



Physician Leadership Certificate: Leadership training for medical students at Memorial University of Newfoundland

Victor Maddalena, Division of Community Health and Humanities; Fran Kirby, Robert Glynn, Professional Development and Conferencing Services

Purpose: While physicians are expected to play an important leadership role in the health system, many physicians lack formal management and leadership training. The DRAFT CanMEDS 2015 Physician Competency Framework identifies seven principal roles: Medical Expert, Communicator, Collaborator, Leader, Health Advocate, Scholar, and Professional. **Methods:** In 2013 as part of the implementation of its new medical curriculum the Faculty of Medicine at Memorial University developed a new Physician Leadership Certificate (PLC) for the undergraduate medical education program. The PLC provides introductory level management and leadership training to enhance medical student's knowledge and skills to prepare them to be leaders in the health care environment. The PLC is comprised of an 8 module fully online program delivered over the 4 years of the MD program. The new medical curriculum at MUN is divided into four phases. The PLC offers 2 modules per phase. The PLC modules include: Introduction to leadership concepts; Structures and organization of the healthcare system; Strategic planning in health care; Project management for physicians; Media relations, Communications and social media; Program evaluation in healthcare settings; Human resources management; and, Case studies in Leadership. **Results:** The PLC has been well received by medical students. Pre and post confidence testing of content knowledge has been very positive. Ongoing quality improvement and feedback from students result in updating of course materials. **Conclusions:** The Physician Leadership Certificate has enabled the MUN undergraduate medicine program to provide a leadership and management curriculum to address the CanMEDS competency of Leader. **Disclosure Statement:** The Physician Leadership Certificate was funded internally by the Faculty of Medicine.