caring for them and showing them that you really want to be involved with them need to be preserved.

Role of Doctors in India

India is a resource-constrained society. Doctors here have to constantly ask themselves, which is the best way to treat the individual within the context in which he or she lives. We have to decide what is best for him/her and not what is the best in the world.

Doctors have to be good teachers, not only of medical students, but also of patients who come to see them. If we see our role as agents of change, it is much more effective than just having a narrow range of skills in curative services.

My Dream

My dream for Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PMR) as well other medical professionals is that we will always remember that ethical treatment is always the best for the patient, us and society.

The privilege of the education we have comes with the huge responsibility; that responsibility is to treat our fellow citizens with the highest and best quality of medical treatment in the most ethical way that is possible.

We have to look at what we do, keep examining and simplifying, drawing out what does not matter and looking at the evidence really carefully so that we put the limited resources to use in a way that benefits the largest number of people.