Continuing Medical Education in Pakistan: Experiences and Perceptions of Female Gynecologists

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ABSTRACT

Working Relationship between the doctors and the pharmaceutical industry are very old. This relationship gets stronger in developing countries such as Pakistan where there is no role of the regulatory bodies to monitor such activities. Pharmaceutical companies are now focusing more in sponsoring the medical fraternity in the continuous medical educational programs. This study has been conducted to understand the experiences and perceptions of female gynecologists on Continuous Medical Education (CME). The purpose of conducting this study was to evaluate female gynecologist’s perceptions regarding participation in continuous medical education.

Data was collected using a survey questionnaire from a sample of 500 practicing female gynecologists in urban areas for duration of 3 months.

The findings indicate that CMEs are desired by the female gynecologists since they are considered as useful in the field of Gynecology. The majority of the respondents believe that participating in CMEs that are either certification or workshop CMEs may have a positive effect in the prescribing habits. The CMEs are preferred when sponsored by the Pharma companies and may be either local or international CMEs.

Keywords: Continuous Medical Education, Gynecologists, Prescribing habits, Pakistan, Experience and perceptions.