

# **Interprofessional Education (IPE) with Certified Nurse Midwives and Medical Students on the 3rd Year Ob/Gyn Clerkship: A qualitative review of medical student experience**

Olivia P Campbell, MS4

BRODY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
8<sup>th</sup> Annual Medical Education Day



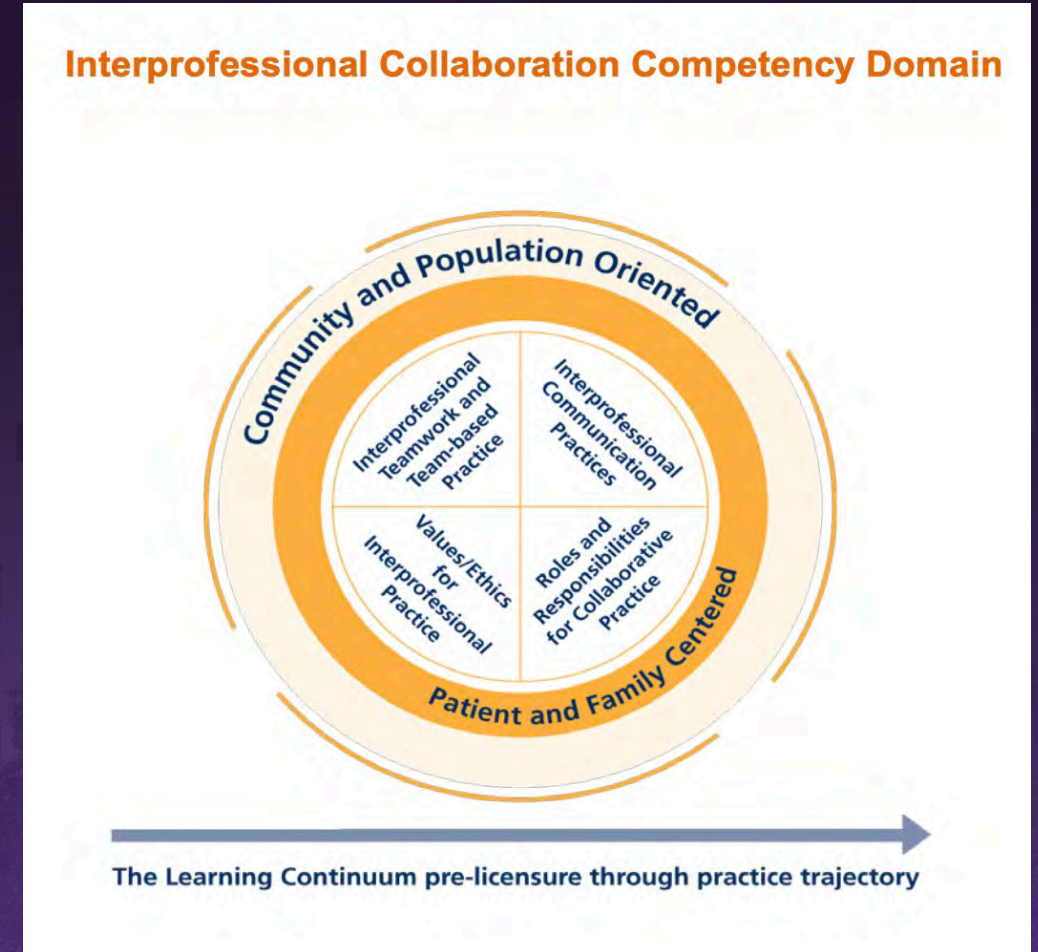


**Jill Sutton, MD**  
**Brody School of Medicine,**  
**Ob/Gyn Clerkship**  
**Director, Project Mentor**



**Monica Horne, CNM, MSN**  
**Atrium Health, Project**  
**Mentor**

- What is Interprofessional Education?
  - when two or more professions (students, residents and health workers) learn with, about, and from each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes
- Why is it important?
  - IPE prepares health professions students to work in a collaborative, team environment to provide highly effective patient- and population-centered care
  - Interprofessional teams enhance the quality of patient care, lower healthcare costs, decrease patients' length of stay, and reduce medical errors



According to the 2019 LCME Annual Medical School Questionnaire 146 of the 151 participating schools required interprofessional education:

- **81% occurring in the curriculum during clerkships/clinical years**
- **71% of IPE in a patient care setting**

As many academic practices move toward collaborative models and engage midwives as educators for medical student and resident training, **there are no national standards or curricular expectations [4].**

Two general goals of required IPE for medical students were:

- 1. familiarize medical students with the roles of other health professionals**
- 2. teach specific content related to functioning in teams or team development [2].**

The authors aim to investigate the importance of interprofessional educational experiences within the medical school curriculum and assessing medical students' perception of the midwifery model of care.

- A six-question open-ended voluntary survey was embedded in the 3rd year Obstetrics/Gynecology post-clerkship online evaluation.
  - This study has an approved IRB exemption status and clerkship survey data from April 2019-Aug 2021 was used for this study.

