

# 5<sup>th</sup> International Medical Summer School, It's fun to learn

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Article from Mr Debmoy Ghatak, Second Year Medical Student,  
West Bengal University of Health Sciences  
Kolkata, India

Winner of the 'Doctors Academy World University Anatomy Challenge  
2013'





# WJMER

World Journal of Medical Education and Research

*An Official Publication of the Education and Research Division of Doctors Academy*

5<sup>th</sup> International Medical Summer School, It's fun to learn



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An Introduction to Emergency Medicine

Anatomy of Trauma, Emergency Medicine and Operative Procedures



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How does addiction occur?

The diagnostic work-up of stable chest pain at a large university teaching hospital

Interview with Professor Laurence Kirmayer, Director of Cultural Psychiatry

### Introduction

The World Journal of Medical Education and Research (WJMER) (ISSN 2052-1715) is an online publication of the Doctors Academy Group of Educational Establishments. Published on a quarterly basis, the aim of the journal is to promote academia and research amongst members of the multi-disciplinary healthcare team including doctors, dentists, scientists, and students of these specialties from around the world. The principal objective of this journal is to encourage the aforementioned, from developing countries in particular, to publish their work. The journal intends to promote the healthy transfer of knowledge, opinions and expertise between those who have the benefit of cutting edge technology and those who need to innovate within their resource constraints. It is our hope that this will help to develop medical knowledge and to provide optimal clinical care in different settings. We envisage an incessant stream of information flowing along the channels that WJMER will create and that a surfeit of ideas will be gleaned from this process. We look forward to sharing these experiences with our readers in our editions. We are honoured to welcome you to WJMER.

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Contact

Doctors Academy, PO Box 4283,

: Cardiff, CF14 8GN, United Kingdom

: Abbey Bookbinding and Print Co.,

: Unit 3, Gabalfa Workshops, Clos

: Menter, Cardiff CF14 3AY

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: Doctors Academy, DA House, Judges Paradise, Kaimanam,

: Trivandrum, 695018, Kerala, India

: Sreekanth S.S

: Lakshmi Sreekanth

: wjmer@doctorsacademy.org.uk

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**Mr Debmoy Ghatak**

Second Year Medical Student

West Bengal University of Health Sciences, Kolkata, India

Address for correspondence:

Mr Debmoy Ghatak: [debmoyghatak@gmail.com](mailto:debmoyghatak@gmail.com)

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**Mr Debmoy Ghatak**

I can summarize my overall experience of the Future Excellence International Medical Summer School in one word: GREAT!

Let's start from the very beginning shall we... I was in my 1<sup>st</sup> year in Medical College, Kolkata. I discovered from a senior student that there was a National Anatomy Quiz approaching. Anatomy had been my favourite subject so far and I had become the senior prosector of our Anatomy Department. I joined up for the quiz and sat for the screening test. The results on the next day revealed I was through to the next round. From onwards I managed to overcome the hurdles of the quarter-finals, semi-finals and eventually the final...to be crowned the champion of the National Anatomy Challenge.

Doctors Academy was one of the organisers of KARMIC 2013 (Kolkata Annual Research and International Medical Congress) and the National Anatomy Challenge was a part of this event. As the winner of this competition I was given direct entry into the World Anatomy Challenge being held as part of the Doctors Academy's 5<sup>th</sup> FEIMSS event at the University of Manchester, UK. I was really very excited to get the invitation letter!

However, it was no easy task organizing my trip to

Manchester. Neither Doctors Academy or the Indian Medical Student's Association (IMSA), (another collaborator of KARMIC), could provide a travel bursary. I approached my College, Ex-students' Association, Department Of Higher Studies, Department of Health and Family Welfare, my university (West Bengal University of Health Sciences), the Chief Minister and even the Governor of our State but none of them gave me sponsorship for my trip. Finally, after a great deal of effort (especially near the time of my examination), I got my visa, flight tickets were confirmed, and my accomodation arranged. The Boeing 767 of Qatar airways took off from the Kolkata International Airport in the early hours of 11<sup>th</sup> August taking us first to Doha, and then to our final destination: Manchester.

