UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Medical Consultation for Migrants With The Order of Malta

2627-4-H4101D393

Aims

People who live in marginal conditions are significantly more exposed to the chronicity of pathological clinical situations that, if not adequately treated, end up weakening the body, leading them with greater probability towards emergency/urgency conditions that constitute a burden on the National Health System. In other cases, it is precisely the poor health conditions, linked to the onset of a disease, that lead the person on a path of progressive marginalization that culminates with becoming homeless.
The discussion is in some respects similar, although not identical, for irregular migrants. A plausible estimate is that approximately 20% of those residing in the city of Milan do not have a health card or even an STP code. They too are “invisible”. They often live with family members and acquaintances, and for fear of being expelled they turn to the Emergency Department only when their health conditions require it due to a state of emergency/urgency. Among them there are many elderly people, many of whom may fall into the frailty situation. The aim of the course is to provide the student with the opportunity to learn about these realities through a free medical consultation initiative, in which all the people who turn to the initiative will have their blood pressure, oxygen saturation and blood sugar levels measured.

Contents

A medical and scientific collaboration conducted within the framework agreement between the University of Milan-Bicocca and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. The initiative is based on the provision of a free medical consultation to migrants and homeless people. Doctors and volunteers of the Order of Malta participate in the initiative. Students are given the opportunity to learn about the different types of pathologies in a protected but non-clinical environment.
It will be possible to use the data collected for the drafting of degree theses or scientific articles.

Detailed program

The present project aims to:

1. identify, within the Milanese and Lombardy area, the frail “invisible” elderly among the populations of regular and irregular migrants without healthcare and the homeless;
2. identify a multidimensional care model to adopt appropriate preventive and/or corrective interventions.

The approach that we propose to adopt in this project is functional to move away from the classic “emergency” perspective, that is, aimed at covering the most urgent emergencies and needs, to move to a logic of prevention of critical issues. In the current system, public intervention is activated primarily in a logic of last resort and aims to provide minimum protection in moments of greatest difficulty through the use of Emergency Department facilities. However, this approach entails an enormous social and economic cost, of which there is progressively greater awareness. There is an ever-increasing need for new methods of intervention aimed at minimizing the need for emergency solutions, maximizing instead the efforts to prevent the phenomenon and provide a rapid solution through the provision of integrated responses.

Prerequisites

Be enrolled in the 4th year or higher of the Medicine and Surgery course, or the 3rd year of the Nursing or Obstetrics course.

Teaching form

Participation in practical activities of measuring blood pressure, oxygen saturation, fingerstick blood glucose measurement

Textbook and teaching resource

N/A

Semester

All year round, except July and August

Assessment method

Participation in activities for at least one Sunday (9.30-15.30)

Office hours

To be agreed by email
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Sustainable Development Goals

NO POVERTY | GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES