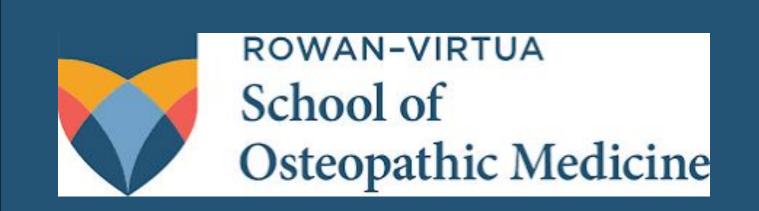
The Developmental Medicine Area of Distinction



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Issue

- Significant lack of medical education on caring for individuals with different abilities and exposure to this patient population
- 1 in 4 people in the USA identify as having a disability according to a 2022 CDC poll
- Results in residents/physicians who may lack skill set required to equitably care for such individuals
- Students are willing to learn, but don't know where to start

Student Driven Curricular Change shows need for education in this area

Goals

- 1. Develop curriculum for increased competence working with individuals with different abilities
- 2. Propose curriculum to Rowan-Virtua SOM curriculum committee
- 3. Advertise curriculum to students and encourage participation and completion

Area of Distinction

- Focused curricular area of interest
- Currently Rowan-Virtua SOM has 11 AODs available for student completion
- Increased education and competence in chosen discipline
- Elective for students to complete
- Allows students to pursue areas of interest that are not heavily included or directly included in the mandatory curriculum
- Completed over the course of the first 3 years
- Completion included in MSPE letter

Why This Avenue?

- Quicker approval timeline than curriculum change
- Allows for student involvement in curriculum development
- Encourages various avenues of involvement and exposure to patient population
- Will provide the data necessary to bring up increased mandatory curriculum inclusion in the future

Developmental Medicine AOD

Lectures/Activities
Professional Society lecture based content related to
Developmental Medicine and/or Healthcare for Individuals
with Different Abilities
Rowan-Virtua SOM AADMD Chapter Events
(Non-Community Service)

Didactics

2 Hours from pre-determined training resources (e.g. Mental Health Wellness for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities from UT Health San Antonio)

4 Hours from pre-determined training and/or approved conference lectures

Community Service

Service with an organization that primarily serves individuals with different abilities (does not have to be medically related)

1 page reflection on how these experiences will benefit them as a future physician

— Shadowing

20 Hours

8 Hours

Presentation

250-500

Words

4 hours Internal Medicine based shadowing at RISN 4 hours Behavioral Health based shadowing at RISN Alternative experiences can be used but must be pre-approved

Must be outside of clinical electives

Scholarly Activity

Poster Presentation or Paper suitable for publication Topic must be related to AOD and pre-approved

Final Reflection

How experiences working with individuals with different abilities and education/skills gained through completion of AOD will affect their practice as a future physician

Conclusions

- AOD officially approved as of Fall 2024
- 25 students expressed interest
- 9 students currently pursuing the AOD
- 1 student has officially completed the AOD

Student led curriculum change is possible and achievable

Limitations

- As of now, the AOD has only been official for 1 full semester
- Only 1 student has completed the AOD to date
- No quantitative or qualitative data from students who are participating in the AOD
- No data on how students feel the AOD helps their growth as a future physician
- No data on how students feel the various components add to educational enrichment

Future Directions

- Distribute a pre and post AOD completion survey to students
- Work towards increased mandatory curriculum inclusion of working with individuals with different abilities
- Encourage student competency with diverse patient populations

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References

