

FIRST YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF A CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ON ENTRUSTABLE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY (EPA) 4: ENTER AND DISCUSS ORDERS AND PRESCRIPTIONS

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Purpose:

- All medical students should be able to perform the Core Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) upon entering residency. While some medical schools focus on the EPAs during the 3rd and 4th years, there is limited data on preparing students for the EPAs during the 1st and 2nd years of undergraduate medical education. This poster describes a classroom activity introducing first year medical students to EPA 4.

Methods:

- In a 2 hour session of a Year 1 Osteopathic Medical Knowledge course, students were introduced to all thirteen EPAs, with a focus on prescription writing, a component of EPA 4. Information on state legal requirements for a prescription order, use of an electronic database to find medication selection/dosing information, and how to write a prescription order was provided. Afterwards, students were each given a clinical case, expected to write a prescription order, and encouraged to discuss their assigned case with their team members. 164 first year medical students were surveyed pre- and post-classroom activity for self-assessment of their knowledge and comfort with EPA 4.

Results:

- Pre-class survey results showed a majority of students never heard of EPAs prior to the activity. Students showed a large improvement in their understanding of state law requirements for prescriptions, felt more comfortable in choosing and dosing the appropriate medication, and writing a prescription after the activity. Open-ended survey questions allowed for qualitative data regarding how the students felt about the activity and ways in which it could be improved.

Conclusions:

Implementing an active classroom session on EPA 4 in the first year of medical school is

- Novel
- Engaging AND

Students gain valuable skills like

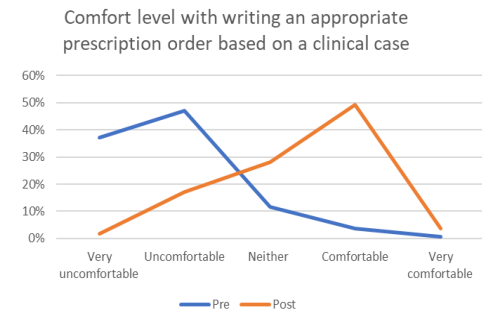
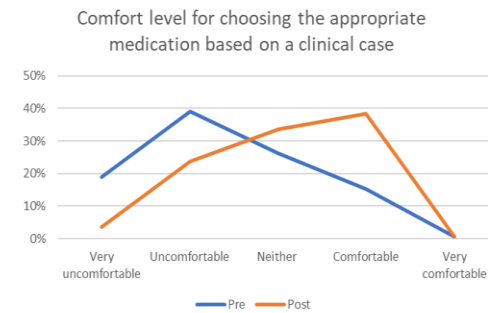
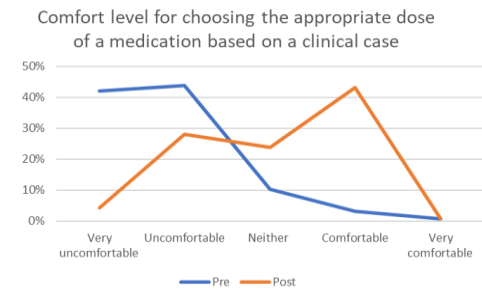
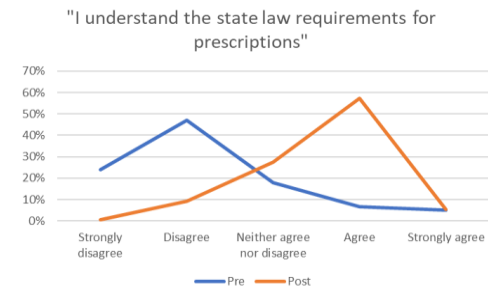
- Team-work
- Application of microbiology & pharmacology AND

Become more comfortable with their future roles as physicians

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Data/Graphs:

- 144 students (88%) never heard the words "Core Entrustable Professional Activity (EPAs)" before the activity



Comments About Activity:

- Informative
- Practical
- Helpful
- Applicable to future
- Enjoyable
- Excellent
- Interesting

Comments to Improve Activity:

- Use mock prescription pads
- Should be shorter
- More time, practice questions & discussion
- Better to do in Year 2
- Review drugs/dosages/dosage calculations
- Include more UptoDate® tutorial
- Need to use interactive EMR & online prescription