Specialty programs in psychiatry in Poland

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Abstract

Introduction: Specialty training in psychiatry in Poland lasts for 5 years (60 months). During this time a trainee is obligated to attend certain internships and courses. In an attempt to prepare physicians to direct clinical work, recently the specialty training program has been updated.

Objectives: The main goals of the specialty training is to achieve theoretical and practical background to diagnose and cure patients according to the latest knowledge.

Methods: Specialty training ensures a robust and strong foundation to build specialist skills.

Results/Discussion: We have our doubts if the new curriculum is actually better. New specialty program consists of six courses and five internships. The most important and the longest among them is the internship on general ward for adults in a clinical ward and in a in-patient ward (40 months). Other internships include: neurology, child and adolescent psychiatry, neuroses treatment and addiction treatment. Compared with the new training program, the previous one consisted of seven obligatory courses and nine internships in: general psychiatry on hospital wards (22 months), the internship on daily ward, in mental health unit, internship in consultant psychiatry, neurology, child and adolescent psychiatry, neuroses treatment and addiction treatment. The last internship is devoted to deepen trainee’s own interests in psychiatry. Specialist training in Poland does not contain psychotherapy course. Following successful completion of five years of training, a trainee will take the final exam. Once a trainee has passed the written and oral exam, he becomes a specialist in adult psychiatry.

Supplementary material: Complete presentation available at http://ijcnmh.arc-publishing.org

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