

**“Enhancing Interprofessional
Collaboration and Learning for
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

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Title	MEDICAL NUTRITION EDUCATION - A COMMUNITY CENTRED APPROACH TO NUTRITIONAL TRAINING FOR UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL STUDENTS
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Community-Based Education for Health and Social Care Students</i>
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Abstract N ^o	TUFH658
Content	<p>Background Malnutrition has always been the leading cause or risk factor of all major morbidities, be it communicable diseases like Tuberculosis, childhood morbidities or non communicable diseases. Diet and Nutrition needs to be at the forefront of all healthcare interventions and, it becomes crucial to address the role of nutrition in healthcare. In light of this, the department of Community Medicine, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi adopted a unique exercise of personalized, hands on, community based training in nutrition, for undergraduate medical students. This novel initiative was developed keeping in mind the key role of medical students as future healthcare providers. Moreover, having a community based approach further enhanced the impact by engaging another stakeholder, the people, and thus initiated a chain reaction ultimately leading to healthy dietary practices in the community. Methodology- Medical Nutrition Education has been integrated within the MBBS Curriculum through a series of classroom based discussions and simulations on nutritional theories, hands on diet demonstrations followed by community based nutritional assessment and needs specific diet demonstrations. An annual National Workshop on Diet and Dialogue engaging undergraduate students, to cater to different dietary needs of the Indian Population is also organised. Results This initiative has resulted in an increased skill set for medical students. Being the first college in India to take up an initiative like this, it has paved the way for others to follow suit. Conclusion: Innovative initiatives and curricular modifications must be sought after, to strengthen training, promote health and be socially accountable.</p>