

Editorial

Last year the Faculty of Medicine altered the arrangement of course instruction considerably. Even though the transition was more difficult for some, the student is now able to appreciate the advantages of these changes. We do not feel that the student's work load has been altered in any way, but certainly, the various courses that are given concurrently have more continuity under this revised program.

We are fortunate that our administration does not view the idea of change with awe. The different methods of prescribing a medical education are constantly being debated and it is through the experiences of other schools as well as through trial programs that the most suitable method for any one university can be found.

We would like to make a further suggestion. Since the number of general practitioners in Halifax is not sufficient to afford the clinic patient as much time as he deserves, we feel that the fourth year medical student should be called upon to help alleviate this shortage. In so doing, the student would get invaluable training in the patient's home, he would learn to cope with many problems other than those of the physical aspects of disease and he would develop further his sense of responsibility to the patient.

It is not for us to suggest the actual implementation of such a program, since this depends on the available source of patients and the available physician supervision; however, we feel that the mutual benefit from such a program would be an excellent adjuvant to this university's method of medical education, as well as being a public service.

P. D. M.

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Articles must be submitted by February 15.