Our Mission

We prepare tomorrow’s healthcare leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the demands of the evolving healthcare market. Our interns are trained to develop evidence-based integrated health programs that employ process improvement practices to achieve the “Triple Aim”.

Intern Duties: Adding Value to Your Organization

Our interns arrive prepared to develop and evaluate integrated health programs. Intern competencies include:

- Design, implementing and evaluation of population health management programs
- Program evaluation using such metrics as
  - HEDIS measurement set
  - CMS Quality Metrics for ACO
  - NCQA PCMH Standards
- Electronic Health Record enhancements for integrated health documentation and data
- Cost-benefit and return on investment (ROI) analyses

Fact Check

Patient centered medical home programs have proven successful in improving quality, patient satisfaction and achieving cost reductions

ACO incentives based on CMS Quality Metrics require integrated health care programs to meet targets and earn financial incentives

The DBH Intern

Patients with underlying behavioral conditions are very common in primary care, but rarely offered behavioral interventions that are evidence-based and the follow-up necessary to insure successful outcomes.

PCP's lack the time or training to provide evidence-based behavioral interventions.

PCP’s report they have more time to spend on patients with medical conditions when they are able to handoff behavioral cases to the DBH student intern.
What is Integrated Healthcare?

“A practice team of primary care and behavioral health clinicians, working together with patients and families, using a systematic and cost-effective approach to provide patient-centered care for a defined population.” (AHRQ 2013).

Intern Site Responsibilities

- Provide a preceptor to guide the intern orientation and duties
- Assist in end of semester brief performance evaluation forms
- Consult with DBH intern coordinator as needed

Opportunity Alert

When a patient with behavioral issues is handed off to the DBH intern the 15-20 minutes of PCP time required for that patient visit is freed up for other routine medical patient visits, improving billable services/revenue.

Types of DBH Internship Sites

In addition to primary care, many healthcare settings need integrated care programs to improve lifestyle problems and co-morbid medical and behavioral conditions. Hospitals, emergency departments, specialty psychiatric and substance abuse treatment programs, health plans, employer-based EAP and health promotion programs all need to integrate care.

The need: Patients with chronic medical conditions need to learn to self-management to make best use of health care.

Patient self-management includes:

- Lifestyle management including changes in nutrition, physical activity, stress, and smoking
- Effective treatment for depression, alcohol, pain, trauma
- Improved medication use

Administrative Issues

Each intern will spend 15 hours per week over the course of one semester

Planning for the internship takes place months before the start date so the intern hits the ground running with your projects

Each intern receives 90 minutes of group videoconference consultation with an ASU Faculty Associate each week.

For more information about the DBH Internship Program, please contact:
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