Adding Value: New Paradigms in Medical Education

Isaac J. Kirstein, DO, FACOI
Dean,
Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine - Cleveland
A Call for Change

Who Will Provide Primary Care and How Will They Be Trained?

The Urgency for Change

Abundant evidence shows that healthcare systems with a strong primary care component provide high-quality, accessible, and efficient care. People want primary care providers with whom they can have ongoing relationships. They want to know that when they need help, they have access to someone with knowledge of their health problems and their individual characteristics.

Despite evidence supporting these facts, the healthcare system in the United States has not developed or valued a strong primary care sector, though there are excellent examples of primary care to be found in many regions. The lack of a strong primary care infrastructure across the nation has had significant consequences for access, quality, continuity, and cost of care in this country. It also has had consequences for our health profession educational enterprise and the healthcare workforce, resulting in numbers and geographic distributions of primary care providers that are insufficient to meet current or projected needs.

Regardless of the outcome of current health reform efforts, the country will continue to innovate in attempts to provide access to care to several million additional people and simultaneously improve the health of populations, enhance the patient experience of care (including quality, access, and reliability), and reduce, or at least control, the per capita cost of care. We are facing an economic situation in which the current rate of rise of medical cost is unsustainable, and this situation is exacerbated by an aging population with higher care needs and expectations. These events have created a climate in which it is necessary and appropriate to question the models of care and health professions education on which we have relied.

If we are going to fulfill our nation’s promise to the public, and if we are going to produce the healthcare workforce required to accomplish our goals, we will need to enlarge and strengthen the primary care sector of the health system. There is great risk that if we do not do so, a significant portion of the population will continue to be without access to high-quality and efficient care, and healthcare costs will continue to escalate with dire consequences for the economies of individuals and the nation. Because of the magnitude of these problems and the current attempts to reform healthcare, there is great urgency in addressing these issues. These issues have registered in the public and professional consciousness in a way that suggests that unprecedented change is possible. The goal of this change is to produce “better health, better care, lower cost.” Failure to act now could put the health of our communities and the economy of the country in jeopardy.
Health professionals for a new century: transforming education to strengthen health systems in an interdependent world

Julio Frenk*, Lincoln Chen*, Zulfiqar A Bhutta, Jordan Cohen, Nigel Crisp, Timothy Evans, Harvey Fineberg, Patricia Garcia, Yang Ke, Patrick Kelley, Barry Kissin, Afaf Meleis, David Naylor, Ariel Pablos-Mendez, Srinath Reddy, Susan Scrimshaw, Jaime Sepulveda, David Serwadda, Huda Zurayk

Evolution of Medical Education

Clinical Integration
The Parallel

• We treat our patients like we educate osteopathic physicians
Health system collaborative education emphasizes:

1. Complexity from the patients perspective.
2. The importance of the inter-professional team especially at care transitions.
3. Competency-based evaluation based on clinical outcomes.
GOAL:
Education Outcomes = Clinical Outcomes

Pre-Clinical

Clinical

GME

HEALTHCARE NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

CARE COORDINATION COMPETENCY

OUTCOME EVALUATION
COLLABORATION

• Integration of Care Deliver and Medical Education
A New Pathway:

Blue Ribbon Commission
for the Advancement of Osteopathic Medical Education

http://blueribboncommission.org
(accessed Jan 15, 2014)
“Seek the company of those who are searching for the truth, and avoid those who have found it.”

-Vaclav Havel