Ensuring adequate and equitable clinical assessments in a general practice longitudinal integrated clerkship

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BACKGROUND

• General practice (GP) models can be utilized for longitudinal integrated clerkship (LIC).
• In GP LICs, family medicine preceptors teach and assess students across multiple specialties.
• Analysis of assessment done in GP-based LIC models is currently lacking.

OBJECTIVE

• Ensuring comparability in assessment for students in a medical school with both GP and multi-specialty LICs is essential.

METHODS

• To decrease assessment burden, a single comprehensive assessment form was created allowing GP preceptors to assess medical students in multiple specialties at once (Figure 1).
• In addition, brief assessment forms were developed for shorter feedback in one or multiple specialties based on patient age or specialty (Figure 2).
• In-person and virtual faculty development sessions around assessment were available to all LIC preceptors with specific sessions for GP LIC preceptors.

RESULTS

• Informal feedback on the faculty development was positive and revealed a key takeaway related to the importance of specificity when assessing across multiple specialties.
• Small incremental changes to the brief form were made over the course of the year to enhance use and completion rates.
• By the mid-point of the first year, the GP LIC students had an average of 9.33 (range 3-19) brief forms completed compared to 8.18 (range 1-24) forms for students in the multi-specialty LIC model (Figure 3).

CONCLUSIONS

• GP LICs creates unique challenges for preceptors to assess students in multiple specialties over time.
• We present one way of overcoming the challenge of ensuring students receive assessments with adequate detail for each individual specialty while not overburdening preceptors.

FUTURE WORK

• Midpoint and final comprehensive assessments completed by GP preceptors will be evaluated by mixed methods analysis.
• Specialty grading committees will determine if GP LIC students have sufficient data to assign final grades.

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