

Interprofessional Education (IPE) Project: Vancouver Island

Objectives

To design a partnership between health agencies and post-secondary education that:

1. Strengthens interprofessional partnerships and network
2. Advances interprofessional education
3. Promotes interprofessional collaborative practice
4. Contributes to quality patient-centred care

Project Approach

- Recruit IP teaching champions and learning sites
- Promote IP student placements
- Orient preceptors, instructors, and students to IP learning strategies
- Evaluate progress of students, preceptors, and educators in IPE sites
- Communicate effectively through web site, partner and conference presentations
- Host a team challenge at the University of Victoria
- Influence the inclusion of IPE in discipline specific curriculum design

“Having a personal relationship with the team members helped to build trust amongst us, and colleagues that trust each other are much more inclined to seek collaboration.”

Results

- 15 students placed in 2 sites in summer 2006 (immersion model; rural)
- 24 students placed in 5 sites in winter 2007 (exposure model; mostly urban)
- Student participation in planning & evaluation
- IPE project coordination: project partners, sites, and coordination in place
- Placement underway for summer 2007: 4 sites involved (rural and urban)
- Designed conceptual framework to advance IPE curriculum and evaluation
- Problem-based learning approach underway with instructors and students
- Held Team Challenge with 130 faculty and student participants; 2nd annual scheduled
- Conference and workshop presentations

Conclusion

- Practice education champions are essential for partnerships
- Practice sites benefit from coordinating IP student placements
- The education sector requires significant curriculum adjustment for joint student learning of IPE
- Students appreciate the valued and relevant learning of an IPE experience
- IPE is taken up as a catalyst for attaining key organizational targets.

Resources

For more information, please visit
<http://www.hsd.uvic.ca/ipe/index.php>