

Title of Intervention: Incorporating Stroke Prevention into Medical School Curriculum

Intervention Strategies: Provider Education

Purpose of the Intervention: To educate first year medical students on stroke prevention

Population: Medical students

Setting: University of Massachusetts Medical School; school-based

Partners: None mentioned

Intervention Description:

- **Provider Education:** Stroke education components were either modified or added to a first-year medical school neuroscience course. The syllabus was updated to include stroke-related objectives. Written materials on stroke and stroke prevention were handed out on the first day of class. Stroke content was incorporated into lectures and interactive conferences. The course included a lab in which students studied stroke-related specimens, radiographic material and patient cases. Students attended a clinical conference with emphasis on guidance to high-risk patients. Videos shared examples of patients who experienced stroke warning signs and described them to their physician.

Theory: Not mentioned

Resources Required:

- **Staff/Volunteers:** Not mentioned
- **Training:** Not mentioned
- **Technology:** Audiovisual equipment
- **Space:** Space for classroom, lab and conference activities
- **Budget:** Not mentioned
- **Intervention:** Access to medical school classes, videos, syllabi and other written material, conference materials, lab specimens
- **Evaluation:** Tests, written evaluation

Evaluation:

- **Design:** Cohort
- **Methods and Measures:**
 - Pre- and post-tests measured stroke knowledge and self confidence in accuracy of knowledge
 - End of course evaluations assessed format, content and effectiveness of the curriculum

Outcomes:

- **Short term Impact:** The average stroke knowledge and self-assessment of stroke score increased significantly from pre-intervention to post-intervention. It remained significantly higher than pre-intervention after 8 months. Students felt the intervention was beneficial in terms of improving knowledge.
- **Long Term Impact:** Not measured

Maintenance: The stroke curriculum was modified after each iteration based upon student feedback and is now available online.

Lessons Learned: Not mentioned

Citation(s):

Billings-Gagliardi, S., N. M. Fontneau, et al. (2001). "Educating the next generation of physicians about stroke: incorporating stroke prevention into the medical school curriculum." *Stroke* 32(12): 2854-9.