

## Perception of Educational Environment in a Private Medical College in Central India

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**ABSTRACT** There is a growing recognition of the importance of educational environment in effective student learning. There is a proven correlation between educational environment and valuable outcome of student's achievement, satisfaction and success. As learning environment affects student's motivation and achievement, it is important to get feedback from the students on how they feel about their learning environment. This study was designed to compare students' perception of educational environment among high achievers (HA) and under achievers (UA) and to identify gender differences in perception. Dundee Ready Education Environment Measure (DREEM) inventory (questionnaire) was given to MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) students. DREEM is a validated and a universal diagnostic inventory for assessing the quality of educational environment. At the end of the questionnaire students were asked to respond to an open ended question. Mean scores and standard deviation for each item was derived. Comparison of items between HA and UA and the two genders was done by unpaired t-test. Perception of educational environment rated by the present sample was average. DREEM domain scores in HA and UA revealed that as compared to HA, UA had significant positive perception regarding teachers, academic atmosphere and social self perception. Overall no significant difference in individual items and all five domains were seen in two genders. The results indicate that there is need for further enhancement in educational environment for more effective learning. Few problem areas require remedial steps.