A “Passport” to Urgent Care:  
Medical Student Education in the Pediatric Urgent Care Setting

Emily Montgomery, MD1; David Skoglund, MD1; Tiffany Addington, MD1; Robert Riss, MD2; Amanda Montalbano, MD, MPH1
Children’s Mercy Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

1Division of Urgent Care  
2Division of Hospital Medicine

Background

Pediatric Urgent Care (PUC) serves as a rich environment to teach outpatient pediatric acute care. 96% of PUCs host trainees, but only 4% host medical students. Constraints on clinical teaching slots necessitate the utilization of novel settings.

Fall 2017, the University of Kansas (KU) School of Medicine approached the Division of Urgent Care at Children’s Mercy Hospital (CMH) in Kansas City, Missouri to host 3rd year medical students as part of their pediatric clerkship. The PUC became a new site for medical student education, necessitating the development of a new curriculum.

Objectives were created through review of the Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics 3rd year objectives and KU pediatric clerkship objectives. We found multiple objectives could be met in PUC.

Working with multiple preceptors, objectives were formatted into a “passport”. Medical students expected to demonstrate these objectives at the “shows how” level of Miller’s Pyramid. The Passport functions as a checklist to ensure the student receives a broad education on acute pediatric concerns. Topics that are not covered by patient encounters are covered through brief teaching sessions.

The curriculum will be evaluated through post-rotation surveys of the rotation and all preceptors. The last 60 minutes of each student’s last shift are reserved for evaluation completion. Evaluations will be anonymously compiled and, once enough have been collected to ensure that anonymity, distributed to the preceptors and discussed with UC leadership.

Conclusion

Medical students increasingly need more venues for hands-on education, and urgent care provides a unique opportunity to provide this education. As urgent care continues to grow as a field, it will become increasingly important to incorporate it into medical education. Our efforts represent the initial steps toward a goal of national urgent care education for medical students. Future work will include evaluation of how medical student education impacts patient turnover in urgent care and measuring student & preceptor satisfaction.

References

• Majority of PUCs have trainees
• **Objective:** create curriculum for pediatric clerkship students
• **Challenges:**
  - Rapid patient turnover
  - Multiple preceptors
• **Advantages:**
  - High patient volume
  - Pediatric acute care problems
• Creating and meeting objectives
  – Review of COMSEP and KU clerkship objectives
  – Intersection with common PUC problems
• Objectives are
  – Met at “Show’s How” Level
  – Checked off through
    • Patient experience
    • Discussion with preceptor

Source: The University of British Columbia https://mdprogram.med.ubc.ca/about/curriculum/
• Passport system
  – Challenge of multiple preceptors
• Additional expectations (Articulate course)
  – 10 minute presentation
  – 2 notes/shift
  – May participate in procedures with supervision
• Ongoing evaluations:
  – Anonymous
  – Protected time
• Future plans
  – Throughput times
  – Preceptor/student satisfaction