

MEET OUR TEACHER

S. R. Tankhiwale

Dr. NNB - Sir, we all know you as a teacher, but we would like to know about your childhood.

I was born at Wardha. My childhood was from Wardha including the schooling. I moved to Nagpur for my pre entrance examination of B. Sc. Part I. I was interested in playing foot ball in school days and was playing at left - in position. Our team was always district champion. I also used to take the classes in classical music as it was the culture in our family then. I have actually passed two preliminary examinations of vocal music but my music teacher then banned me from attending classes because my music was ruining the attendance of his class.

Dr. NNB-Sir, were you predetermined to pursue a career as a doctor? What influenced you to come to Medical profession?

It was definitely the inclination towards the medical profession. This was because one of my fast friends was a doctor's son. I used to go his father's clinic and used to watch how he talks with patients and still interesting was one of his patient who used to give the doctor one box of 'gulab-jamun' everytime and I used to get a big chunk of share of it. So I used to think that if I become doctor I can also get 'gulab jamun' every time.

Dr. NNB - Sir, during your medical training which teachers influenced you?

It is not one teacher who influenced me. It was Dr. P.N. Dube from Anatomy, Dr. Sood from Physiology, Dr. Shivde from Pathology, Dr. Rajapurkar and Dr. Dashputra from Pharmacology, Dr. Lele, Dr. Sainani & Dr. Chaubey from Medicine, Dr. Gharpure from Surgery and the list is endless.

However the most important person who changed my life was Dr. B.S.Chaubey. We all know how terror he was in wards. But he taught me Medicine and helped me on many critical situations.

I was working in Kidney unit under him and there was

one serious patient in the unit. Since I was alone, I used to stay in kidney unit day & night. The relatives of the patient noticed this. The next day at 9.30 pm Dr. Chaubey came to kidney unit and told me to go to my room, take food and relax for couple of hours. He (he was Professor & Head that time) was on my call for almost three hours. I can't forget such moments.

He taught me how to teach. Actually when I was taking clinic of one of the junior batch, he stood beside me and watched how I was teaching the students. He told me in

front of all students that I have not covered some important points in that case and he banned me from taking regular classes for three months. He asked me to take only evening class of the junior students. Since then till today I have developed the habit of taking evening clinics. I still take evening clinic of students.

Dr. NNB-What do you think are your best contributions to the branch of medicine?

I have worked at Nagpur, Aurangabad, Ambajogai and Yavatmal. The majority of my service was in Marathwada. I am told

by few of my students from Aurangabad that they still refer to my notes of lectures which I taught them.

At Nagpur it was my tradition to take regular class for postgraduate students from 12.00 noon to 1.30 pm only for the PGs posted in my unit. This used to help them for their studies.

I am basically internist and of old era I believe in clinical evaluation and diagnosis based on it. I even today want that my students should first discuss diagnosis based on clinical findings than investigations.

During the felicitation ceremony at Nagpur, Dr. Chaubey was asked by someone as to whom he thinks as best teacher next to him. Dr. Chaubey declared my name to this answer. What more contribution one can expect than this appreciation.

Dr. NNB - What is the message for Medical teachers



today? How should they prepare for lectures in the era of internet.do you advocate the usage of powerpoint during lectures or believe that black board teaching is still the best.?

One has to take extra efforts to make the lecture effective. It is not that the use of power point presentation makes the lecture effective.

I am presently working as head of department of Medical Education. We conducted one survey of “perception of students on Black Board versus Power point teaching by Teachers”. We noticed that 70 % students stated that the black board teaching is more effective than power point presentation.

But I feel that a proper amalgamation of Black Board and Power point presentation is useful. The teaching Media for lecture is useful only partly to make the lecture effective. What is more important is to make student understand the subject. I think in Medical disorders, Pathogenesis of the disease is most important. The teacher should give more stress on the pathogenesis of diseases.

My sincere and elderly advice to my young teachers is that every teacher should do **SWOT analysis** of their teaching. One should identify the strengths, weakness, opportunities and Threats in their teaching. Try to overcome the weakness by strengths and one can be a good teacher.

NNB - Now a days doctors have been more of investigation based practitioners than clinicians. Do you think this is a result of CPA or due to lack of clinical training?

There is no harm at all to have investigation based practice today. But the battery of investigations should come only after making proper clinical diagnosis. Unfortunately we are losing the clinical acumen today. This makes the patient to spend lots of money unnecessarily.

Dr. NNB- None of us know about your non medical interests. Can u tell about some of your interests?

I am interested in listening classical music at my leisure time specially the light music of late babuji (Sudhir Phadake). This might be because Mr. Sudhir Phadake was our family friend and My eldest brother was always accompanying him on Tabla during his Programs in USA. I also like watching TV only in the evening hours for one hour to get the relaxation. My favorite channel is

any Marathi news channel and to watch only one day cricket matches.

Dr. NNB - If you are asked to enumerate most defining moments of your life.. what are they?

Dr. Chaubey attending my clinic and criticizing on it in front of students, Dr. Chaubey doing my duty as resident in Kidney unit and Dr. Chaubey Calling me as best teacher after him are the moments which I can never forget in my life.

Dr.NNB - Administration was never your cup of tea in the past. How do find this new responsibility as an administrator?

Yes I was never interested in administration. But some responsibilities came to me as compulsion. I think I am doing fine in this new responsibility.

To be frank, after doing almost 35 years teaching job, now I am looking after a separate department of Medical Education. This is a totally new department and deals with many new aspects of medical Education. Our department of Medical Education is unique in its nature. We have full fledged Communication as well as Behavioral and attitudinal Lab. This Lab is the only of its kind in the entire country. No other Medical College has such fully equipped Lab. We have skill lab for basic as well advanced life support and the students are posted in this lab regularly.

We have also generated the Learning resource material including Question bank and model answers and our students use the LRM for study purpose regularly.

The department of Medical Education at our institute has started the Post graduate course of Master in Health Professions Education. This is the only university level course in the entire country.

Not only this, the doctoral course in Health Profession Education has also been started by the University and I am the first person doing my Ph.D in Health Professions Education. All these responsibilities keep me busy even today.

Dr. NNB - Sir you were instrumental in reviving the VAPI journal. How did you achieve this difficult thing ?

I was really not instrumental in reviving the journal. Each one of you contributed in this process. Actually the process was already in existence. I only made some efforts to upgrade it. It was all due to encouragement of all of you that I could do this job.

Dr. NNB - Any message to our Journal?

The journal has now taken some definite shape. It is our job to make it more publicized so that people all over will know about it. First thing we should do is to create a web site of journal and load all current and future issues on it.

We should make attempts to go for now indexing by higher agencies like MEDLER or even PUB MED. This will require heightening of the standard of articles being

published. This is not a difficult task and I am sure that under the able guidance of Dr. Anil Modak and valuable suggestions from Dr. Mrs Holey and other members of executive body this can be done very easily.

I thank all the members of organizing Committee of association of Physicians of India, Vidarbha Chapter for giving me this honor and for publishing my views on this occasion.

Long live the association