



Dr. Rajas Deshpande

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The Indian Medical Saraswati!

In spite of tough training in medical subjects and patient care through gruelling schedules, doctors seriously lack certain skills. Besides administration, doctors in India are also deprived of special training in fluent, correct communicative languages, handling of finances, dealing with goons and violent relatives. But the most serious concern in today's medical training in India is lack of orientation towards proper use of medical literature, research resources, searching, referencing and presenting academic as well as research papers. Students, teachers and professionals often waste far too much time searching and referencing, and time is a precious commodity for this group of professionals.

A medical librarian, Mrs. Vasumathi Sriganesh, realised this long ago, and ventured to rectify the shortcoming, via her own platform named QMed.

QMed Knowledge Foundation is a Mumbai based not for profit Trust. This Foundation is primarily working to make a change in the medical and allied health education and research areas. The trust has conducted over 200 workshops on how to search the medical & allied literature and how to use reference management softwares to correctly and easily insert citations and references in theses, journal articles and more.

QMed's mission is to reach out its courses to every nook and corner in the country. To make this possible QMed has done the following:

- a) The courses can be done in "bytes" - an average learning video is just about five minutes long
- b) The courses can be done at one's convenience
- c) Currently there are four courses that may take about a total of 15 hours, but can be done over a full year
- d) They can be done on a mobile or on a computer
- e) The courses are affordable (annually 40K for a medical college, 25K for a hospital and 15K for a small research institution. For individuals we ask for a donation of Rs 2000 (or more if they can give)
- f) UG students are offered incentives to learn these early in their academic journeys! (we ask for a donation of Rs 250/- and they have great chances of winning prizes of 250, 500 or 1000)
- g) In addition, QMed offers support by way of group webinars - and even with short personal consultations.

Mrs Vasumathi has gained recognition as a speaker by the MUHS and MMC, and as a member of the Academy of Health Professionals and Educators.

I am proud to associate myself with QMed and appeal to all medical students in India / Anywhere to utilise the resource to evolve beyond being an average doctor without research orientation. I think all medical institutions in India should associate themselves with QMed.

Hats Off to this Indian Medical Saraswati!

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Please share for every healthcare professional.

