

Medicine

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Figures and structure

In the winter term 2017/2018, 2,566 students were enrolled in the degree program Medicine (among them 182 students in the 1st term) and in the summer term 2018, 2,595 students studied medicine at the FAU (1st term: 182 students). In the academic year 2017/2018, 59.3% of the enrolled students were female. The percentage of women studying Medicine increased as compared to the academic year of 2016/2017 by 0.3%.

According to statistics of the FAU, 7.1% of the students enrolled in the degree program Medicine in the above mentioned academic year were foreigners.

Applicants for this degree program are chosen according to the criteria of the "Stiftung für Hochschulzulassung" (foundation for higher education admission) through the corresponding online platform. Applicants for the degree program Medicine are able to improve their chances of receiving a program place at FAU by participating in the so-called "Test für medizinische Studiengänge" (test for medical degree programs) or having completed previous vocational training. Taking the test is, however, optional. Applicants who decide to take the test get a chance to improve the grade of their higher education entrance qualification (Abitur).

Online-evaluation

Each term, courses offered within the degree program are evaluated online by the students with the help of the online evaluation platform EvaSys. The results of this evaluation are presented by the Dean of Students in the faculty council where they are discussed once per term. A major part of the state funds is distributed among the institutes and departments belonging to the UK Erlangen according to the results of the online course evaluation. Each term the

students vote for the best lecturers and monetary sums are awarded to the department or institute to which the winner belongs. It is noteworthy that the teaching awards are financed by the achievement-oriented funds allocation (LOM). The best three instructors of the clinical part (terms 5 – 10) of the degree program medicine receive grants of 5,000, 3,000, and 2,000 euros, respectively. For the degree programs Dentistry, Molecular Medicine, and Medical Process Management, the best instructors receive 5,000 euros each. Instructors in the pre-clinical or theoretical part of the degree program (term 1 – 4) receive certificates only as grants cannot be awarded due to cameralistic accountancy they belong to. Additionally, the departments that offer the top ten classes according to the students' evaluations are awarded a total of 165,000 euros. A class can, however, only be taken into account for a grant if at least 20% of the students have participated in its evaluation.

Skills Lab PERLE

The Skills Lab PERLE offers students an opportunity to learn and practice medical examination skills with the help of well-trained student-tutors and doctors. Students can practice about 40 different skills, e.g. auscultation, catheterization, taking blood with the help of artificial arm-models, lumbar puncture, suturing, examination of nervous system as well as of eye and ear, preparation for clinical electives (Famulaturen), the practical year (Praktisches Jahr), as well as practical examination. Skills Lab PERLE, fully funded by student fees, is a visible enrichment of the medical education in Erlangen. Practical courses using different training models as well as simulators can be attended by all students during the term. Additionally, PERLE offers special training hours during the term and structured courses during the lecture free time. In addition, practicing in PERLE within the frameworks of the Introduction into Clinical Medicine (EKM) course, the practical training in urology as well as surgery is a part of the teaching curriculum. The course "PERLE International" has been introduced to meet the special learning needs of the foreign students and is being offered on a regular basis.

SimPatiK

(Simulated Patients in Hospital)

The simulation hospital where the students can train with simulated patients has opened in October 2018. The trainings of medical students can be carried out in seven rooms, decorated as

patients' rooms with integrated one-way mirrors. With the help of simulated patients it is possible to introduce the courses for communicative skills in clinical settings as a teaching method.

According to their given roles the simulated patients are able to simulate various diseases from different areas of medicine as well as feelings, pains, and anxieties accompanying those diseases. Depending on the specific learning goals and competence areas the simulated patients can play their roles in different clinical setting. The realistic simulated communication training described above, especially covering burdensome issues, makes safe practicing of clinical history interviews and consultations possible which adds tremendous value to the safety of real patients. Moreover it is usually not possible to get a feedback from the real patients in clinical daily practice. Simulated patients are trained to give feedback from the patient perspective. The learning situation can be reflected upon in seminar groups with teachers, peers, and simulated patients. The structured feedback in the reflection phase is content as well as related social communicative behavior, which fosters the improvement of the skills.

The specially trained simulated patients are able to repeat their standard roles within examination situations. There are first experiences of their employment for the Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE), for the state examinations, as well as for team trainings in the collaborative healthcare provision.

The many years of experience with the simulated patients have proven that the training situation is perceived as being especially authentic. Currently ten departments of the Faculty of Medicine use simulated patients and the demand is rising.

Medical State Examination

In 2017 the Medicine students in Erlangen ranked the fifth place in Germany and the first place in Bavaria in the First State Medical Examination (first part of the physician exam). In the Second State Medical Examination, the students have reached the fourth place in Bavaria and the tenth place in the general ranking of Germany. In 2018, the students in Erlangen have topped their results in the First State Medical Examination by achieving the third place in German ranking and the remarkable first place in the Bavarian one. In the Second State Medical Examination the students in Erlangen finished eighth in the general German ranking and third in Bavaria.