

ABSTRACT: 2013 ELAM Institutional Action Project Poster Symposium

Project Title: Leveraging a New Medical School to Increase Graduate Medical Education in Florida

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Background, Challenge or Opportunity:

Meeting Florida's primary care need requires a multifactorial approach that increases both the number of medical school graduates and the number of primary care residencies. Florida's new medical schools are increasing the number of qualified graduates. Increasing Florida's primary care residencies is critical to addressing the PCP shortage as physicians tend to settle where they complete residency. As a state institution with no anchor hospital, FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOC) is ideally positioned to take on innovation in primary care Graduate Medical Education (GME). Fully accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education in January 2013, HWCOC was founded on community need and actively recruits students who want to serve the public sector.

Purpose/Objectives: To increase Florida's primary care GME capacity through traditional and non-traditional partnerships and through policy change.

Methods/Approach: HWCOC Office of GME is engaging the following:

- 1) Hospitals that are GME naïve to take on new primary care residency programs
- 2) Hospitals with existing osteopathic residencies to seek accreditation by both the American Osteopathic Association and Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (AOA/ACGME) to allow allopathic applicants
- 3) Federally Qualified Community Health Centers (FQHC) to sponsor primary care residencies as Teaching Health Centers through the Affordable Care Act
- 4) Florida state legislators to define innovative GME funding streams through Medicaid Reform
- 5) GME programs in Latin America seeking ACGME-International accreditation

Outcomes and Evaluation:

We had a successful 2013 match for a new Family Medicine residency at a previously GME naïve community hospital. We have scheduled site visits from the ACGME to expand and dually accredit an osteopathic Pediatrics program and to accredit a new Psychiatry residency sponsored by an FQHC. HWCOC was instrumental in passing policy in the 2012 Legislature to allow Managed Care Organizations (MCO) to contribute to GME through a Medical Loss Ratio (MLR) exception [Florida SB 320]. In 2014, all of Florida's 3.3 million Medicaid recipients will fall under managed care plans through historic state-wide reform. We are working with multiple MCO's and the Agency for Health Care Administration to identify the flow of funds for GME through the MLR exception. We are working in the 2013 Legislative Session to support tuition remission for Florida students choosing new primary care residencies. We are also collaborating with a medical school in Mexico City that is seeking ACGME-I accreditation for its Internal Medicine residency.

Increasing GME through this diversified strategy is a core objective for the HWCOC 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.

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Opportunity:

Increasing Florida's Graduate Medical Education (GME) capacity is critical to meeting the State's physician workforce needs. As a State institution with no anchor hospital, Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOM) is ideally positioned to take on innovation in GME.

Objectives:

To increase the number of GME positions in Florida through traditional and non-traditional partnerships and to champion novel GME financing through State and Federal policy change.

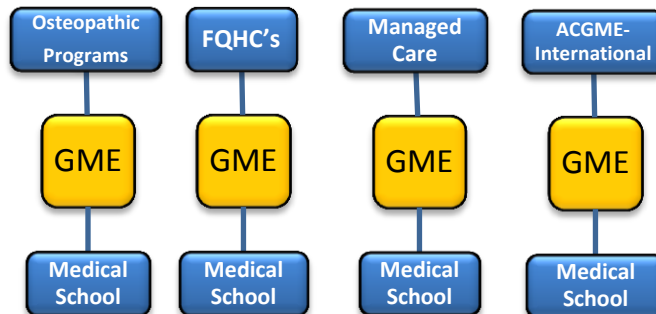
Approach:

1. Engage hospitals that are GME naïve to take on new residency programs
2. Engage hospitals with existing osteopathic residencies to dually accredit with Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
3. Work with Federally Qualified Community Health Centers (FQHC) to sponsor GME as Teaching Health Centers through Affordable Care Act
4. Leverage Florida Medicaid Reform for policy innovation to support GME
5. Work with HWCOM Latin American affiliates seeking ACMGE-International (ACGME-I) accreditation

Traditional GME Alliance



Novel GME Alliances



Outcomes:

1. Successful 2013 match for new Family Medicine Program at previously GME naïve community hospital
2. ACGME site visit scheduled for Pediatrics program, already AOA accredited
3. ACGME site visit scheduled for Psychiatry program sponsored by FQHC
4. Passed Florida State policy to allow Managed Care Organizations (MCO) to contribute to GME through Medical Loss Ratio (MLR) exception
5. Working with medical school in Mexico towards ACGME-I accreditation for Internal Medicine Program

Discussion:

Increasing GME through hospital relationships in the current South Florida healthcare market is a marginal strategy. Novel partnerships for GME sponsorship and "out of the box" thinking for financing have yielded results.

Next Steps:

In 2014, all of Florida's 3.3 million Medicaid recipients will fall under managed care through historic state-wide reform. HWCOM is working with MCO's and the Agency for Health Care Administration to identify the flow of funds for new GME through the MLR exception. The State is defining policy goals for Medicaid GME support including types of residencies and retention of graduates to practice in Florida.