Eight-module Information Skills Curriculum to Support ACGME Competencies

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OBJECTIVES
- Library instruction in graduate medical education (GME) programs is uneven or absent
- Residency programs frequently overlook resources provided by their health sciences libraries (HSL)
- ACGME competencies create multiple opportunities to leverage librarian expertise to improve residency education

METHODOLOGY
- HSL and the GME Office worked to develop a systematic, centralized approach to incorporate information skills
- Develop a comprehensive 8-module information skills curriculum, constructed with the expertise of librarians and clinical faculty
- Capitalize on each librarian’s unique expertise and work in teams to develop consensus on module development
- Map modules to specific ACGME competencies & learner level
- Integrate librarian instruction into more programs by building upon successful existing collaborations

RESULTS
FY 2007
- 526 residents and fellows exposed to librarian-led skills instruction
- 50 contact hours in 40 sessions
- Program directors buy-in for adoption in >84 programs
- Development of course evaluation tool
- Useful feedback from residents to improve the modules

EIGHT-MODULE INFORMATION SKILLS CURRICULUM
Practice-based Learning and Improvement:
Information Skills Curriculum for House Officer Education

MODULE 1: Practice-based Learning and Improvement Step 1: Essentials of Information Resources @ UM
Competencies: Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Communication, Professionalism

MODULE 2: Practice-based Learning and Improvement Step 2: Finding the Best Evidence
Competencies: Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Communication, Professionalism

MODULE 3: Practice-based Learning and Improvement: Training for the Clinical Experts
Audience: Faculty & Upper-Level Fellows (Typically Research Oriented)

MODULE 4: Managing the Fellow Research Requirement: Seeking the Information
Competencies: Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Communication, Systems-Based Practice

MODULE 5: Cultivating MEDLINE Expertise Using Practice-based Learning & Improvement
Competencies: Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Communication, Professionalism

MODULE 6: Communicating with Patients: What Information Do They Have and What Do You Need to Know?
Competencies: Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Communication, Professionalism, Systems-Based Practice

MODULE 7: Keeping Current and Getting Ahead
Competencies: Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Communication, Professionalism

MODULE 8: The Librarian as a GME Competency Consultant @ UM
Competencies: Patient Care, Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Systems-Based Practice

RESIDENT FEEDBACK
Positive Responses:
- “It was really nice to ... help modify what I am already doing to improve my productivity.”
- “I’m a [intern], I was wondering if you could help me with a search, since, aside from UpToDate, I’m incredibly ignorant of how to make use of the online resources available to me.”
- “Everyone commented to me how useful it was...”
- “I hope to use some of your tips to make my research more efficient!”

NEXT STEPS
- Validate MEDLINE search assessment tool
- Conduct formal programmatic evaluation of the 8-module curriculum
- Develop tools to assess information seeking behavior
- Develop modular curricula for public health and basic sciences

For further information:
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