

The Implementation of Sexual Assault Education for Second Year Medical Students

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BACKGROUND

- Sexual Assault (SA) is a pervasive issue that impacts over 460,000 people in the US annually.₁
- 94% of SA victims have symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) after their assault.
- To ensure that all students can have the tools and experience to properly treat SA patients in an empathetic and non-traumatizing manner, a hands on program will be developed to teach second year medical students (M2s) about SA treatment and forensic collection.

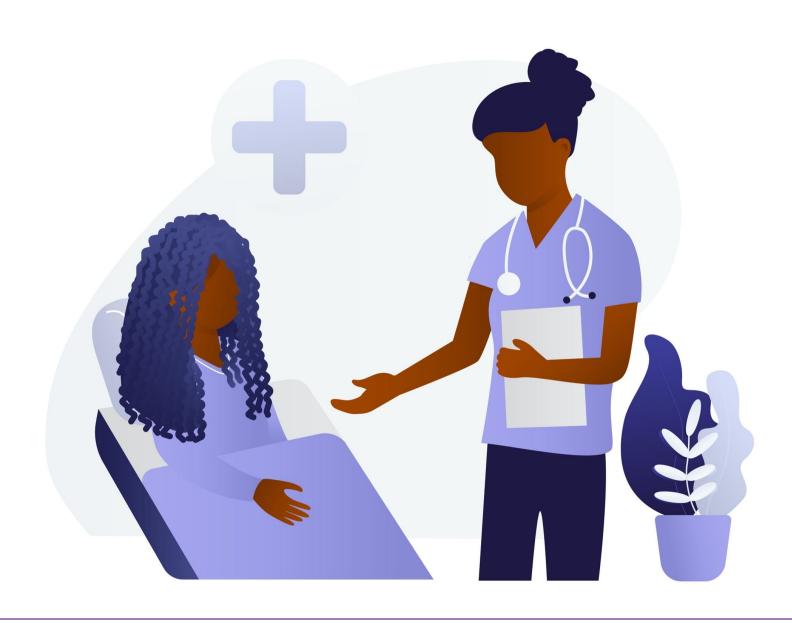
PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Despite these alarming statistics, medical students at the Brody School of Medicine (BSOM) are not trained to properly treat patients who have experienced SA in a trauma informed manner (TIM).
- Due to the widespread nature of SA in the US, students should be prepared to conduct forensic collections on SA patients and collect a pertinent medical history on patients in a TIM.₂



METHODS

- This program will be structured similarly to a required clinical practice session that BSOM routinely implements.
- These clinical practice sessions consist of an hour long didactic session about a particular topic.
- Students will then practice their interviewing skills on a standardized patient, focusing on the topic of the didactic session.
- Students will also practice a physical exam centered on the topic discussed.
- This program will have an hour long didactic session about SA, the proper course of treatment for these patients, and how to conduct a forensic collection.
- Students will use what they have learned in their didactic session to guide their trauma informed care (TIC) approach to taking a patient interview and collecting a forensic kit a low fidelity pelvic model.
- This study will use a mixed methods design to determine student knowledge and comfort level surrounding TIC and SA.



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POTENTIAL IMPACT

- This program has the potential to bring awareness to the ubiquity of SA and the need for TIC for SA patients.
- It will allow students to practice skills used in SA treatment in a safe environment with instructor feedback, empowering students to become better informed to treat SA patients.
- By completing this program, future doctors should be able to treat patients in a TIM₃.
- Proper training, knowledge of procedure, and TIC can place patients at more ease and potentially reduce the risk of re-traumatization.



EVALUATION PLAN

Quantitative Evaluation:

- Before attending the session, students will complete a pre-test assessing their current knowledge about SA,TIC, and forensic collection.
- After successful completion of this required session, students will take the same test to determine if the intervention was successful in teaching these topics.

Qualitative Evaluation:

- Before attending the session, students will complete a likert scale test that examines student comfort with the topic of SA, TIC, and forensic collection.
- After successful completion of this required session, students will take the same likert scale test to determine if the intervention changed student's perception on the listed topics.

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