

# Research on Enhancing the Ideological and Political Teaching Ability of Medical Educators in the Digital Age

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**Abstract:** This paper discusses that in the era of digital education, medical education presents new characteristics and teachers face many challenges. Medical teachers improve their teaching ability and education quality through ideological and political teaching practice. Firstly, the characteristics of medical education in digital environment are analyzed. Secondly, to explore the application value of ideological and political education in medical education. Finally, the specific ways to improve the ideological and political teaching ability of medical teachers, including teachers' self-improvement, innovation of teaching methods, utilization of digital teaching resources, and optimization of teaching evaluation mechanism. This paper aims to provide a research reference for medical teachers to improve the ability of curriculum ideological and political teaching in the digital age.

**Keywords:** medical education, digital age, curriculum ideology and politics, teaching ability

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## Introduction

In the face of the digital wave, the field of education is undergoing a profound transformation, and medical education is also facing new development opportunities and challenges. As key participants in educational practice, medical teachers bear the responsibility of cultivating outstanding medical talents and are facing unprecedented teaching challenges. In the face of these challenges, medical teachers must actively update their teaching concepts, innovate teaching methods, deeply integrate digital technology with medical education, and deeply explore the inherent connection between ideological and political education and medical professionalism, so as to cultivate professional skills while strengthening medical ethics and values, cultivating new-era medical talents with socialist core values. Therefore, medical teachers urgently need to improve their curriculum-based ideological and political teaching ability, to ensure that the trained medical talents not only have a solid professional quality, but also have good moral character and correct values. This requires them to strengthen the application of ideological and political education in their courses, to meet the needs of educational reform in the new era, to cultivate medical talents with both ability and moral integrity, to promote the high-quality development of medical education, and to contribute to the realization of the Healthy China and Education Strengthening strategies.

## 1. The new challenges of medical education in the digital age

### 1.1 Characteristics of medical education in a digital teaching environment

### **1.1.1 The richness and convenience of teaching resources**

In the information-based education environment, with the leapfrog development of the new medical science, the variety and accessibility of medical education resources have been greatly improved. Compared with the previous education mode relying solely on textbooks and classroom lectures, modern medical education fully utilizes various digital means for teaching, with online courses, virtual laboratories, and simulated case studies as the main features of digital resources, thereby creating a more enriched, diverse, vibrant, and in-depth teaching and learning space for students and teachers, meeting the demand for teachers and students to access information anytime and anywhere, significantly increasing the convenience and flexibility of teaching, and simultaneously enhancing the quality of teaching.

### **1.1.2 The innovation and interactivity of teaching models**

The digital teaching scenarios have injected rich teaching methods into medical education, such as live-stream teaching, remote diagnosis and treatment, and virtual reality applications. These models not only enhance the visualization and interactivity of teaching but also help stimulate students' learning interest and active participation, thereby achieving a deep integration of theory and practice, effectively improving the teaching effect of clinical thinking ability and practical operation skills of medical students, and ultimately promoting the overall quality and effect of medical education<sup>[1]</sup>. Moreover, the real-time update and sharing of digital resources have injected new vitality into medical education, driving the dissemination and innovation of medical knowledge.

### **1.1.3 Teaching is personalized**

Digital teaching environment power medical education to realize personalized teaching, teachers can according to the students' learning progress, interest and demand optimization configuration of teaching resources, the cloud sharing meet with the demand of the latest medical knowledge and skills, to extend the field of medical education, fully develop students' potential, shaping innovative thinking characteristics. Considering the maintenance of ecological environment and rational utilization of resources, this education method also advocates students to try cross-field research, cultivate critical thinking and innovative skills, and adapt to the diversified requirements of modern medical progress on the quality of talents. This teaching method gives convenience to immediate communication, helps to enhance the close connection between teachers and students<sup>[2]</sup>, promotes the transformation of medical educators from imparting knowledge to cultivating ability, and helps to cultivate medical professionals with innovative ideas and practical skills.

### **1.1.4 Developing innovative thinking and lifelong learning habits**

In addition, it also promotes the improvement of students' critical thinking and clinical skills. Under the digital teaching environment, medical education focuses more on improving students' practical ability. Using virtual reality and augmented reality, students can carry out clinical practice in simulation scenes, reshape operation skills and strengthen innovative thinking exercise. Digital teaching provides students with a large number of practical cases to enable them to more accurately grasp medical knowledge and improve innovative thinking skills. Digital teaching environment, medical education broke through the stage limit, advocate continuous learning thinking, medical knowledge generation rate is extremely high, digital teaching platform become the channel of medical teachers and students progress, enable it to follow the pace of the medical development of the latest progress in the field of medicine, constantly improve their professionalism, laid a solid foundation for the future medical practice.

