

Good Poster Examples



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Educational Research

The Use of iPads to Facilitate Student Learning

Technology has become increasingly pervasive in dental education, yet investigation of utility and impact of technological devices in dental curricula has been limited. This study investigated students' use of tablets (iPad) as clinical tools in their transition to clinic following the first-year curriculum at one dental school. The study goals were to explore the utility, perceptions, and potential of the tablet during patient care and to determine how tablets, as an educational platform, can be implemented into dental curricula to facilitate students' transition into clinical care. Methods: First-year dental students (n=39) received tablets preloaded with clinic course materials: instructions and video of how to take blood pressure, perform head and neck exam, and interview a patient. They were trained how to access the material two weeks prior to their initial patient encounter. Students completed pre- and post-surveys to assess the usefulness of the tablet as a reference tool and provide perceptions of technological devices in clinic care. Results: Students reported feeling proficient in using the tablet (98%) and mobile technologies in general (94%). The majority said they believed the tablet prepared them for their initial clinical experiences (77%) and enabled them to be more efficient during clinic (63%). They did not find that the tablet negatively impacted their ability to establish relationships with patients (82%). A majority reported that the tablet would be useful on other rotations (74%), they planned to refer to the content to assist in other courses (85%), and that the tablet will have a positive impact on their clinical learning experiences (75%). Conclusion: These students had positive perceptions about using the tablet to facilitate clinical care during their initial patient encounters and expected to utilize this new technology in their future courses.

New Program

Providing Dental Students With Training in Correctional Oral Health Care in an Integrated Student-Faculty Collaborative Clinic

The United States has the world's largest incarcerated population, and access to dental care is one of the most highly reported needs of formerly incarcerated people. In this program, an interdisciplinary faculty and student team implemented a dental clinic in a city jail as part of an integrated medical, dental, and mental health care team. The goals of the clinic are to a) provide dental care to a population detained in a jail, b) provide students with educational exposure to correctional dentistry, and c) establish a model for delivering interdisciplinary health care in a correctional facility. Methods: IRB review set status as exempt. Dental, medical, nursing, physician assistant, and undergraduate students volunteer at the clinic, which is administered by an attending psychiatrist, dentist, and physician. Dental care is delivered by third- or fourth-year dental students, assisted by first- or second-year students. An attending dentist supervises dental care and patients elect to be treated by students. Patients are referred among dental, medical, and mental health teams during the clinic session. All disciplines meet at the conclusion of clinic to discuss patients encountered and lessons learned. Outcomes: Ten percent (n=27) of the student body participated in this volunteer program. Student were surveyed following their experiences; 60% indicated increased interest in correctional health and 82% indicated increased interest in working with underserved groups. The clinic is the only student-faculty collaborative clinic in a correctional institution in the nation. As a result of this program, nondental health professions students have been trained to provide oral exams and dental anesthesia to patients through skill sharing among students at the clinic. Dental students developed an oral health module for the detainee education curriculum. Conclusion: This integrated clinic in a jail exposes dental students to correctional dentistry through team-based interprofessional care.