

Research Activities - Research Curriculum

An evaluation of the research curriculum was conducted in December to assess faculty and resident support needs. Findings indicated that using lecture as the primary instructional method to advance resident's knowledge of the basic principles of research was limited in effectiveness.

As a result, the curriculum was redesigned to include multiple methods of instruction, such as, one on one coaching and small group discussions.. The curriculum ranges from global learning objectives (applies to all residents in all stages of research) to focused learning objectives ("just in time" learning as a resident engages in the research process).

Residents are required to present proposals and final research studies at their program's Resident Research Day. Faculty mentors encourage residents to submit these research studies to regional and national conferences for presentation and/or to submit manuscripts of these research projects for publication.

Interdisciplinary Grand Rounds (IDGR)

Mechanism: These monthly, hour-long sessions address learning needs common to residents in all programs. Sessions are mandatory, and residents who are unable to attend or wish to review sessions can access video-taped presentations on the SEAHEC intranet.

Topics: Design & Methodology Planning
Obtaining Approval from the Institutional Review Board
Study Execution & Conclusions

Competencies: Practice Based learning and Improvement
Professionalism
Systems Based Practice

Facilitators: Director, Clinical Research, University of North Carolina, Wilmington
Clinical Research Officer at New Hanover Regional Medical Center

Small Group Discussions

Mechanism: During these 30-60 minute discussions, residents within a program describe their current research initiatives and provide feedback to one another. While each session is designed to focus on a specific component of epidemiological research, discussion is flexible given the needs of the group. Additionally, system resources for research are reviewed.

Topics: Research Ethics and Institutional Review Board (IRB)
Developing a Research Question
Reviewing Relevant Literature
Research Design and Methodology
Data Collection and Entry
Statistical Methods
Preparing for Presentations and Publications

Resources: Institutional Review Board
Faculty Mentors
Medical Librarians
AHEC Digital Library
Assistance from Research Interns
GME Research Analyst (study design & statistics)
Research Coordinator (study design & clinical research)
Improving Performance in Practice
Protecting Human Research Participants certification

Competencies: Practice Based Learning And Improvement
Interpersonal and Communication Skills
Professionalism
Systems Based Practice

Facilitators: Faculty Research Champion; GME Research Analyst

Individual Coaching

Mechanism: One-on-one sessions focus on targeting an individual's knowledge gaps relative to an actual research project. Coaching occurs using multiple modes of communication, such as, face-to-face, by phone and through email.

Topics: Study Design & Methodology
Informed Consent
Medical Knowledge
Facility Resources
Statistical Relevance and Analysis
IRB Compliance Requirements

Competencies: Practice Based Learning And Improvement
Medical Knowledge
Interpersonal and Communication Skills
Systems Based Practice

Facilitators: Faculty Mentor, GME Research Analyst, IRB Compliance Office

Journal Club

Mechanism: Hour long sessions during which current literature selected by faculty is presented by residents for discussion. Residents rotate leading the group in an in depth analysis of the article.

Topics: Research Design & Methodology
Appraising Results for Relevance
Statistical Testing
Various Topics regarding Medical Knowledge

Resources: Medical Journals

Competencies: Medical Knowledge
Practice Based Learning and Improvement
Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Facilitators: Faculty; GME Research Analyst; Residents