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Enhancing Ambulatory Care APPEs by Incorporating Patient-Centered Medical Home Principles

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Abstract

Objective: Incorporation of various clinical activities during ambulatory care APPEs to achieve exposure to the five principals of a patient centered medical home (PCMH) provide Pharm.D. Candidates at the Wegmans School of Pharmacy with a strong foundation for a future practice in patient centered care.

Methods: The APPE is designed to engage students in activities involving the five principals of a PCMH practice. Students that are assigned to complete their Ambulatory Care APPE at one of two Level 3 National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) certified PCMH Family Medicine Residency Training Practices are directly involved in engaging patients in decision making and management of chronic disease states, improve communication directly between patients and providers through the use of an electronic medical record, coordinate care with other health professionals through care transitions, and contribute to the transparency of comprehensive evidence based care of patients through patient education.

Results: A total of 26 Pharm.D. Candidates have completed the redesigned APPE that emphasizes the role of a pharmacist in delivering care in a PCMH practice. In the 2012-13 academic year three from a total 11 students pursued post-graduated training and acquired a residency to enhance their clinical and research skills. In the 2013-14 academic year a greater percentage of students pursued advanced training. Eight out of a total of 15 students acquired advanced training in a variety of settings including ambulatory care, managed care, and community pharmacy residency programs. One student intends to pursue an additional certification to enrich her future as community practitioner.

Implications: The structured experiences at a certified PCMH practice site has displayed the potential to encourage Pharm.D. Candidates to pursue future careers in various settings to enhance their skills in delivering collaborative patient centered care.

Keywords

fsc2015

Disciplines

Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Comments

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Enhancing Ambulatory Care APPEs by Incorporating Patient-Centered Medical Home Principles

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Introduction

The definition of a patient-centered medical home includes providing coordinated and comprehensive delivery of primary care, through team based care.¹ Pharmacists can play a vital role in contributing to the five main attributes of a patient-centered medical home (PCMH).² Incorporation of various clinical activities during ambulatory care APPEs have the potential to prepare Pharm.D. Candidates with a strong foundation for patient-centered care.³

Methods

For Ambulatory Care APPE rotations that are completed at one of two Level 3 National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) certified PCMH Family Medicine Residency Training Practices, students engage in a series of clinical activities that align with the five main PCMH principles. Pharm.D. Candidates are directly involved with patient-centered decision making and management of chronic disease states.

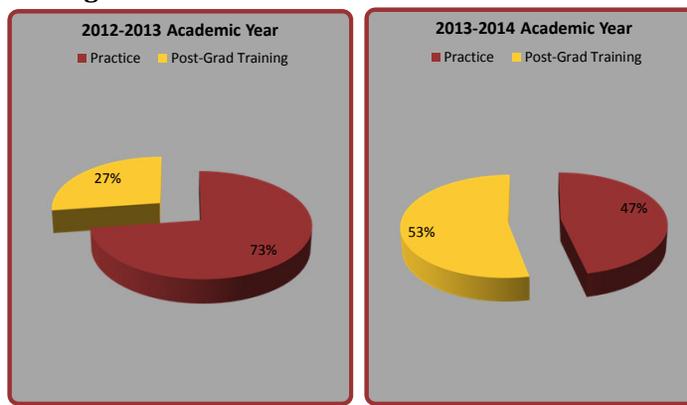
Table 1: Activities Aligned with PCMH Principles

PCMH Principles	Clinical Activities
Involve patient in decision making process	Group visits, individual goal assessment/plan for chronic disease states
Provide patient specific health care needs	Patient assistance, therapy adherence, mediset/medication management, delivery set-up
Communication	Inter-provider, alternate systems (RHIO), home health agencies
Enhanced access to care	MyChart (patient portal), availability for consults, patient counseling
Evidence based therapeutics	Medication therapy management (MTM)

Figure 1: APPE Student Responsibilities



Figure 2: Students Post Doctoral Career Plans



Results

A total of 26 Pharm.D. Candidates have completed the redesigned APPE that emphasizes the role of a pharmacist in delivering care in a PCMH practice. In the 2012-13 academic year three from a total 11 students pursued post-graduated training and acquired a residency to enhance their clinical and research skills. In the 2013-14 academic year a greater percentage of students pursued advanced training. Eight out of a total of 15 students acquired advanced training in a variety of settings including ambulatory care, managed care, and community pharmacy residency programs. One student intends to pursue an additional certification to enrich her future as community practitioner.

Conclusions

The structured experience at a certified PCMH practice has displayed the potential to encourage Pharm.D. Candidates to pursue future careers in alternate settings to enhance their skills in delivering collaborative patient centered care.

Acknowledgement

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