

NEOMED IPE Neophytes

Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) is a public, interprofessional, community-based health sciences university with a college of graduate studies, medicine and pharmacy.

Evolution of NEOMED's Interprofessional Education

IPE Activities

What Works

Lessons Learned

Parallel Play

Offering joint courses for medicine and pharmacy students (i.e. Evidence Based Medicine, Community Experience, Infection and Immunology, etc.)

- Shared student experience allows for relationship building
- Efficient use of faculty and classroom space teaching content once

- Similar content but divergent needs for each discipline
- Limited consistent active engagement
- Student (and faculty) attitudes and perceptions may vary

IP Team Assignments

Interprofessional Teams assigned to longitudinal activities/projects

- Requires students to engage in teamwork and use effective communication skills
- Graded as a team
- Reflection on self and others as team members

- Group work focus, not focused on aspects of team development
- Engagement on assigned task or project with limited appreciation for the unique roles and responsibilities

Team Training

Half-day workshops focused on teaching team and communication skills with TeamSTEPPS content

- Formal instruction on teams and teamwork
- Dedicated time devoted to IP team development
- Incorporation of other health care professionals and students

- Case development incorporating all disciplines is challenging
- Logistical challenges including space and time
- Students often report wishing it had occurred earlier in curriculum

Next Steps for NEOMED's IPE

- Dedicate curriculum time for deliberate incorporation of IPE activities and assessments
- Teach foundational principles of interprofessional collaboration early in curriculum
- Develop opportunities for reinforcement of team principles over time in the classroom and clinical settings

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