Progression to postgrad: Memorial University of Newfoundland’s twist on the longitudinal integrated clerkship experience

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Background: Longitudinal Integration Clerkship (LIC) has become an integral part of undergraduate medical learning. Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) has expanded on the foundations of LIC to incorporate both CanMEDS competencies and the Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) objectives. This created a selective clerkship rotation known as Progression to Postgrad (P2P). Objectives: Students select P2P as a 12 week rotation focused on patient and community based medicine. Students gain exposure to longitudinal experiences in the management of multiple co-morbidities among all age groups. Students receive an enriched experience as they transition from clerkship to residency. Methods: P2P began as a pilot study where students chose the P2P selective once they completed their core clerkship courses. In the pilot, three participants were placed in two sites. Students were immersed in both core and non-core disciplines. They also learned continuity of care because they could follow a patient from community, through treatment, and back to the community. Results: P2P yielded positive feedback from participants. Students reported that the amount of clinical exposure to community and patient based medicine, as well as working with various health professionals were definite strengths of P2P. Students also identified template scheduling and transportation support as areas that P2P could improve. Conclusion: With the success of P2P, the Faculty of Medicine has been able to make P2P a competitive selective for students. Three more sites have been created to accommodate more students. Currently there are five participants completing P2P while ten students are enrolled for next year.