D.O.-A.B.L.E. Program – A new Rowan SOM Admissions Recruitment Program: Pilot Study
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Background

This one-day program, Developing Osteopathic Applicants by Bridging Learning Experiences (D.O.-A.B.L.E.), integrates technology, peer-to-peer mentoring, didactics, and laboratory exposure to educate participants.

Pre- and post-program assessments were given to participants.

The questions in the assessments were based on the, “A Brief Guide to Osteopathic Medicine For Students, By Students” by Patrick Wu, DO, MPH and Jonathan Siu, DO which is on the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) website [6].

Purpose

Assess if an admissions recruitment program created using the flipped-learning model, will increase post-baccalaureate pre-medical students’ knowledge and interest in the Osteopathic Medicine and recruitment.

Method

Create an admission recruitment program based on the flipped-learning model to educated prospective applicants about the osteopathic medical field and osteopathic medical schools.

Figure 1: A cycle diagram of effects and actions.

Results

We were able to accomplish six goals with this two-year pilot study

Goal #1: Attract students from diverse backgrounds to the D.O.-A.B.L.E. program

Figure 3: A cycle distribution of effect sizes and actions.

Goal #2: Expose participants to what osteopathic medical schools look like in a virtual reality setting

Figure 4: From participant responses, all stated they understood all aspects of the program equally.

Goal #3: Increase participant interest in applying to osteopathic medical schools in the future

Figure 5: Participants showed an increased interest in applying to osteopathic medical schools.

Goal #4: Influence program interest in learning osteopathic medicine philosophy

Figure 6: Participants showed an increased interest in learning osteopathic medicine philosophy.

Goal #5: Increase participants’ knowledge of the scope and practice of osteopathic physicians as well as help define popular myths on the field

Figure 7: Comparison of pre- and post-assessments after each D.O.-A.B.L.E. program session

Goal #6: Increase prospective students’ knowledge and interest in osteopathic medicine and osteopathic medicine schools

Discussion

• This program is RowanSOM’s first admissions recruitment program that uses the flipped-learning model as a recruitment strategy to engage and attract prospective applicants.
• The D.O.-A.B.L.E. program may also be the first admissions recruitment program in the nation that uses a “flipped learning model” as a strategy to engage and recruit applicants.
• The statistically significant success of the D.O.-A.B.L.E. program supports the notion that establishing an interactive Admissions programs like D.O.-A.B.L.E. will be highly beneficial to the AACOM community in recruiting prospective students, especially students from URM communities [7-11].

Future Direction

• Continue with D.O.-A.B.L.E. program with Rowan University SOM MAPS students for 2019-2020 school year.
• Do case-studies and research projects on factor(s): gender, race, disadvantaged background, participants’ admissions cycle status, etc and the D.O.-A.B.L.E. program.
• Create another program (“D.O.-A.B.L.E. Jr”) which will have the same mission as the D.O.-A.B.L.E. program but be geared towards undergraduates at nearby institutions

Bibliography

1. Roman University SOM Admissions Staff
2. 1st and 2nd year Rowan SOM Medical student volunteers
3. Dr. Aubrey Glover, Dr. Rebecca Moore, Dr. James Bailey, Dr. Katie Rahm and Dr. T. Peter Dale, for allowing the participants the opportunity to sit in on the classes
4. RowanSOM INN1015A-2015 to MAPS coordinates (E) Yolanda koleva and RowanSOM 2018-2019 MAPS president Steve Billman

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