

## INVESTIGATING OSTEOPOROSIS KNOWLEDGE AMONG PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL STUDENTS IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL

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**Introduction:** The incidence of osteoporosis is increasing worldwide; however, gaps in treatment are apparent with some studies reporting that only 33% of patients with fragility fractures are started on pharmacologic osteoporosis treatment.

**Methodology:** The Osteoporosis Knowledge Test (2012) was used in this study to investigate the baseline osteoporosis of our institution's physicians, and possibly identify any knowledge gaps that may be addressed through creation of clinical pathways or care bundles. A total of 166 participants made up of medical students and physicians of varying specialties who commonly encounter osteoporosis patients were sampled

**Discussion:** Geriatric medicine attending physicians scored the highest, with a mean score of  $28.3 \pm 0.6$  out of a possible score of 32, or 88%. Fifth year medical students scored the lowest with a mean score  $\pm$  SD of  $19.8 \pm 3.6$ , or 62%. Physician groups in general scored higher than the medical students in our sample; however some groups did not achieve statistically significant higher scores. This may indicate gaps in knowledge that may still need to be addressed. Use of clinical pathways and care bundles may improve outcomes and standardize quality of care among physicians.

**Conclusion:** Results may indicate gaps in knowledge that may still need to be addressed. Use of clinical pathways and care bundles may improve outcomes and standardize quality of care among physicians.