

New Curricular Guide for Interprofessional Education in Prevention and Population Health

Washington, DC, November 2013—The Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) has released a new curriculum guide, “Advancing Interprofessional Clinical Prevention and Population Health Education: Curriculum Development Guide for Health Professions Faculty,” to prepare students to participate effectively as members of interprofessional health care teams delivering clinical prevention and population health services. The Curriculum Guide is available on the APTR website at www.aptrweb.org/crosswalk.

APTR worked with the health professions education organizations representing medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, physician assistants and allied health to develop the guide as a tool for designing and implementing interprofessional learning activities in clinical prevention and population health. As accreditation standards and curricular guidelines increasingly include interprofessional education, it is necessary to provide health professions faculty with models for connecting clinical prevention and population health curriculum to the behavioral expectations of health professions students.

“Curricular guidance documents and accreditation standards in the health professions increasingly include expectations for interprofessional team-based competence,” says the lead author of the guide Susan Meyer, PhD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. “Offering students the opportunity to address population health issues as members of teams will equip them with an understanding of what each health professional brings to the care of patients and health of communities.”

“Facilitating team-based education and practice is critical to providing health care that is safe, high quality, accessible, and patient-centered,” said Geraldine “Polly” Bednash, PhD, RN, FAAN, president of the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC). “We applaud the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research for preparing this new resource to assist faculty across disciplines in designing interprofessional learning activities that build expertise in clinical prevention and population health. IPEC is committed to disseminating the new curriculum guidelines to the larger academic community to assure widespread adoption by our respective constituents.”

The guide was developed by the Healthy People Curriculum Task Force, an initiative of the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR), which also provided leadership in the development adoption of a new Healthy People 2020 objective addressing interprofessional prevention education (ECPB-19). The Curriculum Guide is adaptable and customizable to the specific learning environments and health professions education programs of an institution. The guide provides examples of how elements of the APTR “Clinical Prevention and Population Health Curriculum Framework” could be linked to competencies for interprofessional collaborative practice, specifically those outlined by the Inteprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) in its 2011 publication, “Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice.”

The Curriculum Guide has been endorsed by the Inteprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC).

The Healthy People Curriculum Task Force was established by APTR in 2002 to address the Healthy People 2010 objective to increase in the inclusion of core clinical prevention and population health content in health professions education. Member associations are: American Association of Colleges of Nursing, American Association of Colleges



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of Osteopathic Medicine, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Dental Education Association, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, Physician Assistant Education Association.

Contact:

Allison Lewis

all@aptrweb.org

202.463.0550 x133

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The Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) is the professional organization for the academic medical and public health community dedicated to prevention research and interprofessional education. APTR also represents the accredited and emerging graduate programs across the U.S. that grant public health degrees and prepare students for professional careers in public health. APTR develops curriculum, professional development programs, and tools for its membership of educators, researchers, residents and students. By connecting public, private and government funding opportunities with the academic prevention community we bring together individuals and institutions devoted to health promotion and disease prevention education and research.