Indian Journal of Basic and Applied Medical Research; March 2016: Vol.-5, Issue- 2, P. 304-307

**Original article**

**Comparison between traditional & objective assessment of written examination- A Pilot Study**

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**Abstract**

**Objectives** -The aim of this study was to improve the assessment system in the subject of Physiology for first M.B. B.S. students. For this, objective was, to develop marking scheme for each structured component of long answer questions and short notes in the written examination for easy correction and increasing reliability of assessment.

**Methods** - We considered a hypothesis that, there is no significant difference in the marking of long answer questions and short notes when the marking scheme was used (objective method ) and when it was not used (traditional subjective method). We considered objective method of assessment of written examination as more reliable method. We corrected answer papers of 110 students by abovementioned two methods of assessment. We checked whether there is any significant difference in the marking done by two methods by applying student’s t test. We also checked for what is that difference by analyzing mark lists. We took feedback from examiners to find out whether this objective method was helpful for easy correction & increasing reliability of assessment.

**Results -**When we considered total marks, there is significant difference in the marking done by two methods of assessment with t value 3.338 with p value < 0.005. Also there is change in the list of topper students and the list of failure.

**Conclusion –** The objective method of assessment of written examination should be implemented in practice to increase reliability of assessment and easy correction.

**Keywords** – Assessment, traditional assessment, objective assessment, written examination.