## **1.2 Challenges faced by medical educators**

### **1.2.1 Continuously improving medical knowledge reserves**

The explosive growth of medical knowledge requires teachers to constantly enrich their own knowledge reserves to ensure that the knowledge they impart to students is at the forefront. This not only requires teachers to invest a large amount of time in learning and research in addition to their busy teaching tasks, but also requires them to have excellent information screening and integration capabilities.

### **1.2.2 Carrying out dual teaching of theory and practice**

Modern medical education emphasizes the cultivation of practical skills, which means that medical teachers not only need to impart in-depth theoretical knowledge in the classroom, but also need to personally guide students in clinical practice based on the theoretical teaching. This teaching model has placed medical teachers in a dual role - both as knowledge transmitters and as practical skill guides. This role transformation has undoubtedly brought great work pressure to teachers. They not only need to ensure the depth and breadth of theoretical teaching to meet the academic needs of students, but also need to personally demonstrate and patiently guide in clinical practice, to ensure that students can master the necessary practical skills, requiring medical teachers to have higher professional qualities and a stronger sense of responsibility. In teaching, they not only need to focus on the transmission of knowledge, but also need to pay attention to individual differences of students, teach according to their aptitude, so that each student can continuously improve their medical literacy in the integration of theory and practice.

### **1.2.3 Professional ethics education and the cultivation of legal consciousness**

With the complexity of the doctor-patient relationship and the increase of medical disputes, medical teachers especially need to integrate the cultivation of professional ethics and legal awareness into teaching, so that medical students can establish correct values and medical ethics. In the future, it can better deal with the complex doctor-patient relationship and potential medical disputes. This is not only conducive to improving the doctor-patient relationship, reducing medical disputes, and injecting positive energy into the development of medical undertakings.

## **2. The value of curriculum ideological and political education in medical education**

### **2.1 The connotation of curriculum ideological and political education**

In China's higher education system, the teaching model of integrating ideological and political elements into professional courses represents an innovative educational concept, which infuses the essence of ideological and political education into the process of imparting professional knowledge, aiming to achieve the integration of knowledge and value orientation<sup>[3]</sup>. The connotation of curriculum ideological and political education is mainly reflected in the following three aspects: Firstly, it requires teachers to pay attention to the ideological growth of students while imparting professional knowledge, and guide students to establish the correct worldview, outlook on life, and values. Secondly, the teaching of curriculum ideological and political education emphasizes the integration of ideological and political education content and professional course content. Thirdly, the ideological and political teaching of the curriculum emphasizes the integration of ideological and political education content and professional curriculum content, promotes the integration of the value shaping, knowledge transmission and ability training contained in the curriculum, and strengthens the educational task of each course<sup>[4]</sup>. Finally, it advocates that teachers should adopt teaching methods such as case studies and practical teaching in the teaching process, so that students can feel, experience, and identify with the core socialist values through participation. Deepening the exploration of the connotation of curriculum ideological and political education<sup>[5]</sup> and cultivating more high-quality talents with firm ideals and beliefs, and comprehensive development.

### **2.2 The application significance of curriculum ideological and political education in medical education**

Curriculum ideological and political education is not only an educational concept, but also a teaching practice, which requires medical teachers to focus on cultivating students' sense of social responsibility, professional ethics, and medical humanities literacy while imparting professional knowledge<sup>[6]</sup>. Medical teachers need to have a high level of ideological and political teaching ability, and be able to skillfully integrate ideological and political elements with medical knowledge<sup>[7]</sup>, so that students can receive ideological and political education naturally in the process of learning professional medical knowledge, cultivate students' feelings of home and country, global vision, innovative spirit and practical ability, and improve their comprehensive quality.

It is helpful to cultivate medical students' professional ethics and comprehensive accomplishment. Medical major itself is a sacred cause related to people's life and health. Through ideological and political education, it not only cultivates their exquisite professional skills, but also pays attention to their humanistic qualities such as benevolence, materialism and dialectical thinking ability, so as to improve their professional ethics, humanistic quality and social responsibility. To strengthen the ideological and political education of medical students in the course and cultivate medical talents with exquisite skills is the inevitable requirement of the construction of national medical treatment and health undertakings and the development of people's health undertakings.