Survey questions:

1. Which of our Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) providers were you able to work with during our clerkship?
2. Describe your experience in working with the CNM provider(s) selected above. (Be sure not to include any patient identifiers).
3. Describe in your own words the midwifery model of care and how it complements our team setting.
4. Do you believe this experience in Interprofessional Education during the OB GYN Clerkship enhanced your educational experience?
5. What are the strengths of this Interprofessional Educational experience?
6. What could be improved in this Interprofessional Educational experience?

- This clerkship is 6-weeks long and consists of 12-16 students per cohort.
- Medical students in each cohort are currently required to spend *at least* one half-day with one of the four Certified Nurse Midwives (*currently two CNMs in the department*).
- The survey responses were deidentified and analyzed utilizing a thematic analysis approach. If an individual response included comments applicable for more than one theme, then it was counted more than once with each corresponding theme.

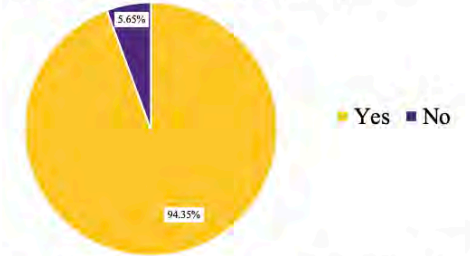
**Table 1.** “Describe in your own words the midwifery model of care and how it complements our team setting” survey responses (students can list multiple answers).

Medical Student Perceptions of the Midwifery Model of Care Themes	Total Number of Coded Responses	Percentage of Coded Responses
Theme 1: Woman-centered, nurturing and holistic care throughout the childbearing cycle	69	43%
Theme 2: Benefits of Interprofessional Healthcare Team	47	30%
Theme 3: Skillful communication, guidance and counseling	14	9%
Theme 4: Minimizing surgical interventions	15	9%
Theme 5: N/A	14	9%
<b>Sum of Total comments around themes</b>	<b>159</b>	

**Table 2.** “Describe your experience in working with the CNM provider(s)” survey responses (students can list multiple answers).

Medical Student Experiences working with Certified Nurse Midwives Themes	Total Number of Coded Responses	Percentage of Coded Responses
Theme 6: Overall positive and educational IPE experience	105	72%
Theme 7: Prefer more time with Certified Nurse Midwives	24	16%
Theme 8: Negative experience	0	0%
Theme 9: N/A	17	12%
<b>Sum of total themed comments</b>	<b>146</b>	

**Do you believe this experience in Interprofessional Education during the OB GYN Clerkship enhanced your educational experience?**

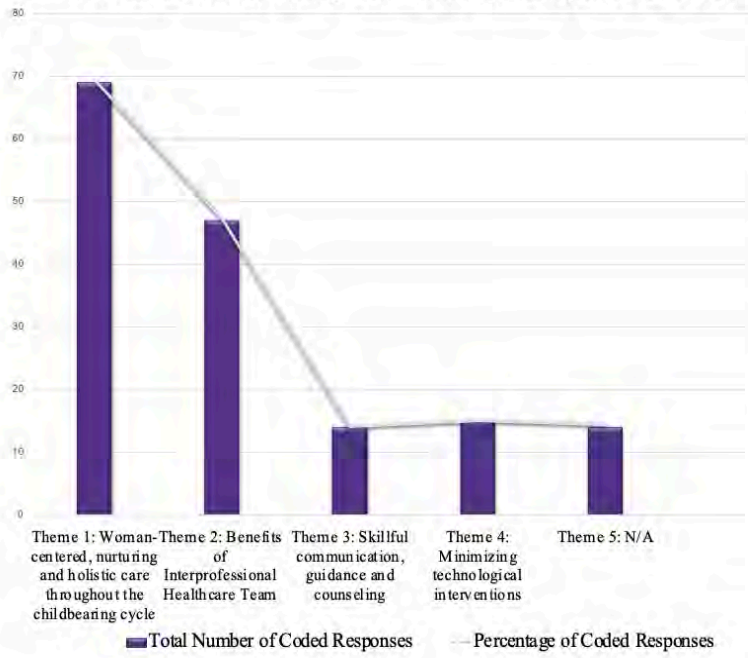


**Figure 3.** Survey responses from 3rd year medical students in the 2019-21 Ob/Gyn Clerkship. (N=124)

- 61 participants from 2019-2020 and 63 participants from the 2020-2021 school years for a **total of 124 participants**
- “Describe in your own words the midwifery model of care and how it complements our team setting” responses (table 1 and figure 1):
  - 43% of responses favored the theme of “**woman-centered, nurturing and holistic care throughout the childbearing cycle**”
  - 30% of students noted the benefits of having CNMs and an interprofessional healthcare team for patients and workflow
  - The additional 3 themes revolved around skillful communication/counseling, minimizing surgical interventions and no response recorded
- “Describe your experience in working with the CNM provider(s)” responses (table 2 and figure 2):
  - 72% of responses stated that this was an overall positive and educational IPE experience
  - 16% preferred more time working with CNMs in the clinical setting

