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Student-Centered Rehabilitation Medicine Research Elective

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Purpose: To provide an opportunity for medical students to participate in rehabilitation research and allows the investigator to develop a database of the characteristics of the medical students choosing this elective.

Methods: An educational model modifying the core competencies of the Accreditation Council of Medical Education (ACGME) and American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) was used to develop a student-centered research elective. The student participated in one or more aspects of research including: literature review, study design, protocol development, Institutional Review Board or General Clinical Research Center proposal review meeting, data collection and analysis or presentation. A final written report was required. The student was interviewed by the principal investigator to acquire demographic information and reasons to select the rotation.

Results: Trial #1 consisted of 2 students, the age ranged from 26-27 y/o who were 3rd and 4th year medical students. We found a positive change from pre-test to post-test scores. One student was exploring Rehabilitation Medicine and the other student was decided to do a Rehabilitation Medicine residency.

Conclusion: This student-centered elective introduces rehabilitation research and can track information for marketing rehabilitation programs.