In Manchester my accommodation was in the Grosvenor Halls of Residence, in the University Campus, whilst my parents stayed in a local hotel. In the Grosvenor residence lobby I first met all the students from different countries who had come to attend the FEIMSS.

The next day, we got our registration and then the introduction. We got to know about the educational schedule for the day and the social events for the evenings. Then seven renowned surgeons from different



specialities told us about a week of their lives; there was a cardiothoracic surgeon, a neurosurgeon, a plastic surgeon, a general surgeon, an ENT surgeon and an orthopaedic surgeon. Each surgeon provided us with an insight into their respective specialty – I enjoyed the talk from the cardiothoracic surgeon because it is my dream to be a heart transplant surgeon.

The next three days were awesome. We attended the lectures, workshops and the social events which were organized for FEIMSS delegates. In the lectures we learnt about the recent developments in the fields of cardiothoracic surgery particularly about the new procedures and techniques. We became accustomed to the abbreviations LVAD, ECMO, TAVI, PCI, CRT, CABG, MID-CAB, TE-CABG and many more things, and what they stand for. But the workshops were the most enjoyable as we got to know how to assess acutely unwell hospitalised patient, how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), how to insert a chest drain, how to suture, how to tie a perfect surgeon's knot, many other basic surgical skills....and not to forget the laparoscopy session!

During the lunch breaks I would sit with my new friends and spoke about the methods of medical education in the countries that we are from, what the syllabus in each year includes and what is the pattern of learning. We also discussed where we intend to study in future and what things drive us to be a good surgeon and a good doctor. We exchanged our ideas about our future plans, our dreams and I thoroughly enjoyed these times socialising and sharing ideas.

Finally the moment that I had been waiting for arrived: World Anatomy Challenge happened which is what I'd come all this distance for. The primary elimination round was the last event on 15<sup>th</sup> August. It was a set of 40 questions shown on a slide show that we had to answer in 20 minutes in a paper. The results of screening were released the next day... and from 260 participants in the summer school, 32 students got selected, and I was overjoyed to discover that I was one of them.

The Quarter Final of World Anatomy Challenge then took place with the 32 students being divided in 4 groups of 8, each for 4 consecutive heats. I was in the first heat and I got selected with another student for the Semi-Final (of 8 students). All the questions were read out and then we had to answer by pressing the buzzer – this meant we only had a fraction of a second to think and buzz. It was a true test of nerves particularly if someone got a question wrong! In the Final there were 4 students remaining – they were all brilliant and this was my biggest test. I was unable to answer the a first few questions and when I glanced at the score board, I was running a little behind the others. I told myself “you have still got a chance so don't give up, you can do it and you will have to, come on.....” I nailed the next few questions, went up the score board and finally secured enough marks to go ahead; from there I didn't have to look back. And finally the score board said “TOP SCORE – DEBMOY G”. Everyone in that lecture theatre gave me a standing ovation, I couldn't have done it without their support and best wishes. Words fall short to explain that feeling. Thank you to all my friends out there.

Then there was the prize giving session where I got a replica of a shield on which my name will be inscribed as a winner of World Anatomy Challenge 2013 and a prize cheque, to top off the day.

In the end, all my success is a credit to my mom and dad, who are the polestars of my life. Without their support it couldn't have been possible. They brought me to this world, they gave me all the amenities, they nurtured my skills and they raised me to be a good child, a good person in society and a good doctor for the future.

I also want to thank Doctors' Academy for giving me the chance to compete with students on such an international stage and to allow me to join the 5<sup>th</sup> International Medical Summer School. I will remember this Summer School not only for the things that I've learned, not for the things that I have done but also for the happy memories that I have taken back home with me and that I shall no doubt cherish for the rest of my life.



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