COOPERATION BETWEEN BIOMEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS, A CHALLENGE FOR HEALTHCARE

NAME OF AUTHORS: Mélanie Amrouche, Robin Walz, Barbara Comte

INTRODUCTION

The lack of recognition, biomedical professionals are facing today is a major challenge to the strengthening of healthcare in low and middle income countries (LMICs). Accordingly, biomedical training programs are still erratic in LMICs. In the aim of stimulating the development of such programs, the Humatem, an NGO in official relations with WHO, conducted a study on partnerships between biomedical training programs in francophone Europe and francophone Africa.

METHODOLOGY

1 – Creation of a list of biomedical training programs
2 – Distribution of survey
3 – Interviews

THE TARGET & RESPONDENTS

23 French-speaking African countries >> 22 biomedical training programs in 11 countries
22 responses
11 responses

EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS

Percentage of French programs in partnership with African programs: 15.4%
Percentage of African programs in partnership with French programs: 7.7%

Success factors:
- Strong involvement of the two institutions and their supervision
- Compliance of the training levels
- Common language
- Presence of an official agreement

CHALLENGES

- Academic and administrative constraints
- Lack of human and financial resources
- Cultural differences

DIFFERENT MOTIVATIONS

- Strengthening of the training programs
- Need for knowledgeable instructors
- International deployment of biomedical expertise
- Opportunity for shared facilities and adequate equipment
- Local and international visibility
- Intercultural exchange

SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE BIOMEDICAL SECTOR

- Better qualification level of the degrees
- A solution to the lack of qualified biomedical human resources in LMICs
- Strengthening of the biomedical services in health structures
- Better understanding of the real situation of health structures internationally
- Creation of networks and international cooperation
- Improvement on the quality of healthcare provided and the safety of patients

SOME RECOMMENDATIONS TO FACILITATE THE CREATION OF PARTNERSHIPS

> Promote the partnerships through the dissemination of this study
> Facilitate initial contact between institutions
> Create a platform that will allow training different institutions interested in creating partnerships to connect
> Help to define and to write the agreement
> Accompany to the fundraising

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