Wayne State University School of Medicine  
IHI Chapter: Curriculum Development Team

ABOUT US

• Started in 2012 with a student who desired to drive curriculum from a student perspective.
• Subcommittees were developed with student leaders to allow for many events to be planned simultaneously. The students were seminal in developing the personality of our chapter and created opportunities to meet leadership and impact the curriculum. Support from our faculty advisors has been integral to our development and has allowed us to engage professionals from a variety of disciplines in our events and curriculum development.
• Our current chapter consists of medical students and two physician faculty advisors. As we continue to grow and mature as a chapter, we look forward to our current student members still contributing to our group as residents and staff.
• Our chapter is currently involved in a number of projects that involve dental students, social work students, nursing students and pharmacy students, with a focus on interprofessional teamwork and providing effective care.

CHALLENGES

• Finding time in the curriculum for IHI module completion
  • The curriculum is currently working on year 2 and year 3 opportunities to integrate patient safety into the existing curriculum
  • Identifying practical quality improvement experiences in which students can participate
  • Getting more students involved in our monthly events
  • We are always open to new and exciting ways to include PS and QI learning opportunities in the curriculum. We are also looking for fun and exciting ways to interest students including lunch hour or after class events

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• Over 600 students enrolled in IHI Open School
• 19 Patient Safety and Quality Improvement student leaders contributing to curricular development
• Curriculum development
  • Freshman Patient Safety Education Day
  • Clinical Medicine Module
• Seminars
  • Better Docs
  • Monthly small group student engagement
• Quality Improvement Projects
• PS/QI principles introduced early in first year Wayne State medical school curriculum
• Presentation at national conferences such as IHI Annual Forum and AAMC Teach for Quality
• 3 alumni of The Academy for Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety in Telluride, CO

ACTIVITIES

Freshman Patient Safety Education Day

Freshmen are exposed to Patient Safety early in the anatomy curriculum. Sponges attached to IHI patient safety fact cards are placed in the abdominal cavity of first year student’s cadavers to simulate retained surgical objects (see image). To reinforce the concepts introduced by the sponge activity, a guest speaker is brought in to share a personal story about how they became a patient safety advocate. A member of an interprofessional team also joins us to speak about patient safety from their perspective. We conduct small group sessions facilitated by second year students that involve a hands on activity to understand the value in standardized procedures.

Finally, we address a few sample Step 1 questions to prepare students for the PS and QI questions they will see on USMLE board exams.

Better Docs Saturday Seminar

Wayne State’s chapter holds a weekend seminar to garner interest of students at all levels. We use a variety of hands on activities to address the importance of communication among team members. Activities, such as effective hand washing, demonstrate some things that students can do to increase Patient Safety. A speaker is brought in to share their experiences as a hospital staff member.

Clinical Medicine Module

The 2014 leadership developed a patient safety module to integrate into the first year clinical medicine curriculum. Exam questions are being written to test the concepts introduced in the module.

Concepts Introduced in Curriculum

• Hand washing and infection control
• Inter-professional communication
• Patient-centered care
• Checklist procedures
• Error Analysis
• Medication reconciliation
• Lost labs
• Transitions of care
• Checklist Procedures

Upcoming Plans

• Include the physician assistant, pharmacy and nursing students in activities
• Develop practical experience in quality improvement
• Add to the year 2 curriculum physical diagnosis course
• More lunch time seminars to bring in speakers and create discussion among medical students to increase awareness and emphasize the importance of Patient Safety
• Development of several research projects to identify quality improvement opportunities in our own hospital system

Faculty Advisors

Patricia Brown, MD – Faculty Advisor
Diane Levine, MD – Curriculum Advisor
Advisors have played a variety of roles from participation in developmental meetings, to feedback on concepts to providing contact with appropriate members of curriculum committee. The support of our faculty advisors and deans for medical education has been critical to our success as an organization and in realization of our goals for curricular development.

Contact Info

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