

## Research justice in medical sciences universities: old concept with new application

Hasan Ashrafi-Rizi<sup>1</sup>, Fatemeh Zarmehr<sup>1</sup>

## Journal of Research & Health

Social Development & Health Promotion Research Center Vol. 7, No. 4, Jul & Agu 2017 Pages: 885 - 886 DOI: 10.18869/acadpub.jrh.7.4.885 Letter to Editor

1. Department of Medical Library and Information Science, Health Information Technology Research Center, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran

Correspondence to: Hasan Ashrafi-Rizi, Department of Medical Library and Information Science, Health Information Technology Research Center, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran

Email: hassanashrafi@mng.mui.ac.ir

Received: 19 Nov 2015 Accepted: 2 Jan 2016

How to cite this article: Ashrafi-Rizi H, Zarmehr F. Research justice in medical sciences universities: old concept with new application. *J Research & Health*2017; 7(4): 885 - 886.

## **Dear Chief in Editor**

Research is key element of sustainable development and long term development is impossible without integrated research system [1]. The most important step in creating useful and efficient research platform will be strengthen motivation of researchers in universities particularly medical sciences universities to research activities and eliminate research obstacles [2]. Numerous studies about barriers to research in medical sciences universities have been done [3-4] which findings showed that lack of enough motivation, lack of researchers' sensitivity to society's problems, lack of adequate support and encourage are the highest barriers. This fact will lead mid to the concept of Research Justice (RJ). This term was introduced by Trivedi which means what contribution and assignment of each author in paper, research project and thesis [5]. But authors of this article go beyond to mentioned items (subjects) and research justice that includes all of research's areas. But what is research justice? Research justice is to provide context in which research's practitioners (faculty members, students, research staff and managers, etc.) provide grounds for personal and organizational growth according to their capacity. In simple terms, fair and equitable distribution of opportunities for those involved in research in medical sciences was reinforced by two

factors: Motivation and Self-actualization factors.

1) Motivation factors: motivation factors are those help to growth of mind and cause to promote self-esteem, such as senior management support of research, reduced activity in clinical departments, reducing of faculty's time teaching, increased funding research and appropriate behavior of research staffs to researchers (professional ethics).

2) Self-actualization factors: These are factors contribute to have understanding of fact and ability to accept ourselves and others and move beyond to ordinary people and start to innovate, like providing continuous learning platform, facilitating research activities (eliminate research administrative obstacles, accelerate the process of approving and implementation of the results

of research, easy access to research consultants as expert in research methodology and statistics and strengthen libraries and laboratories), to create opportunities for all research activities in various roles include editor in chief, referee and member of the editorial board of the journal, research council's member, manager, research vice president, research analyst and according to the capacity of individuals, disciplines, schools. The most important means of solving health issues based on accurate and up to date research results depends on strengthen motivation of all involved in research and also provide sufficient environment and opportunities for academics to carry out research activities, especially it should be done by senior managers of medical sciences universities. Obstacles such

lowering team's morale, overload in the field of health, lack of facilities for research, inadequate funding, personal opinions interfere in evaluation and approval of research projects and theses as well as disregard for merit in the selection of managers and management experts cause to not happen research justice. So it is important that medical sciences universities pay attention not only to the increased quantity and quality of scientific research but also to research as the prime stimulus in promoting research activities.

## References

1- Karimian Z, Sabbaghian Z, Saleh Sedghpour B, Lotfi F. Internal obstacles in research activities: faculty members'

- viewpoints in Shiraz university of medical sciences. *Iranian Journal of Medical Education*2012; 11(7): 750-63
- 2- Anbari Z, Jadidi R. Comparing of barriers to research activities among students of Arak university of medical sciences, and appropriate strategies for student research management. *Iranian Journal of Medical Education*2013; 13 (5):435-48.
- 3- Roxburgh M. An exploration of factors which constrain nurses from research participation. *J Clin Nurs* 2006; 15(5): 535-45.
- 4- Parahoo K, McCaughan EM. Research utilization among medical and surgical nurses: a comparison of self-reports and perceptions of barriers and facilitators. *J Nurs Manag*2001; 9(1): 21-30.
- 5- Trivedi J K. Research justice. *Indian J Psychiatry* 1998;40(1): 1-2.

Copyright© 2016 ASP Ins. This open-access article is published under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License which permits Share (copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format) and Adapt (remix, transform, and build upon the material) under the Attribution-NonCommercial terms.