GLOBAL MEDICAL EDUCATION: A NEW LENS IN FOGGY TIMES

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OBJECTIVES

- Review the state of global education in medical schools in the United States
- Compare global education between the U.S. and Central Europe
- Outline a new paradigm in global medical education for medical students and faculty
- Discuss challenges in providing global experiences in both first and third world countries
THE STATE OF GLOBAL - INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

- Growing worldwide over the last 15 years
- More flexible, innovative, and varied
- Methods for integration of global, interactive education vary
- Most common approaches
  - Didactive integrated course work (all areas including medical science)
  - International student organization (68%)
  - Elective courses (40%)
  - International experience through an affiliated agreement (30%)
THE STATE OF GLOBAL - INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

- Increasing interest in students to have global experiences
- Two thirds of all current issues in medical education have an international connection (and growing)

(Merson, M., Page, K.) 2009
RATIONALE FOR A COORDINATED AND VARIED INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL PROGRAM

- Strengthens overall student education
- Students can be exposed to a wide range of disease processes and procedures
- Students are exposed to different cultures and economic realities
- International language skills can be strengthened or acquired
- New professional connections can be made (personal and professional)
- Understanding of new and different education systems are developed
- Students and faculty are exposed to different perspectives on the practice of medicine (including research)
U.S. OPTIONS

- Mission Trips
- Study Abroad Programs
- Elective Courses
- International Conferences
- Collaborative Research
- Selective Rotations
- Required international experiences
- Student exchanges
- Semester abroad
- Other
US COMPARISON TO CENTRAL EUROPE

- Global standards in Europe
- Free exchange among E. U. schools
- Student support for U.S. study
- Increased student and faculty opportunities and options
  - Combined M.D./Ph.D. opportunities for research
  - Integrated developing country experiences thought 6 year curriculum
  - International clinic observations after first year
OPPORTUNITIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE

- Comenius University – Bratislava, Slovakia
  One of the top 500 universities in the world
- Student Options
- Innovations in Learning
NEW PARADIGMS IN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL EDUCATION

- Academicians are dealing with “First Globals” – students who see themselves as citizens of the world
- Expanded international affiliations throughout the world – Crone and Samaan, 2013
- Global collaboration and interprofessional team-building through 3D virtual environments and case studies (i.e. Avatar and other online environments) – Umoren et. Al, 2014
- Student and faculty collaborations using telehealth and online interactive communications
U.S. medical schools are establishing affiliated branch campuses in other countries (e.g. China, Qatar, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, India, Australia, and Lebanon)

“All health professionals in all countries should be educated to mobilize knowledge and to engage in critical reasoning and ethical conduct so that they are competent to participate in patient and population-centered health systems as members of locally responsive and globally connected teams” (Frenk J., et. al, Lancet 2010)
OUR CHALLENGES/OPPORTUNITIES IN GLOBAL EDUCATION

► “First Globals” are growing:
► 2 out of 3 of them have passports and are fairly well traveled
► They are highly competent in technology and can maintain international connections
► They have a desire to go anywhere
► They have a desire to change the world and make a real difference
► They envision a “one world, one medicine” philosophy
RESPONSES

- Expanded and varied opportunities
- Focused time and attention to international/global education
- Ongoing affiliations
- Innovation – listen to the 1st globals!
- Organize international student and faculty organizations
- Think beyond mission trips
- Incorporate research opportunities
- Include international selective rotations
- Other
QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION