

Supporting transition to residency through the use of multi-media modules (WISE-OnCall)

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The AAMC has called on medical educators to ensure that students demonstrate competence in 13 core Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) before entering residency. Although some of the EPAs such as clinical reasoning and communication are taught during the clinical rotations, few schools have a formal curriculum to address the EPAs and virtually none have a means of assessing and documenting students' preparedness for residency. To address the curricular need, we have created WISE-OnCall, multi-media instructional modules to help students focus on assessing and managing patients in an effort to improve their preparedness for residency. This presentation addresses the design of the instructional modules, how they address the EPAs, and how we have incorporated them into our curriculum.

The WISE-OnCall modules address common clinical problem such as oliguria, hypotension, abdominal pain, dyspnea, lower extremity pain, acute high blood pressure, and chest pain. The modules have three major components. The first is a review of the differential diagnoses with a concentration on important acute diagnoses and recommendations for early management of the patient. Second is a dramatization of how a resident assesses a patient with such a complaint by questioning and examining the patient, and gathering information from the nurse, the medical record, laboratory and imaging tests. The case presentation also models how the resident communicates the findings to a superior and interacts professionally with the patient and nurse. The final section is a series of practice cases for the student to assess their own clinical skills. The modules address 10/13 of the EPAs.

A survey of 296 medical students from 31 schools indicated that the learners felt the WISE-OnCall content was relevant (96%) and commented that they learned something new (85%). In a small controlled performance based study (N=111 near graduate students) we found marked variability in the level of preparedness for residency at baseline with significant improvement in interpreting, reporting and managing a clinical situation immediately after viewing the WISE-OnCall related module.

In conclusion, most of the core EPAs can be addressed using this style of learning experiences. In this presentation we will share our experience in implementing In the WISE-OnCall modules into our surgical and critical care clerkships, the medical and surgical sub-internships, the transition to residency course and the second year practice of medicine course in order to strengthen our curriculum and address the 13 core EPAs for entering residency.