

Teaching Tips

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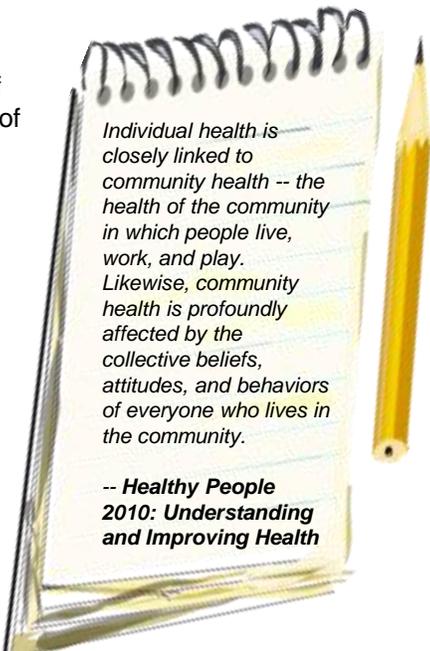
Department of Family & Social Medicine Faculty Development E-Newsletter



Tips for Community-Based Medical Education

Teaching and learning in primary care and community settings is a common aspect of most medical trainings. These tips touch upon both the practical and political aspects of community-based medical education and essentials of effective educational practice.

1. Consider how you can best convey the values for why you have chosen to become involved in community-based care.
2. Model the behavior you wish your students to adopt, this helps them develop a positive vision of a community-based career.
3. Community-based learning is a culture shock for some students: induct students into it.
 - Let students know ahead of time that community-based work can be challenging and discuss their initial experiences early in their placement.
4. Be sure you understand and support your students' learning needs.
 - Contact the clerkship/course director for the learning objectives and ensure that you understand your role in assessment.
5. Work with your colleagues to balance teaching responsibilities, support and guidance for students.
6. Make an effort to attend faculty development events.
 - Workshops, contact with one's peer group, and reflection are all valuable and have the potential to prevent burnout.
7. Make the most of an interdisciplinary team.
 - Encourage teaching by staff who hold non-medical degrees; this will help students become aware of the importance of a multiprofessional team.
8. Celebrate working in primary care
 - Primary care has been a major player in curriculum development for communication skills, medical humanities, and population health.
 - Keep in mind that one of the key roles of community-based learning is showing students real life; for you, this means supporting students in their understanding of the physician's role in community health.



Individual health is closely linked to community health -- the health of the community in which people live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community.

-- **Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health**

References / Resources:

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