TOP 5 FINALISTS - ABSTRACT 1

Adapting CanMEDS Roles to residency programs using Opportunities for Learning (OFLs)

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Background: As Competency-based Medical Education (CBME) is implemented in residency programs, adapting CanMEDS 2005 framework’s generic descriptions to 73 specialty programs at the university has proven to be a challenging task. Residency training can vary widely according to the nature of the specialty. CanMEDS 2005 competency framework by itself is not enough for Program Directors (PDs) to integrate roles into residency training curricula.

Objective: to provide PDs with appropriate tools to integrate all seven CanMEDS Roles into their programs. Adaptation of roles to the specific nature of each medical specialty was the main requirement.

Method: Fifty clinical or professional situations that occur in settings where resident learning takes place were identified as "Opportunities for Learning" (OFLs). These situations, such as "Taking down a patient history" or "Chairing a service department meeting" require combinations of multiple competencies. Each OFL was associated with Medical Expert and at least one more CanMEDS role. Competency development pathways for each of the seven Roles allowed PDs to identify competency specific feedback indicators for OFLs at four levels of training. Thus one OFL can be used to provide feedback on multiple competencies at: end of pre-clinical training, end of clerkship, end of junior residency and end of senior residency. Their repeated use at successive levels of training distinguishes them from Entrustable Professional Activities.

Summary: Using a matrix, PDs inserted OFLs in different stages of their residency program thereby ensuring contextualized training for each competency. OFLs provided the necessary link to make competency statements operational for PDs.