

# A GOOD LECTURE CLASS PREPARATION AND DELIVERY

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## Introduction :

“A Good teacher is one who teaches well, but a great teacher is one who inspires the Students”

**-Dr.S.Radha Krishanan**

With a boom of medical education in India, there are ample of opportunities for young doctors to take up the profession as a medical teacher. Unfortunately even with good opportunities and pay scale many doctors do not choose it as their first choice, but always a second one.

Who ever chooses to be a medical teacher lands in a medical college without any prior teaching experience or training in teaching methodology. Hence there is need for training the young entrants for the better future of medical education. This article deals with one most important step of teaching i.e. preparation & delivery of a good lecture.

## What is a Lecture :

“A Lecture is a carefully prepared oral Presentation of facts, organized thoughts & ideas by a qualified person”.

Lecture is the commonest and basic method of teaching in any form of education.

## Important ingredients of a good Lecture :

### Advance planning :

This is the first step towards a good lecture that, we must plan it well in advance, So as to place the facts in an order. Hurriedly prepared lecture can not be a good lecture at all. Planning will make way for passing the desired message in a well defined, simple and clear manner.

### Relevance:

The material to be presented should be relevant to that group of target students. The contents must be factual and based on scientific facts. This requires a good review by the teacher to gather the facts.

### Presentation :

This is the most important step which can be done either just as a oral presentation or complimented with visual aids (OHP, charts, models, projection etc.,)

Every lecture has to be started with few introductory sentences regarding the topic, so as to seek the attention of the students on the core part of the topic. It may be a simple introduction or an actual case or hypothetical situation etc. This should be followed by main body of the speech developed gradually with appropriate visual aids. Before closing the lecture recapitulate the main points and complete the lecture in time.

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**Clarity & Audibility:**

It is absolutely necessary to make the subject crystal clear, by clear diction, direct speech, familiar words and short sentences. Do not confuse by using unnecessary words or lengthy sentences. The sound of the speaker should be audible to the students in last row.

**Speed of lecture:**

It is advised to use 100 to 120 words per minute for easy hearing, assimilation and understanding. Speed variation may be there depending on the content of the lecture. You can be slow when introducing and emphasizing some points. If you feel some are of less importance the rate can be faster like brushing up.

**Fluency :**

It is a cream of any lecture. Smooth, uninterrupted, and easy flow of words looks natural and is a must. The fluency can be achieved with some efforts. With enriched treasury of words, phrases, quotations and ability to put them together will help to achieve this.

**Attitude of the teacher:**

The teacher must not just have but also show enthusiasm and interest in the subject, topic proper and most important in the students.

Teacher's style of teaching plays important role as it keeps the curiosity of the students alive and thus the attention of the class. The ability to put proper words, phrases, in proper places with touch of humor is a must. The body language of the teacher will bring color and power to the presentation. The teacher must look around entire class, not just concentrate at one place, and keep the eye contact all the time. Do not hide behind the podium. Feel free and confident from

within. Do not look at inert objects like, fan, window etc. while talking to the class.

**Explanation :**

Always make it a point to emphasize on important points by means of slowing down, pausing, voice variation or proper gestures. Make use of case reports, anecdotes or relevant examples for explaining the points.

**Re-capitulation :**

Most important thing which many teachers do not do is that they do not recapitulate or summarize the things at the end of the lecture. Salient and important points must be summarized before ending the lecture. A brief point regarding further reading of books or articles should be mentioned. This will retain the take home points in minds of students, which they will remember for long time.

**Conclusion :**

There are only few who are born teachers, while rest of us has to take some trouble and put some efforts to be a good teacher. Medical teaching as a dynamic process requires lots of planning and preparation. So prepare in advance, choose current topic, have confidence, maintain eye contact and this will itself make your lecture a memorable one.