Considerations in Caring for People with Physical Disabilities: A Course Elective

Ingrid C. Hendrix
Sarah K. Morley
Jennifer Benson

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Considerations in Caring for People with Physical Disabilities: A Course Elective

Ingrid C. Hendrix, MILS Nursing Services Librarian ihendrix@salud.unm.edu
Sarah Knox Morley, MLS, PhD, Clinical Services Librarian smorley@salud.unm.edu
Jennifer Benson, MD, Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine jbenson1@salud.unm.edu

Western Group on Educational Affairs Regional Meeting
Tucson, AZ
April 15th, 2016
2014 Elective

1. Prepare students to deliver healthcare to people with physical disabilities

2. Address recognized LCME gap in the curriculum

3. Knowledge gap in health professional education as evidenced by personal experience

- Elective open to 2nd and 3rd year MD students
- 5 sessions
Examining Attitudes and Barriers

1. Introductions and overview of this elective

2. Self-assessment questionnaire

3. Explore prior experiences with disability (small and large group discussion)
Supportive Resources

1. Small group in class activity
   a. Explore available community services/resources based on specific case scenarios:
      i. Assistive Technology
      ii. Durable medical equipment
      iii. Educational support
      iv. Home modifications
      v. Service animals
      vi. Transportation

2. Large group discussion
Invited guests share personal life stories and experiences with healthcare

(small group discussion)
1. Observe functional history taking conducted by medical, occupational, and physical therapy providers.

2. Discussion with a social worker regarding specific cultural competencies, etiquette and clinical accommodations for working with deaf / hard-of-hearing patients.
1. Draft an effective letter of medical necessity

2. Describe public accommodations in a healthcare facility
   UNM Hospitals/Clinics Environmental Review – checklist
2016 and Beyond

• Adopted for all MD and PA students (N=~130)
• Doctoring I – Year 1 fall semester
  – invited guests with disability personal stories
• Doctoring IV – Year 2 fall semester
  – Functional assessment
  – Supportive Resources
  – Clinic accessibility checklist
  – Awareness of patient perspectives
Questions??

Ingrid C. Hendrix, MILS

ihendrix@salud.unm.edu

(505) 272-0638

• Elective syllabus
  http://hdl.handle.net/1928/23711

• Disability curriculum coverage – NMPH poster
  http://hdl.handle.net/1928/31867