Encouraging Curiosity: The Value to Students, Residents and Faculty

We do not learn from experience...we learn from reflecting on experience.

John Dewey
Curious about us?

Abbie Jacobs

Harini Kumar

Deborah Taylor
Objectives

• Discuss why curiosity is vital as it pertains to resident education
• Identify barriers to advocating for curiosity in resident education and implement strategies to overcome them
• Utilize an advocacy/inquiry approach when giving feedback, mentoring or dealing with conflict
• Apply “curiosity focused” strategies to patients, learners and faculty
What is curiosity?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGeRo-efyp0

Webster’s Dictionary: *the urge to investigate, to seek after knowledge, to gratify the mind with new information or objects of interest*

Merriam-Webster Student Dictionary definition: *an eager desire to learn and often to learn what does not concern one.*

What does curiosity look like?
Benefits of an Inquiring Mind

- Health
- Intelligence
- Social Relationships
- Happiness
- Meaning

https://experiencelife.com/article/the-power-of-curiosity/

The Importance of Curiosity to Resident Learners

- Avoids premature closure
- Improves patient safety
- Better patient engagement
- Fosters relationships
- Promotes self-reflection
- Facilitates life-long learning
Barriers to Curiosity

- Time
- Over/Under-confidence
- Passive education
- Hierarchal, unsafe learning environment
- Avoid “hard” emotions
- Information gaps

"Imagination is more important than knowledge."
— Albert Einstein
Inquisitiveness = Human Curiosity

- Human trait
- Reliant on language
- Directed toward interpersonal understanding
- Essential to the development of empathy
- Given to examination or investigation
- Inclination to ask questions
- Curious about the affairs of others

3 Types of Human Curiosity

- Intellectual
  Goal = acquisition of knowledge
  Driven by contradictory facts
- Social
  Goal = understand another’s experience
- Affective
  Goal = pursuit of pleasure in novel or stimulating situations
• How do you ignite and/or sustain your residents’ curiosity?

• Do you assess competency in this area?

• How do you nurture faculty curiosity?
A Case
Part 1

Curiosity with Patients

• Hidden Curriculum
• Modeling
• Precepting
• M&M Conferences
• Reflective Writing
Case
Part 2

Curiosity with the Learner & Faculty

Teaching is not the mere imparting of knowledge but the cultivation of an inquiring mind.
Jiddu Krishnamurti
The Educational/Therapeutic Alliance

Assessment of Performance

Relationship Educational Alliance

Feedback Delivery

Content Process

Action Plan

Case
Part 3
Faculty Development

- What facilitates a “culture” of curiosity?
- Have you created a safe learning environment that encourages curiosity? Would your learners agree?
- How do we intentionally nurture curiosity in learners?
- What educational activities feed learner curiosity?
• SNAPPS
• Case Base Learning
• Embedded reflective writing
• Flipped Classroom
• Presentations based on learner’s
• Encouraging Patient as Teacher

Take Home Points

BE CURIOUS, NOT JUDGMENTAL

REMAIN CURIOUS AND KEEP LEARNING

Your curiosity is your growth point. Always.
Danielle LaPorte
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Complete the session evaluation.

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