

The MGH Interprofessional Clinical Exposure: An Innovative Collaborative Clinical Education Model

Caitlin Fitzgerald, PT, DPT; Mary Evenson, OTD, MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP;
Meredith O'Dea, MS, CCC-SLP; Trish Zeytoonjian, MSN, RN



MGH INSTITUTE
OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

www.mghihp.edu

Background

The Interprofessional Clinical Exposure (IPCE) was embedded as a pilot program within the MGH Institute's IMPACT Practice course series. The IPCE was designed to build on the strengths of the previous Interprofessional Dedicated Education Unit experience while allowing for increased student participation. The majority of the current experience takes place on the Massachusetts General Hospital's two Interprofessional Dedicated Education Units (IPDEUs).

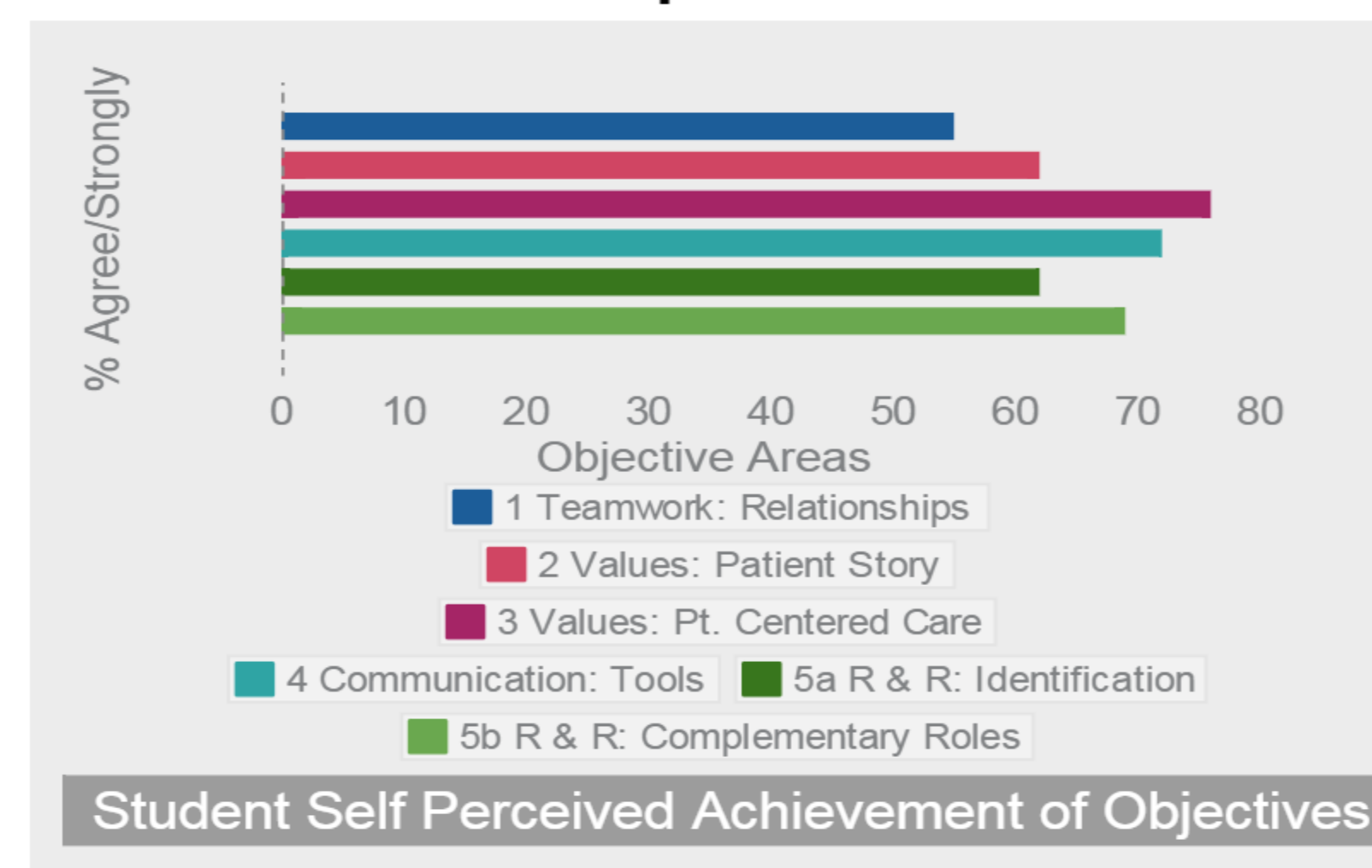
The MGH Institute has developed an enhanced interprofessional curriculum, IMPACT Practice, that consists of three required 1-credit courses.

