UMKC Health Professions’ Interprofessional Education Class: A Two-Year Required Curriculum

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Background:
- Interprofessional Education (IPE) is defined as opportunities where students from two or more different professions learn with, about, and from one another.
- The goal is to teach students to practice as a team to provide safe, high quality care.
- The Interprofessional Education Collaborative was founded in 2008 and defined 4 IPE competency domains:
  • Roles and Responsibilities
  • Values and Ethics
  • Communication Skills
  • Teams and Teamwork

Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Domains
http://www.aspe.nichc.org/education-resources/ipe-report.pdf

Methods:
- **The UMKC Health Professions’ IPE curriculum was planned over 3 years.**
- A collaboration of Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Health Studies, and Pharmacy (SOM, SOM, School of Nursing, and School of Pharmacy, respectively) in Kansas City, MO
- Kansas City and Columbia campuses involved
- First Year IPE Class convened to learn and focus on:
  - IPE Competency domain: Roles and Responsibilities
  - Patient Safety
- Second Year IPE Class convened to learn and focus on:
  - IPE Competency domain: Ethics and Values
  - Dr. Hot Spot and the Ethical Delivery of Care

First Year IPE Class Results:
**Results: Student Evaluations of IPE:**

- **Strong points:**
  - 66% of students agreed or strongly agreed that the IPE class was a good experience.
  - 68.2% agreed or strongly agreed that the small group experience was beneficial.
  - 106 students provided written comments (N)
    - Enjoyment of working with other health care fields (24)
    - Specifically on the impact IPE can have on patient safety (4)

**Areas needing improvement (based on comments):**
- Less lecture and increased time to work within smaller small groups so students can work closer with their peers (28)
- Dental students and dental hygienists felt they were not able to contribute much to their role in the case (10).
- The graduate nursing students felt that their level of clinical experience was not appreciated during the exercises (11)

Second Year IPE Class Results:
**Results: Student Evaluations of IPE:**

- **Strengths:**
  - 83.3% of students agreed or strongly agreed that the IPE class was a good experience.
  - 81% agreed or strongly agreed that the small group experience was beneficial.
- 188 students provided written comments (N)
  - Enjoyed working with interprofessional learners (41)
  - Good learning experience (23)
  - Good team building exercise (9)

**Areas needing improvement (based on comments):**
- Do not have these activities on a Saturday, weekday preferred (44)
- Course director did not give adequate notice (10)
- Students did not like traveling from Columbia, MO (9)
- Prefer real patient care setting or simulation (5)

Conclusion:
- The UMKC Health Professions’ two-year IPE curriculum and the development of IMPACTs was:
  1. An important first step in expanding opportunities for health professions students to learn with, about, and from one another
  2. Was overall a positive experience for students
  3. Will serve as a foundation for our Year 3 IPE Activity in Simulation

Summary:
- Learning how to successfully function on collaborative teams has become paramount in health professions education.
- Every member of the healthcare team is responsible for patient safety and IPE can improve overall care and potentially patient outcomes.
- Our curriculum provides IP experiences on IMPACTs in order for learners to develop interprofessional relationships and become graduates who are ready to join teams to provide responsible care to their community of patients.

Future Directions:
- The Third Year IPE Class will be more interactive, case-based IMPACT activities.
- We will develop and implement a Third Year IPE Curriculum events for IMPACTs:
  - To focus on Teams and Teamwork and Communication competency domains
  - In IMPACT team based Simulation
  - In partnerships of existing clinical experiences
  - Working to create a required, three year IPE course for all programs