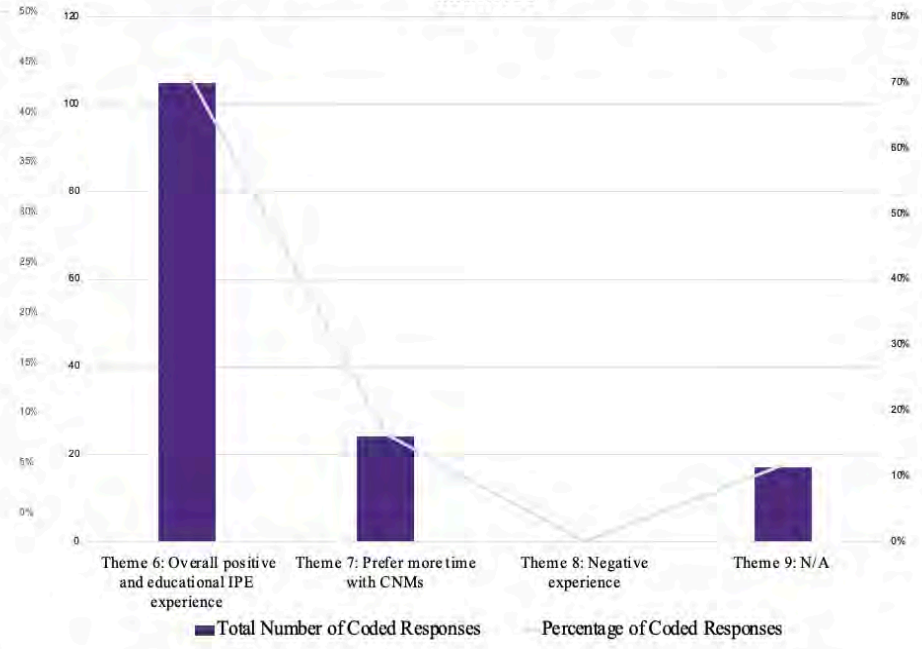
# Results

**Medical Student Perceptions of the Midwifery Model of Care**



**Figure 1.** “Describe in your own words the midwifery model of care and how it complements our team setting” survey responses from 3rd year medical students in the 2019-21 Ob/Gyn Clerkship (students can list multiple answers).

**Medical Student Experiences working with Certified Nurse Midwives**



**Figure 2.** “Describe your experience in working with the CNM provider(s)” survey responses from 3rd year medical students in the 2019-20 ObGyn Clerkship (students can list multiple answers).



**Camille Bauer**  
@camille\_bauer\_

This project was so impactful on my decision to go into Ob/Gyn!! Loved my experience working with CNMs. Inter-professional learning and teamwork is so important for well rounded patient care. Kudos @opcampbell 🍷🥰

 **Distinctly Brody** @BrodyDistinctly · 4/18/22  
#ECUDistinctionDay22

Olivia Campbell, Med Ed Scholar @opcampbell

Check out our research on interprofessional education with Certified Nurse Midwives and 3rd year medical students #MedEd #Obgyn. Mentor: Dr. Jill Sutton and Monica Horne, CNM

**“Exposure to a different model of care with its own strengths was beneficial. In fact, I admired the patient centeredness of the midwifery model so much that I will aim to try to emulate certain practices while seeing patients in other scenarios in the future.”**

- Overall, students mentioned they received more hands-on opportunities when working with midwives and felt they helped cover Ob/Gyn medical education topics during downtime.
- Plan to continue this IPE experience for future 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical students to work with Certified Nurse Midwives and collect survey data
  - Continue to revise the IPE experience based on feedback to achieve LCME goals of required IPE for medical students
  - Provide opportunities to work with CNMs in clinic and L&D



- Limitations: response bias and lack of participation by all students as they can opt-out of completing this survey.
- A weakness of the study involved scheduling difficulties that created variations in the actual time spent between CNMs and third year medical students.
  - Dependent on each participant's individual schedule, some students had the opportunity to spend more time than others with CNMs outside of the one half-day.
- The number of teaching CNMs has decreased for various personal reasons over the course of this study from 4 to 2.

Our results of medical student experiences working with midwives align well with the LCME current goals of IPE within the medical school curriculum.

There are numerous advantages of midwifery involvement in medical education, including, introduction of the midwifery model of care and expanded awareness of the normalcy of birth in tertiary care settings [3].

This study would have been strengthened by pilot testing the questionnaire and incorporating feedback into the final questionnaire.

Learned on the Ob/Gyn residency interview trail that IPE experiences with midwives as a medical student and/or resident is not available at all institutions

# Next Steps

- Of note, medical students were not given a formal lecture or materials regarding the midwifery model of care, these responses were based solely on individual experiences and knowledge
  - Future studies could include a short midwifery model of care lecture during orientation or even a short online module to review
- Future studies in interprofessional education could expand upon the CNMs perception of IPE with medical students and residents
- Additionally, future IPE studies and experiences could be incorporated into the other 3<sup>rd</sup> year clerkships (ex. PM&R rotation – pair med students with PT/OT for a shift)



# Acknowledgements

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**Thank you to all the midwives and medical educators who have dedicated themselves to improving the future of undergraduate medical education.**

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