The goal of IMPACT Practice is to prepare graduates to function effectively as members of interprofessional collaborative teams, and to lead the change that will positively impact the systems in which they practice and every patient and client they encounter.



Results

Post Experience Responses



Debriefing Themes

-Coordinated collaborative interprofessional care (IPC) is essential to providing safe, effective care.

-Effective IPC accomplished with communication and accountability of team members from all disciplines.

-Concise, clear, comprehensive communication using many modalities (e.g. writing, face-to-face, & rounds) are necessary.

-There is no substitution for in-person, face-to-face communication

-The patient and family must be included in collaborations

-Respect and trust is an essential part of this collaboration

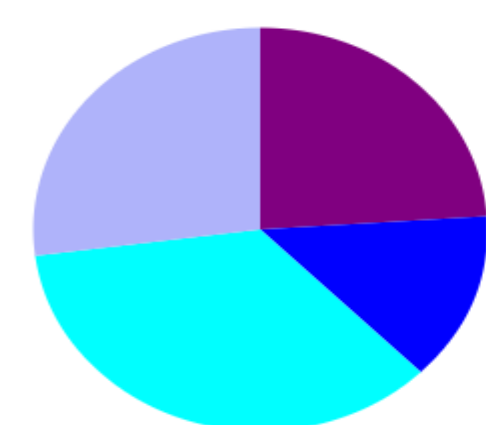
-Flexibility is an essential skill for team members to provide effective interprofessional collaborative care.

-Advocating for patients is the role and responsibility of every team-member.

Methods

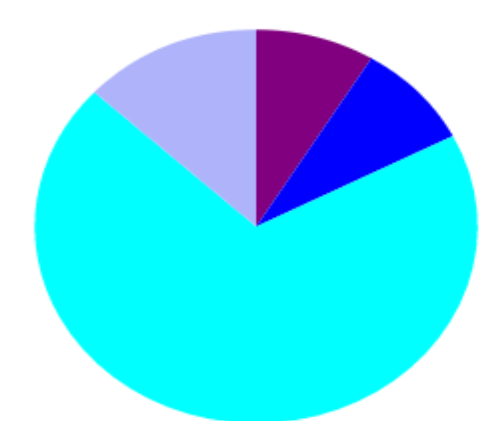
Participants Students (n = 94)

Physical Therapy (24%) Occupational Therapy (14%)
Nursing (35%) Speech Therapy (27%)



Clinical Instructors (n = 24)

Physical Therapist (9%) Occupational Therapist (9%)
Nurse (70%) Speech Therapist (13%)



Focus of IPCE objectives

1. Teamwork Relationships: Developing and communicating compassion, empathy, respect, and trust in relationships with team members



2. Appreciating the Patient Story: Fostering empathy and compassion



3. Patient Centered Care: Placing the interests of patients at the center of interprofessional health care delivery



4. Selecting Communication Tools: Identifying most effective communication tool for a given situation



5. Roles and Responsibilities:
a. Describing roles and responsibilities
b. Identifying effective use of complementary roles



Teaching Modalities

Clinical Experience



One 1/2 day per week

Interprofessional dyad paired with clinical instructor (CI)

Two week clinical experience with patient shadowing activity one week

Students oriented via online module (in-person session cancelled due to inclement weather)

CIs oriented via 1 hr in-person session

Reflective Debriefings



Small group reflective discussion on-site

Facilitated by clinical faculty

Main themes recorded by facilitators

Conclusion

Lessons Learned

*Students encountered many health professionals who are not represented by their programs of study. Increased background education and discussion to facilitate improved identification of additional roles and responsibilities of team members is warranted. Suspect that limited orientation on this topic due to weather cancellation may have had an effect.

*Active observation level experience may not facilitate achievement of teamwork/relationship focused goals. Students may need more opportunities for practice of these skills.

*Aim to have students focus on patient story was not well executed. May need additional opportunities to converse with patients to further develop empathy.

*Logistics are a vital component to providing a successful clinical education experience and continued attention must be given to this area.

*Quality orientation for all stakeholders is important for providing successful experience.

*Challenge to develop, grow and evaluate a robust and sustainable model, especially when the academic and healthcare institutions are growing and changing.

Future Plans

*Expand model next semester to include students in MGH Institute's new Physician Assistant program.

*Explore options for IPCE in relation to IMPACT practice and individual programs of study at MGH Institute.

*Increase training for clinical instructors supported by Massachusetts General Hospital Executive Committee on Teaching and Education (ECOTE) grant.

*Continue exploration of opportunities for replicating and expansion of current model.

*Continue work to streamline logistics.



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