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The future of health and rehabilitation: Interprofessional education & collaborative practice

Laura Smith

University of Michigan-Flint, USA

A demand exists for the educational needs of health providers to enter the workforce and confidently meet healthcare needs in today's culturally diverse, economically challenged society. A rising number of racial and ethnic minorities in the healthcare system and providing quality cost effective patient care has created challenges for health care providers. The proposed interventions to meet this societal need are interprofessional collaboration, interprofessional education (IPE), and collaborative teaching models. The goal of IPE is to provide an education for health care providers that will prepare them for working in a collaborative team environment to address the diverse health care needs of society. Interprofessional collaboration, IPE, and collaborative teaching practice models are of growing interest as a means of providing cost effective quality patient care. The general attitudes of faculty and students in health professions programs toward IPE are positive and well established in the literature. The overriding goal of IPE is to improve clients' health through the education of a collaborative, practice-ready workforce that is responsive to local health needs. Collaborative practice, interprofessional education, and interprofessional teamwork will be presented and ideas for collaborative practice models will be presented. The presentation will improve knowledge and provide specific suggestions to improve the educational delivery methods in health and medical learning environments and emphasize need for interprofessional collaboration and vision for collaborative practice.

Biography

Laura Smith is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Orthopedic Post Professional Residency and Certificate Program at the University of Michigan-Flint. She has extensive national and international teaching and clinical experience. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists. She is pursuing her PhD in Adult Education with research interests in interprofessional education and orthopedic manual physical therapy. She is an active member of the American Physical Therapy Association and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists.

johlaur@umflint.edu

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