Design, Implementation, and Evaluation of an Education Program for Medical and Undergraduate Students to Advocate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Radiology

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No financial disclosures for any listed authors



Background

- Diagnostic radiology = 9th largest largest residency program
 - 17th for female representation
 - 20th for underrepresented minorities (URM) representation¹
- Why?
 - Lack of preclinical exposure → misconceptions and less interest in radiology²
 - Women: lack mentorship³ and perceive radiology as too competitive⁴
 - URM: lack of understanding of the field⁵
- The 5C's of Radiology Framework⁶ has been introduced as a model to structure educational programming in radiology for students.



Purpose and Objectives

- Purpose
 - Apply the 5C's to create a longitudinal educational program in radiology for students
- Objectives
 - Primary: increase **knowledge** and **interest** in radiology
 - Secondary: increase the **diversity** of students applying to radiology residency

Methods



M4 Post-Match IR & DR Panel

Women & URM

in Radiology

- 15 virtual & in-person events in 2022
- Medical & undergraduate students
- Two post-session questionnaires
 - Demographics
 - Knowledge: misconceptions, work-life balance, quality of program, future interest in radiology
- Two-tailed t-test comparison
 - Session modalities
 - Gender: Male v. female
 - Race: URM (African American, Hispanic/Latino, 2/2+ races)
 v. non-URM

Demographics

163 attendees with 47% survey completion rate (76 responses)



Results

- Session Modality
 - Quality: Procedure workshop rated highest quality modality (statistically significant*)
 - Interest: Undergrad sessions significantly* peaked radiology interest more than graduate sessions
 - Misconceptions: Procedure workshop significantly* less effective than other modalities for addressing misconceptions

Quality of Procedure vs. Career Advising Session Modality*



Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

Effectiveness of eliciting interest in radiology by session modality

	Undergrad	Skills	Procedure	Career
Mean	5	4.61	4.70	4.60
Variance	0	0.31	0.35	0.43
N	8	33	46	88
P (two-tail) vs.				
Undergrad		0.00029*	0.0011*	0.0000015*

Effectiveness of addressing misconception by session modality

	Procedure	Shadowing	Career	Undergrad
Mean	3.73	4.00	4.33	4.75
Variance	1.14	0.86	0.66	0.20
N	48	15	70	12
P (two-tail) vs.				
procedure		0.35	0.0015*	0.0000084*

Results

Women

- No statistical difference of sessions on interest, work-life balance, or addressing misconceptions between male vs female
- **Trend:** greater positive impact on increasing interest in radiology and promoting the work-life balance in women than men

- Underrepresented minorities (URM)
 - No statistical difference of sessions on interest, worklife balance, or addressing misconceptions between URM vs. non URM
 - **Trend**: greater positive impact on increasing interest in radiology in URM vs non-URM

Male vs. Female: Effectiveness in increasing interest in Radiology



Male vs. Female: Effectiveness in promoting work-life of Radiology

FEMALE

Non-URM vs. URM: Effectiveness in increasing interest in Radiology



Discussion

- Our program: equally effective in increasing the interest of all students, regardless of race or gender.
- Students value hands-on, interactive sessions > non-interactive sessions.
 - However, career advising sessions made a more positive impact on addressing misconceptions compared to interactive procedure workshops.
- Undergraduate outreach events significantly increase students' interest compared to graduate outreach events.
 - Undergraduate outreach = key pipeline

Conclusion & Next Steps

- Future projects: explore targeted strategies for underrepresented groups
 - Ex: Hosting one event showcasing women radiologists significantly impacts female students' misconceptions⁷.
 - Consider previously identified barriers⁸:
 - Preconceived notions of priorities for women:
 - Highlighting the family-friendly lifestyle of radiology = patronizing
 - Hidden curriculum for **URM**:
 - Encouraged to pursue primary care

- Future directions
 - Amplifying diagnostic radiology shadowing
 - Faculty-led career advising session
 - M4 Post Match Panels in diagnostic and interventional radiology
 - Radiology skills and procedure workshops
 - Undergraduate outreach

Thank you!

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