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

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

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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



Communication

Invited guests share personal life stories and experiences with healthcare
(small group discussion)

The Interdisciplinary Team



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??

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- Elective syllabus

<http://hdl.handle.net/1928/23711>

- Disability curriculum coverage – NMPH poster

<http://hdl.handle.net/1928/31867>