MEDICAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP: IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURIAL PASSION ON NASCENT ENTREPRENEURIAL BEHAVIOUR AMONG MALAYSIAN MEDICAL STUDENTS

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BACKGROUND

In recent years, healthcare is on the cusp of modernization and change. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought health, wellness, and medicine into limelight. To contribute effectively to this changing healthcare scenario, medical students need additional competencies in addition to patientcare. The nascent entrepreneurial behaviour of Malaysian medical students has not yet been explored. Based on the theory of planned behaviour, intentions lead to behaviour. Thereby, this study was undertaken to examine their passion, intention and behaviour towards entrepreneurship.

OBJECTIVES

To assess the perception of medical students with regards to their passion for entrepreneurship, intention to be an entrepreneur and investigate its relationship with their nascent entrepreneurial behaviour.

METHODS

- Study Population: Medical students in all five years of training in International Medical School, Management & Science University, Malaysia.
- Research Paradigm: Post positivist
- Research approach: Quantitative (adapted, validated questionnaire used)
- Research Design: Cross sectional analytical survey
- Sampling technique: Disproportionate stratified random

RESULTS

318 medical students voluntarily participated in this study. Entrepreneurial passion had a significant positive impact on entrepreneurial intention (β=0.73, t=24.002, p<0.01) with large effect size (f=0.403). However, its impact on nascent entrepreneurial behaviour was insignificant (β=0.12, t=1.906, p>0.05). Mediation analysis showed a significant mediating role of entrepreneurial intention (specific indirect effect=0.448, 95% CI=0.839, p<0.01). Thereby, entrepreneurial intention fully mediated the relation between entrepreneurial passion and nascent entrepreneurial behaviour of the study population.

CONCLUSION

- The study results posit that medical students demonstrate poor nascent entrepreneurial behaviour despite having passion for entrepreneurship emphasizing that passion alone cannot lead to behaviour without prior intention.
- Entrepreneurial education could tap the entrepreneurial passion among medical students by enhancing their self-efficacy to convert market opportunities into relevant health-oriented products, and services.

LIMITATIONS

- Data from a single medical school in Malaysia which limits the generalizability of results.
- Limitations of a self-reported questionnaire.
- Cross-sectional study design involving a single cohort.

REFERENCES


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