

# ***The Doha Undergraduate Psychiatry Education Workshop***



## **Recommendations**

### **Content**

- Emphasize the biopsychosocial approach to mental illnesses: their causes, manifestations and treatment.
- Emphasize the multifactorial etiology to both medical and psychiatric illnesses.
- Emphasize the richness and complexity of the interactions between structure and function, biology and psychology, nature and nurture.
- Ensure core competencies of knowledge, attitudes and skills that are adaptable to different cultures are met.
- Core curriculum should include at least 4 weeks of a diversified and rich “hands on” clinical experience.
- Students should be exposed to common and treatable psychiatric disorders early in their training.
- Family, religion and spirituality need to be assessed in their cultural context, using systematic methods of assessment.
- Stigma, poverty and migration should also be addressed in their cultural context, and mechanisms of coping such as resilience should be identified.

### **Format**

- A variety of teaching methods should be used to ensure that core competencies are met, including lectures, problem or team-based learning, small group discussions, videos and e-learning.
- Senior students and residents should be encouraged to participate in the teaching process, particularly in situations where resources are limited and teachers are few.

### **Assessment**

- Assessment should include knowledge as well as attitudes and skills, using multiple and complementary assessment methods.

### **Recruitment**

- Emphasize factors that are unique about psychiatry in an effort to recruit more physicians into the field: rapport with the patient, quality of life, mind-body medicine, a comprehensive and humanistic approach to the patient.