

Project Title: University of Minnesota Medical School Evidence Based Education 2023

Name and Institution: Anne Pereira, MD, University of Minnesota Medical School

Collaborators and Mentors: Bob Englander, MD, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education, Mark Rosenberg, MD, Vice Dean for Education, Kelaine Haas, PhD, Director of Integrated Education, Foundational Sciences.

Background, Significance of project:

Over two-thirds of the physicians that practice in Minnesota completed some or all of their training at the University of Minnesota Medical School (UMMS). With growing evidence that site of training is linked to quality of care physicians provide, our ability to improve our students' preparation for practice can ultimately result in improved health and well-being of Minnesota and beyond.

We have opportunities for improvement. While our students enjoy success in the NRMP Match and are rated above average in performance by their residency program leadership, they do perform below expected levels on licensing examinations and report rates at or below the national mean in maintenance of empathy and in satisfaction with their medical school experience on the national AAMC's graduation questionnaire. We hypothesize that our curriculum, largely unchanged over many years, is a major driver of our students' examination performance, loss of empathy and dissatisfaction. The curriculum content, instructional design and methods of assessment and feedback do not align with evidence-based educational best practice.

Purpose/Objectives:

In the short term, I will have measurable, one-year objectives to move us toward the creation of a curriculum to include instructional design and methods of assessment consistent with evidence-based educational best practice. By 2023, we will have a curriculum that fully aligns with evidence-based educational best practice. As a result, our students will perform above expected on the USMLE examinations and report higher levels of empathy and satisfaction than their peers across the country.

Methods/Approach:

To ensure our academic community's alignment with our goal for 2023, our leadership team collaborated with representatives from the faculty, student body, affiliate clinical sites and graduate medical education programs to develop a five-year strategic plan that recently was approved by our governing council. Next, I will lead a group of internal and external stakeholders in the development of three one-year objectives toward our five-year goal to provide evidence-based education. For each objective, we will establish threshold, target and maximum measures of success. In our budgeting process for the 2018-2019 academic year, I will use our objectives to advocate for necessary resources. I will then oversee our progress toward our one-year objectives as well as collaboratively plan subsequent objectives to ultimately achieve our five-year strategic plan.

Outcomes/Evaluation Strategies:

Short-term outcomes of this project will include governing council approval of three one-year objectives toward developing evidence-based education by 2023. Intermediate outcomes will be measured by achieving those objectives. Ultimately, the outcome will be an evidence-based curriculum by 2023. We will monitor student match rates, performance on the licensing examinations, empathy and satisfaction with their medical education.

Discussion/Conclusion with Statement of Impact/Potential Impact:

A curriculum grounded in evidence-based educational best practice will improve our students' academic success, protect their empathy and ensure their satisfaction with their educational experience. Ultimately, we aim to improve the quality of the patient care our graduates provide.