

The Impact of Change: Assessing the Effect of Curricular Revision on Student Performance and Satisfaction

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Curriculum Change

The MD program is in the process of curriculum revision. Changes to the third year curriculum were implemented at the start of the 2016-17 academic year. Goals for third year curriculum change included earlier exposure to residency program specialty areas (e.g., anesthesiology, emergency medicine, radiology) and updating the curriculum to reflect national trends in medical education. Specific revisions include:

- Shortening the Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Obstetrics & Gynecology clerkships from eight to six weeks each
- Discontinuation of a four week experience in outpatient internal medicine (elective option available)
- Addition of a four-week Neurology clerkship
- Addition of specialty electives offered in two-week blocks during the Pediatrics, Psychiatry and OB-GYN clerkships (Students choose between a specialty elective within or outside of their clerkship area).

	Previous Curriculum	New Curriculum
Rotation 1	Ambulatory Primary Care	Family Medicine Neurology
Rotation 2	OBGYN	OBGYN Elective
Rotation 3	Pediatrics	Pediatrics Elective
Rotation 4	Psychiatry	Psychiatry Elective
Rotation 5	Inpatient Medicine	Inpatient Medicine
Rotation 6	Surgery	Surgery

Comparison of Clerkship Performance and Satisfaction following Revision	
Measure	Operational Definition
Clinical Achievement Score	% of Students scoring Meets Expectations or above
Shelf Exam Performance	Mean Equated Score Median Percentile
Clerkship Grade	% of Students earning US, SA, SH
Student Evaluation of Clerkship	Mean Score by Question
Step 2 CS Performance	First Attempt Pass Rate Comparison to US & Canadian Medical Schools
Step 2 CK Performance	First Attempt Pass Rate Comparison to US & Canadian Medical Schools
Graduation Questionnaire	Mean Score by Clerkship Question
PGY1 Alumni & Program Director Survey	Mean Score by Competency

Assessment Plan

Two primary comparisons will be made. The data will be gathered using OASIS, a curriculum administration and evaluation tool. The purpose of the first comparison will be to assess changes in clerkship performance and satisfaction following the curriculum revision. Metrics will be compared between the 2015-16 and the 2016-17 academic years. Short-term metrics to be compared for each rotation and the entire year include: Shelf Exam Performance, Clinical Achievement Score, Clerkship Grade, and student satisfaction survey results. Long-term metrics to be assessed as students continue to progress through and out of the program include: United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and Step 2 Clinical Skills performance, Post-Graduate Year 1 (PGY1) program director assessment of student performance, student satisfaction metrics via the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Graduate Questionnaire and PGY1 alumni surveys. The unit of analysis will be individual clerkships.



The purpose of the second comparison will be to assess differences in performance or experience outcomes between students who choose a two-week elective in a particular clerkship area (Pediatrics, OBGYN, or Psychiatry) and students who choose to take an elective outside of the clerkship area. Metrics to be compared for each rotation and the entire year include: Shelf Exam Performance, Clinical Achievement Score, Clerkship Grade, and student satisfaction survey results. The unit of analysis will be individual clerkships.

Future Directions

The result of these two primary comparisons will provide insight to medical education leadership and guide future action planning for the MD program. Lesson learned will inform revision processes for the M1, M2, and M4 curricula.

Comparison of Students who choose an Elective in Clerkship Area versus Outside Area	
Measure	Operational Definition
Clinical Achievement Score	% of Students scoring Meets Expectations or above
Shelf Exam Performance	Mean Equated Score Median Percentile
Clerkship Grade	% of Students earning US, SA, SH
Student Evaluation of Clerkship	Mean Score by Question