

Learning the Art of Quality Improvement as a LINC Scholar

Elizabeth Ferruzzi, MS2

Elizabeth Ferruzzi
LINC Scholars Program
Brody School of Medicine at East
Carolina University
Greenville, North Carolina 27834
919.923.8411
kripnerm14@students.ecu.edu

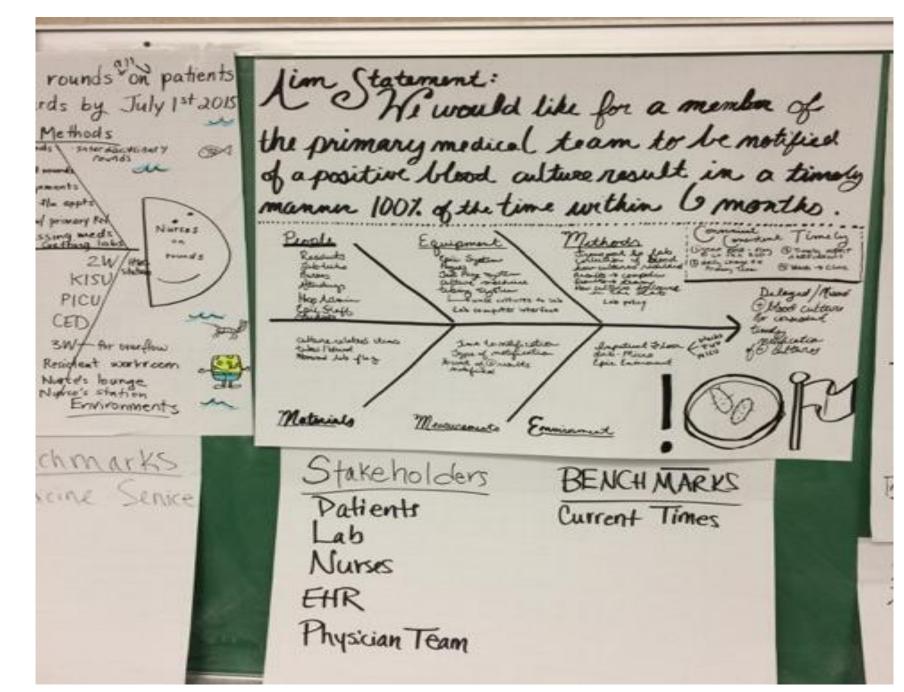
METHODS/DESCRIPTION

Project Steps: Currently under discussion and revision, but including (and not limited to):

- Implementing a QI Tools lecture during first year of medical school
- Describing the final mini-QI project
- Observe the final results at the end of a year for application

RESULTS

Last summer five students, as part of the Leaders in Innovative Care (LINC) Scholars Program, participated in an 8-week summer immersion course teaching tools for QI. They participated in mini-QI projects and presented their findings to team leaders at the end of the summer. The projects and results were exceptional, with high reviews from the team.



RATIONAL/NEED

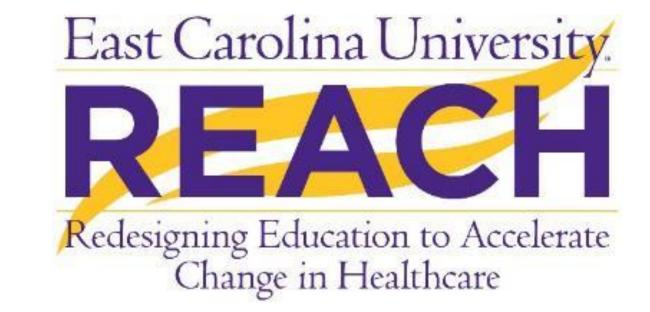
During the first two years of medical school, students receive extensive training through a classroom-based curriculum, in order to have the basis of knowledge to become advanced physicians who are specialized in the different fields of medicine. However, there is something missing from the curriculum that goes beyond the lectures of medical information. Medical students need experience with quality improvement starting from the first year, in order to facilitate further learning in this growing area of interest for future physicians. This poster discusses the results of a trial experience of teaching the quality improvement tools to students and having students put together a quality improvement project over the course of a few weeks in order to practice the tools learned.

AIM: We want medical students to learn the tools of quality improvement (QI) during their first year of medical school, and then implement the QI tools during the course of the year, culminating in a final project presentation during the final month of the first year, demonstrating that students have completed/participated in a mini-QI project and applied the QI tools.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The LINC Scholars Program was created with financial support from the American Medical Association (AMA) as part of the "Accelerating Change in Medical Education Initiative". The content reflects the views of the authors and does not necessarily represent the views of the AMA or other participants in this initiative.

This poster was prepared with financial support from the Doctors Company Foundation (TDCF).





EVALUATION PLAN

- Evaluation by distinguished faculty who have had QI training
- Evaluation by individuals involved with the change in curriculum to come to the Brody School of Medicine
- Student opinions needed to discuss feasibility in medical curriculum

POTENTIAL IMPACT/LESSONS LEARNED

There is a growing need for medical students who have been diversely trained with a unique and useful skillset. Quality improvement is an extremely significant part of the future of medicine. Brody School of Medicine has always lead the way in teaching medical students, and incorporating QI training into the curriculum is an innovative way to continue to bring up the best and most well-trained physicians from any medical school.