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Impact of integrated / direct 6 years DNB CVTS residency in the filling of CVTS seats at the national board counseling? Review of 6 years Indian data. Is it time for medical council of India to follow suit

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In developing countries, the Cardiothoracic training courses have intensified over the last decade and continues to do so with revamped protocols.

The 6 year integrated superspeciality courses is making inroads nowadays for the right and several reasons. It takes in applicants into the long rigorous module who are confident about their ambition straightaway after the undergraduation.

There is no wastage of time involong the bridge between speciality and superspeciality which may take months-years.

There is no deviation as grads come out in flying colours as a superspecialist in contrary to the 3 + 3 years where people often get carried away, confused and diverted away from their dream after the 3 year surgical course.

We aim to find out whether it has inspired more prospective applicants into the stream in terms of choice at counseling over the last 6 years and compare it with the conventional 3 years model. Final data was compared with the recently concluded superspeciality counseling results.

National board of education website was accessed and counseling data from year 2012 through 2017 was taken for both DNB(Diplomate of National Board) CVTS(Cardiothoracic and Vascular surgery) 3 and 6 years residency seats. Filling rate for the above mentioned years was taken for DNB CVTS 3, 6 years stream and compared. Average filling rate for both streams was compared again with MCh(Master of Chirurgiae) CVTS course vacancy rate obtained from NEET superspecialty counseling held in 2017.

The average filling rate for DNB 6 years course was 98.2% while it was 22.28% for DNB 3 years course from 2012 till 2017. As for MCh CVTS course, filling rate was 29.37% for the year 2017.

The reception for direct 6 years DNB CVTS course is better among prospective applicants when compared with conventional 3 years model and MCI can consider introduction of direct 6 years MCh CVTS course.

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