It helps to enhance the cultural confidence and teamwork ability of medical students. Medical professional has strong practicality and teamwork, through the long-term system of Chinese traditional culture output education and the influence of medical ethics, cultivate the medical students "healer, benevolence" consciousness, osmosis become the mindset and inspire their strong "China complex", establish medical students' cultural confidence, driven by the cultural confidence condensed consciousness, form a strong teamwork ability, make them in the face of complex medical problems, can work closely with team members, jointly provide high quality medical service for patients.

### **3. Path for improving the ideological and political teaching ability of medical educators in the digital era**

#### **3.1 Strengthening the ideological and political cultivation of medical teachers themselves**

Education is the cornerstone of national development, and teachers are the main force of education. Therefore, strengthening the ideological and political cultivation of medical teachers is not only related to the personal growth of teachers, but also related to the healthy development of the whole medical education cause. Take various measures, such as strengthening theoretical study, education training, theme lectures, build course education network platform, promote teachers to strengthen curriculum education consciousness, change education idea, help teachers to improve the ideological and political quality, build a high quality teachers, in order to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation contribute to the Chinese dream.

#### **3.2 Innovating the teaching methods and means of ideological and political education in courses**

In the digital education environment, the traditional ideological and political education model often fails to arouse students' learning interest and enthusiasm. It is necessary to reform from the teaching concepts, teaching strategies, teaching environment, and teaching tools to improve the effectiveness and appeal of ideological and political education, improve the quality and effect of ideological and political education<sup>[3]</sup>, and cultivate new-era talents with a sense of social responsibility, innovative spirit, and international vision.

In terms of innovating the teaching methods of ideological and political education in courses, try interactive teaching methods such as case analysis, warning education, group discussion, and role-playing to stimulate students' thinking ability and participation enthusiasm<sup>[8]</sup>, and feel the value of ideological and political education in real situations. In terms of innovating the teaching means of ideological and political education, utilize diversified teaching resources such as multimedia, network resources, and practical bases, combined with online platforms, virtual reality, and other modern information technologies, to design more targeted and practical teaching content, providing students with a richer and more vivid learning experience, and making them feel the practical significance of ideological and political education. Carry out extracurricular practical activities such as volunteer service, social investigation, and international exchange, guiding students to self-study, think critically, and understand the national conditions, so that they can better understand the world and embrace the future, and achieve self-education and self-improvement in the process of ideological and political education.

#### **3.3 Building the course ideological and political case base and digital system**

Each case is the ideological and political element in the specific teaching content, providing practical, rich and convenient case and material resources for the ideological and political course. The construction of the case base adopts the strategy of "multi-disciplinary coordination, top-level design, co-construction by teachers and students, and promote construction through evaluation", and includes the case with "clear theme, strong timeliness, typical practical, rich content and diverse forms". Modules are used to classify, the covered knowledge points as key words, through modules and keywords, the specific teaching content and ideological and political cases are effectively integrated. In addition, by making full use of digital teaching system, such as intelligent teaching system, online interactive platform and other diversified means, teachers can realize learning progress tracking, make teaching more efficient and accurate, and realize personalized teaching.

### **3.4 Establishing a sound teaching ability evaluation and feedback mechanism**

The key link to improve the quality of education is to carry out the system reform for the ideological and political courses, mobilize the enthusiasm of teachers, improve the supervision and incentive mechanism, and establish a sound teaching ability evaluation and feedback mechanism. This mechanism not only helps teachers to clarify their own teaching advantages and disadvantages, but also can stimulate their internal motivation for continuous improvement. On the one hand, scientific and reasonable evaluation standards should be formulated, covering teaching concepts, teaching methods, teaching contents, teaching effects and other aspects, to ensure the comprehensiveness and accuracy of the evaluation results. On the other hand, the evaluation and timely feedback mechanism should be improved, including self-evaluation, peer evaluation, student evaluation, expert evaluation and other links, to ensure the objectivity of the evaluation results. The evaluation results should be fed back to teachers in time, so that they can clarify their own advantages and disadvantages and improve them to realize their teaching development.

## **4. Conclusion**

In the digital era, carrying out curriculum-based ideological and political education reform in higher medical schools and enhancing teachers' curriculum-based ideological and political teaching capabilities have profound significance in cultivating future medical practitioners who not only possess deep medical knowledge and excellent medical skills, but also have a sense of national sentiments, international vision, and a strong sense of responsibility.

To improve the ideological and political teaching ability and level of medical school teachers, it is necessary to establish the concept of "medical education undertakes major ideological and political tasks" in the practice of medical education. Cultivate teachers' ideological and political awareness, improve ideological and political teaching quality, expand the ideological and political teaching innovation ability, with the help of teaching evaluation mechanism, can promote teachers' professional development and realize high-quality medical talent training mode.

## **Conflicts of interest**

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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