

Society for Emergency Medicine India

Full member of International Federation of Emergency Medicine (Established in 1999) (Regd. No. 3602/2000) www.semi.org.in

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Dr. Dina Shah - North

Dr. Khusrav Bajan - West

Dr. Anish Baneriee - East

Dr. Sowjanya P. - South

BOARD CIRCULAR - JUNE 08, 2017

To
National Board Members
Vice Presidents
State Board Members
SEMI-MEM Coordinators & Faculty
All SEMI Members

Articles/Posts with Misleading and Incorrect Information about Academic Training Programs Conducted by SEMI

Dear Members

This is bring to your kind attention that various news media articles, blogs, forums and online discussion groups have suddenly begun to criticize our most important initiative, which is our academic training program SEMI-MEM. The highlight has been placed on the fact that our training program is not recognised by the Medical Council of India and that ours is a fake degree. Comparison is being made with the DNB and MD training programs and that only these two are legitimate and all other programs in India are illegal.

It is sad to note that neither the journalists nor the authors of these articles/posts have written to the Head Office for our Society's official statement.

It is a known fact that any new medical specialty goes through several stages of development within a country and that this takes several decades to reach completion. Our Society was created to develop emergency medicine specialty simply to improve emergency patient care within all our hospitals. At the same time, create the best doctors to spread the knowledge of our specialty. It is with this intent that one of our larger goals was SEMI-MEM academic training programs.

Many Societies, deemed universities, Govt and non-Govt organizations, special interest groups, hospitals, IMA, etc, offer various capacity building training programs for doctors which are not recognised by MCI.



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Important Facts about SEMI-MEM

- 1. Our Society's first program was the 1 year Diploma in EM which has now been phased out. SEMI-MEM was conceived when neither MCI nor NBE had recognised emergency medicine.
- 2. SEMI-MEM was one of the three 3-year EM residency programs when introduced, apart from 3-year MD (A&E) by deemed universities and the 3-year MCEM started by Apollo.
- The curriculum for SEMI-MEM was developed by our Society's Academic Council members and revised several times with inputs taken from our International advisors, including International Federation for Emergency Medicine (IFEM).
- The structure of training and curriculum content is at par with the expected standards for EM residency training. The examinations are also at par with the best possible standards.
- The inspection of hospitals intending to start SEMI-MEM, review of faculty and review of emergency departments also follows a standardized format.
- 6. Only qualified allopathic doctors who have completed their MBBS and registered with the Medical Council of India, can undergo SEMI-MEM training and certification. Only MBBS doctors with emergency medicine qualification can become primary faculty within MEM training centers.
- Our Society presented the SEMI-MEM curriculum to the NBE during its Special Advisory Group meetings and this served as an early template for the current DNB curriculum for EM.
- 8. Our Society also volunteered to the MCI to help develop the curriculum for MD (EM). However to this date, the MCI has not defined any curriculum for its MD (EM) program.
- Unlike the MCI and NBE, the primary faculty & coordinators for SEMI-MEM training can only be from emergency medicine and not from other specialties.



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- 10. Our Society always has had a disclaimer in all documents stating that SEMI-MEM does not come under the purview of the Medical Council of India, and cannot be registered.
- 11. All SEMI-MEM trainees are also recommended to sit the MRCEM examinations after their MEM training in order to gain MRCEM which can be registered as an additional PG qualification under MCI.
- 12. As per SEMI-MEM coordinators meeting (dated 02-April-2017 at Bangalore), all trainees joining from the next batch will receive a Certificate of Completion of Training (SEMI-CCT) instead of Masters, in order to avoid conflict with MCI qualifications. This has been adopted from United Kingdom.

Our Society has maintained the highest credibility of training of our doctors and this is true simply due to fact that the SEMI-MEM has been adopted by more hospitals than all other EM training programs combined. In addition, all our trained doctors are building their careers in EM, majority of them within India.

Our Society maintains its focus and vision towards ensuring expert emergency medical care is available to each and every citizen, in all our cities and towns in India. The hospitals which have started SEMI-MEM, the Heads of their EM departments, coordinators, their staff and SEMI-MEM trainees are those who will ensure this happen.

Society for Emergency Medicine India will continue to spread and develop all our academic initiatives, including the SEMI-MEM residency training, until a point where the MCI/NBE programs are able to positively fulfil India's huge need for emergency physicians. In addition, SEMI will continue to support the expansion of MD (EM), DNB (EM) and all other academic training programs related to EM.

On behalf of the National Board, Executive Chairman and Co-Chairman

Dr. Imron Subhan
President
Society for Emergency Medicine

