Improving Quality of Care through Medical Spanish Education

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Problem
Many Spanish-Speaking patients do not receive the same quality of care due to a lack of Spanish language resources and educational opportunities in the community.

Opportunity
Brody medical students with Spanish-speaking skills are seeking additional training in Medical Spanish terminology and a space to practice and refine language skills.

Background
• Language barriers may result in increased risk of medical errors and poor health outcomes
• Physician/patient language concordance is associated with improved quality of care
• Medical Education communication skills and cultural competence standards include preparing physicians to care for "vulnerable linguistic minorities"
• Barriers to success of Medical Spanish courses:
  • Lack of time in curriculum
  • Lack of faculty support
  • Significant variation in skill level

Survey from Medical Students
53 total respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish Proficiency</th>
<th>M1</th>
<th>M2</th>
<th>M3</th>
<th>M4</th>
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<td>Native</td>
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Proposed Solution: Medical Spanish Interest Group
We are starting an interest group this upcoming Fall 2021 for students to practice medical terminology and communication skills in Spanish.

Proposed Events:
• Spanish Social
• Organ system-based scenarios
• Education on interpreter use
• Volunteer opportunities for students to provide health promotion and education in the community

Long Term Curriculum Goal
To develop a curriculum-based opportunity for students to learn Medical Spanish.
• Faculty mentors
• Standardized Spanish-speaking Patients/OSCE scenarios
• Complex communication scenarios (informed consent, delivering bad news, etc.)
• Pre/Post Course Evaluation of Proficiency
• Sustainable partnerships with community organizations

Mission
To provide better care and communication to Spanish-speaking patients by improving Medical Spanish capabilities of medical students and future physicians.

Vision
• More medical students and future physicians will confidently speak Spanish in clinical settings and assist community partners in health promotion and education.
• Spanish-speaking patients will have access to quality patient education to make informed decisions about their lifestyle and health.

Interest? Follow the BSOM Medical Spanish Interest Group:

Instagram  Facebook

Acknowledgements
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