

Decolonizing Medical Education & Research: Perspectives from young healthcare professionals in Kerala, India

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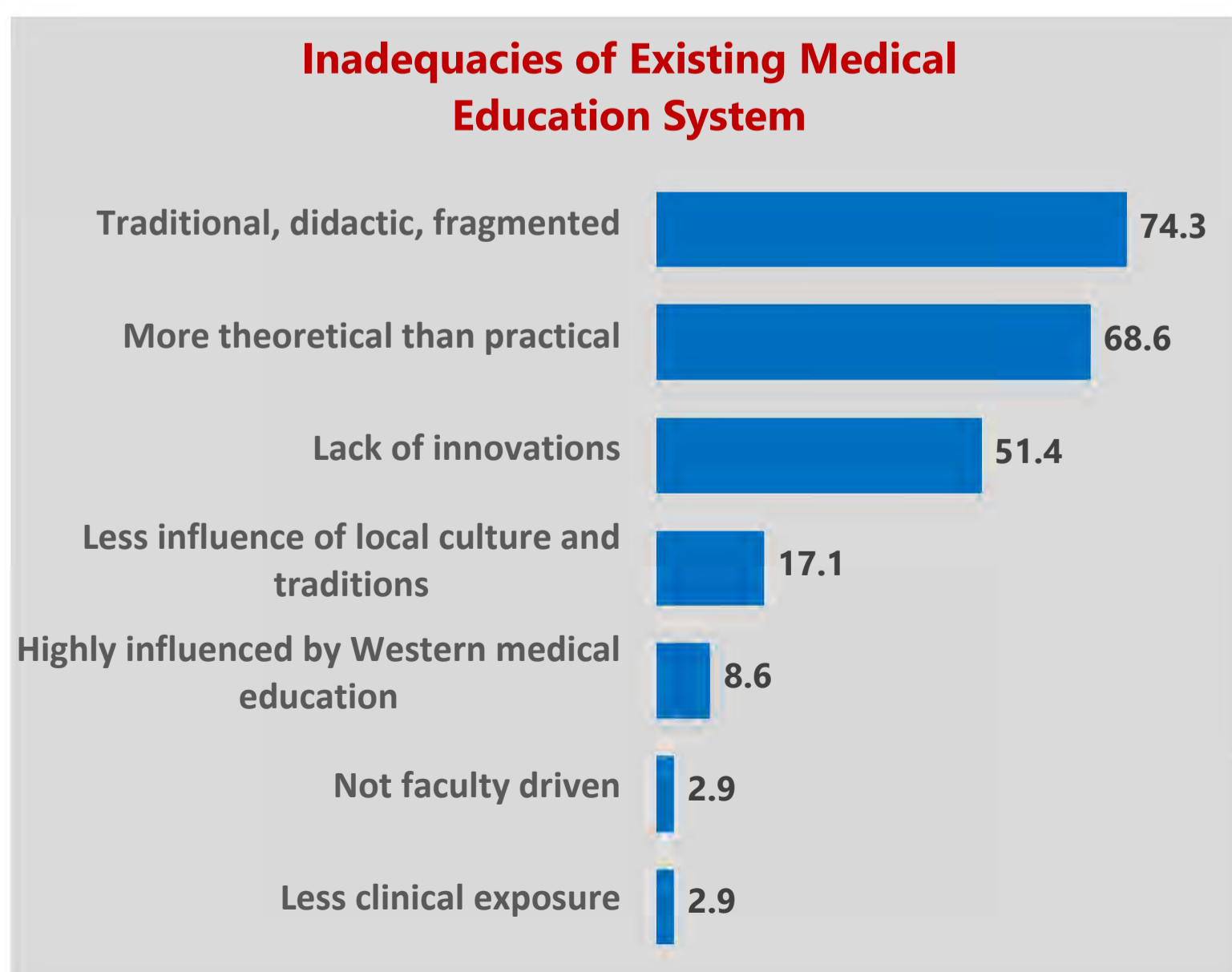
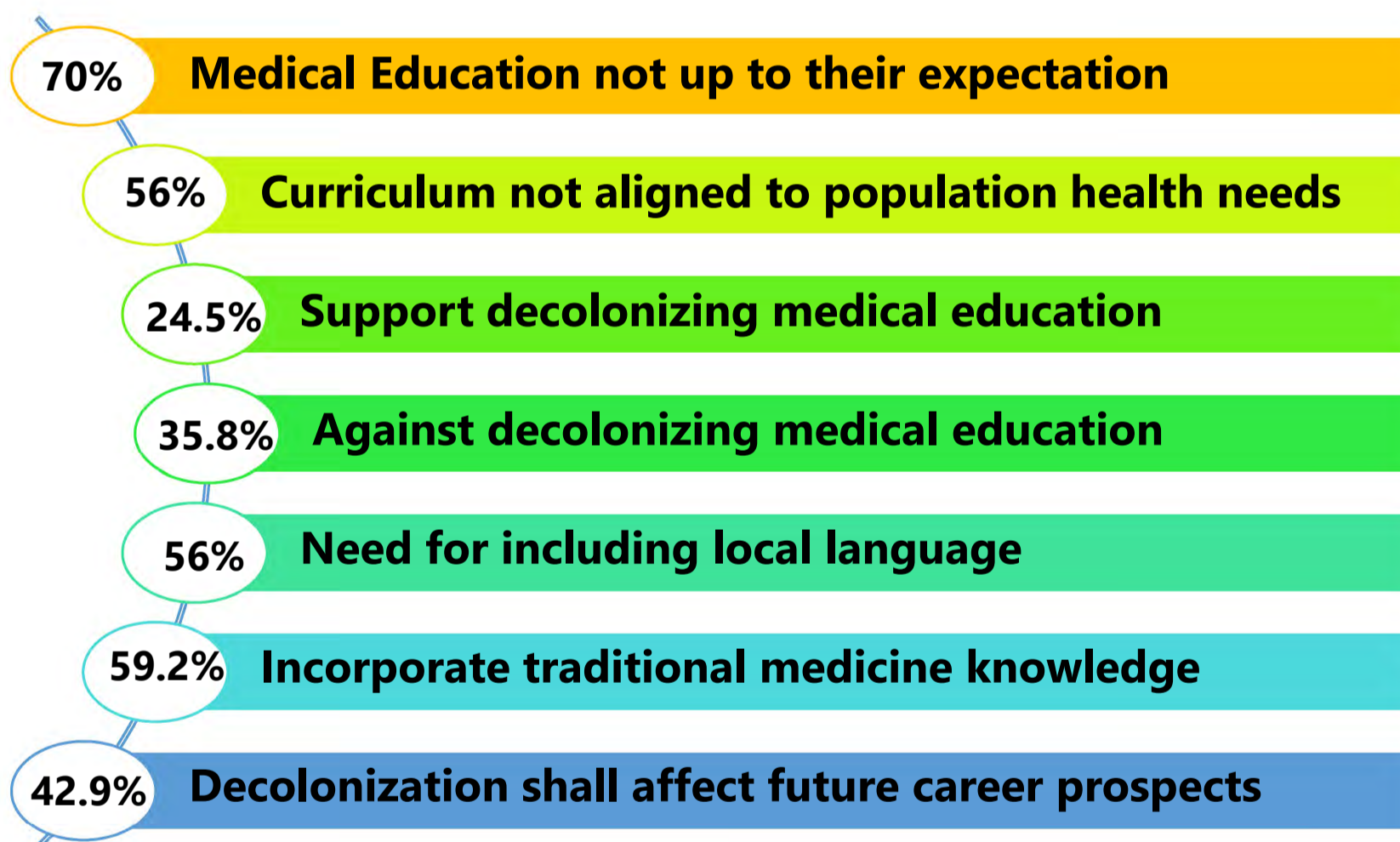
Background

