

Exploration in Academic Medicine

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UMMS Capstone for Impact

Branch: Systems Based, Hospital Based

Project Summary

Mission Statement: As my IMPACT project I plan to create an academic day throughout the year. During this time, I hope to have a half day dedicated towards research and a longitudinal outpatient experience which would facilitate continued growth of my skills as a provider and educator in the ambulatory setting while providing an opportunity for preclinical students to learn about the role of students in the clinical environment, potentially serving as an ICE site.

Objectives:

1. Improve my own knowledge of disease processes as well as clinical skills by repetition, practice, and exposure to a multitude of patients.
2. Provide early exposure for a preclinical student to the role of medical students on the health care team.
3. Enhance the understanding of a preclinical students regarding how to properly conduct a patient interview, physical examination and presentations to attendings as expected of them on the wards.

Proposal:

I would like to team up with an ICE site during my fourth year where I would work in conjunction with an M1 and an attending one afternoon per week. I have a strong interest in a career in Internal Medicine and see a longitudinal clinic as a way to further enhance my skills in the ambulatory setting. During this time, I would like to expand my experience to also include the role of a clinical educator. One way to do this would be to attend a longitudinal continuity clinic with a preceptor as an ICE site. While seeing patients I would provide an opportunity for the preclinical student to participate in the clinical interactions of a clinical medical student and patient. Through this exposure the preclinical student will further understand how to properly prepare for the outpatient clinic, conduct interviews with patients, perform a relevant physical examination, present to the attending, and expose them to initial use of the literature to evaluate a clinical question. Over the course of our time together I plan to work with the preclinical student in order to engage them in the interaction in a way that meets their developmental skillset and over our time together progressively includes them in a more interactive way.

Action Items/Outcome

During the year, I was successful in creating some dedicated time for research. This time has led to 3 abstracts that were accepted to national conferences and 3 manuscripts which are in progress. I also have 4 other manuscripts that I am currently writing due to my work.

In terms of the teaming up with ICE. I was able to start conversations with various ICE mentors however due to clinical responsibilities as well as the logistics associated with ICE and increased demands due to the new curriculum. It was not possible to have a longitudinal clinic in the manner that I had initially envisioned. Instead, I was able to work with one of my PIs in his clinic where he also has a premedical student working as his scribe. I was able to have this teaching opportunity with this premedical student and serve as a mentor for him. It was nice to have the same student every week as a result and I learned a lot during that time. I also was given more of a teaching role during my SUB-I based on my interest in teaching. I was responsible for running multiple teaching topics for the M3s. So, though the project did not turn out the way it was necessarily planned on this aspect, it was successful at the end of the day.

Conclusion/Reflection

This year reaffirmed my interest in academic medicine. Working one on one with the premedical student and guiding him through the how to approach patient care and working to teach him medical facts was one of the most fulfilling things I have done in medical school. I learned a great deal and I would often go home much later than the attending, but it was not a burden. It was exciting. I also reaffirmed my passion for research and I was able to have some productive output with this time that was dedicated to research. I am overall thankful for this opportunity and though everything did not work out perfectly, I could not think of a better project for myself.