





How do we get Gender Medicine into medical education?
Comment intégrer la médecine du genre dans l'éducation médicale?

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Contents

1. The legal basis
2. What exactly is Gender Medicine?
3. The implementation concept used at Innsbruck Medical University
4. Results and lessons learned



1. Legal Basis




Treaty of Amsterdam, 1999: Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

Gender Mainstreaming integrates a gender-sensitive perspective into all concepts and plans. This means that the different situations of women and men are given consideration and all actions are examined for their gender-specific effects.

All actions are designed to promote **equal opportunities** for women and men.

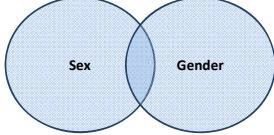


2. Gender Medicine






Gender Medicine = sex- and gender-specific medicine


Genetic/physiological or biological characteristics of women or men



Cultural, social or psychological differences of women and men

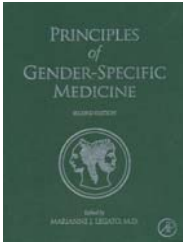


2. Gender Medicine




Gender Medicine

Gender medicine means that all "truths" of medical research are examined for their accuracy with regard to each sex and their effects on any differences between the sexes.



Gender Medicine provides evidence-based research results in prevention, diagnosis and treatment for women and men independently of age, ethnicity, culture or religion.


3. Implementation



The implementation concept used at Innsbruck Medical University - Objective

... to familiarize the students with Gender Medicine and make it a talked-about subject.

If a differentiated view of women and men is to become medical normality, it can only happen through medical education.



3. Implementation

Gender Medicine is covered in the curriculum in three ways:

1. Gender Medicine as its own discipline (compulsory) – since 2007/2008
2. Gender Medicine in the medical specializations (elective) – since 2005
3. Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Medicine in postdoctoral lecture qualification (compulsory) – since 2007

3. Implementation


1. Gender Medicine as its own discipline – Gender Medicine I and II

- Gender and sex differences based on scientific research in all medical disciplines
- Gender-specific tools for future professional use
- Definition of terms
- Gender-specific prejudices and stereotypes in diagnosis
- Difference in efficacy of pharmaceutical products
- Gender-specific doctor-patient conversations

3. Implementation

2. Gender Medicine in the medical specializations – lecture series


- Covers various medical specializations: e. g. Oncology, Cardiovascular Diseases, Neuroscience, Immunology, Emergency Medicine, Prevention
- Overview of the current state of gender-specific research
- Lecturers: the heads of the various clinics and research departments of the medical university



3. Implementation

3. Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Medicine in postdoctoral lecture qualification – S.O.S Teaching

- Raising awareness for a gender-specific view of medicine among the teachers
- Application of the Gender Mainstreaming concept in teaching
- Gender Medicine in medical-didactic training



4. Results and lessons learned

Current integration of Gender Medicine


Compulsory

- Human and Dental Medicine programme
- Molecular Medicine, Bachelor's Degree programme
- Clinical Medicine, PhD programme
- Allied Health Professions (technical staff, nurses)
- Post-graduate programme for postdoctoral lecture qualification

Electives

- Lecture series for medical specializations: Accreditation for: physicians, pharmacologists, psychologists
- Annual training for the Austrian Physicians Association in Grado

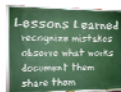
5,655 students reached since 2006



4. Results and lessons learned

Lessons learned

- **Incorporation** of Gender Medicine into existing programmes and the compulsory curriculum
- **Cooperation** with medical specialists at the institution
- **Support** of the management staff
- **Networking** within the medical university, the second Innsbruck university and the local training facilities for healthcare and nursing professions
- **Continuity** of course offerings
- **Innovation** and development of new concepts







Conclusion

- Gender Medicine is only taken seriously as a medical discipline when it is offered as a **compulsory lecture**.
- Under the given framework: Gender Medicine as its **own discipline** and **interdisciplinary lecture series** and efforts to **teach the teachers** would seem the best approach.
- **Gender Medicine means precisely this: examining every research project, every medical treatment, every new development for its consequences for women and men and making Gender Medicine a matter-of-fact part of medical education.**







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