Colonial remnants are still part of medical education and research, causing health system challenges i.e., dependency on English language, overlooking traditional medicine systems and cultures.

- The perspectives of young professionals are rarely reflected in reformative decisions and policies regarding the same.
- This original research was conducted to enrich wider discussion on decolonizing medical education through perspectives of young health professionals from Kerala, India.

Results

- Survey respondents included medical doctors, public health professionals and students.

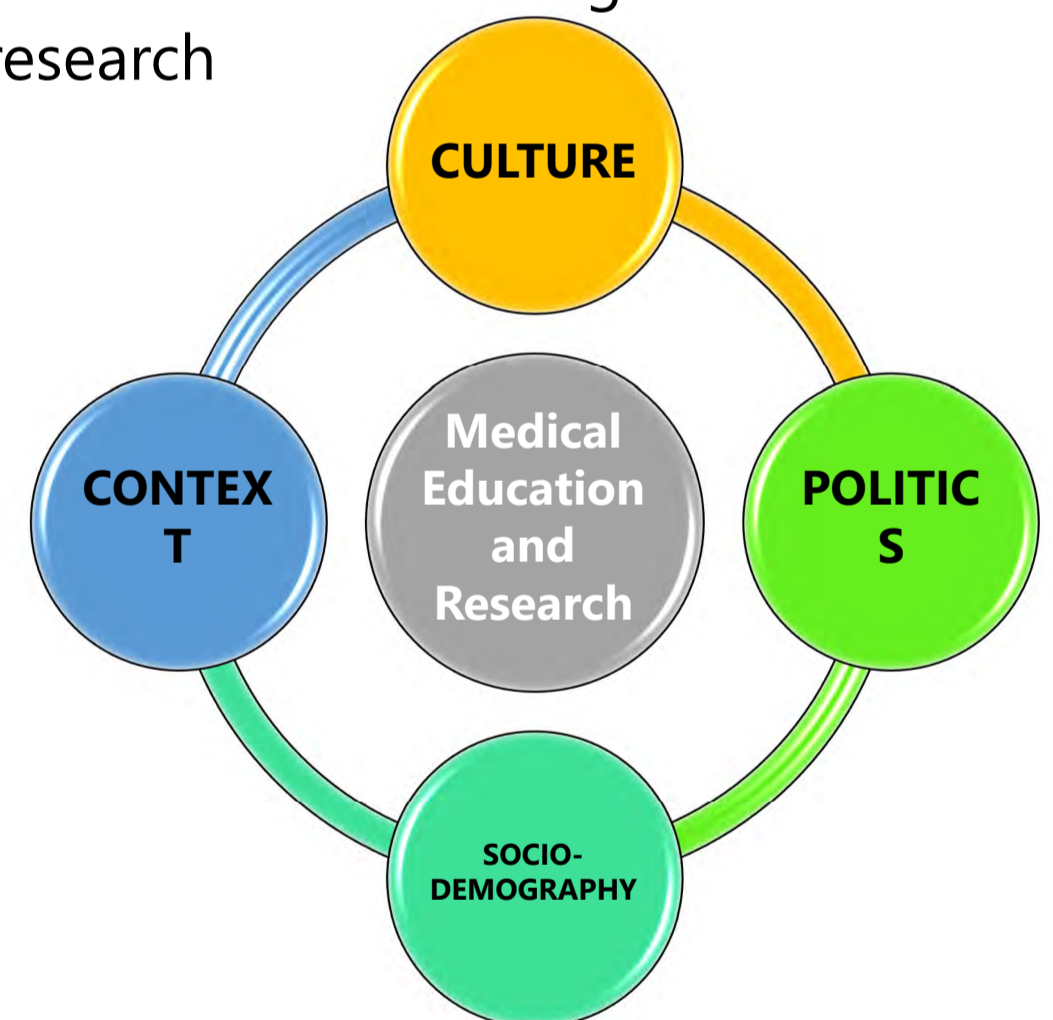


Methodology

- An online questionnaire focusing on opportunities, barriers and methods for decolonizing medical education was administered to fifty-two young healthcare professionals and students from Kerala during the period 01/08/2023 to 10/08/2023.

Conclusion

- The study corroborates previous understanding on decolonizing medical education and research to better align with population health needs.
- The findings from the study are mixed, highlighting both opportunities but also barriers towards these reforms.
- The study also points on how context, culture and socio-demographic dynamics influence viewpoints on high level political themes like decolonizing medical education & research



Recommendations

- Align health education to population needs based on epidemiology, research and scientific data.
- Incorporate indigenous cultures and traditions in education systems.
- Incorporate young health professionals' views during policy reforms on decolonization of medical education

References:

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