

Examples of Educational Planning for a Regularly Scheduled Series: Linking Problems and Results

The ACCME is requiring clearer statements documenting educational planning linking the identification of problems to the CME activity's expected results. Planning includes linked consideration of:

- Target audience
- Problems ("performance gaps") these physicians face
- Educational needs of the target audience relevant to addressing those problems
- Program content and format to meet educational needs
- Expected results (e.g., knowledge, ability to implement, performance, patient outcomes)

The updated UMMS application for CME credit asks for information on each of these topics. The following examples provide an overview of how this information may be linked across topics.

Pediatric Surgery Network Hospital Death and Complications Conference.

- Audience. UM pediatric surgeons
- Problem. Pediatric surgery and associated care can be complex, involving complications and unusual circumstances that increase the likelihood of poor outcomes.
- Educational needs. UM pediatric surgeons need to learn about problems in care, identify how care can be enhanced, and consider how to incorporate enhanced care into routine practice.
- Content & format. For this monthly session cases are chosen from Pediatric Surgery satellite clinics that resulted in death, complications, were misdiagnosed, or had unusual aspects. Case presentations and discussion focus on how these types of cases may be better managed in the future.
- Expected results. The monthly series will result in UM pediatric surgeons better understanding how care can be improved and in the initiation of changes in care that will enhance their performance and the outcomes of their patients.

Internal Medicine Grand Rounds.

- Audience. UM internists and internal medicine subspecialists
- Problem. Ongoing biomedical discoveries are resulting in new methods for all specialties in internal medicine to improve patient care through more accurate diagnosis and improved treatments.
- Educational needs. Internists at UMHS need to be aware of innovations in care and how to translate them into practice.
- Content and format. Three times per month presentations will update participants about innovations relevant to the care provided across the specialties of internal medicine and how to implement these innovations. Once a month a session will review specific cases that illustrate needed improvements in the quality and efficiency of care and consider how those improvements may be achieved.
- Expected results. The educational series will result in participants' increased knowledge of recent developments relevant to the practice of internal medicine and of how to implement that knowledge in ways that improve our performance and the outcomes of our patients.

Emergency Medicine Core Lecture Series.

- Audience. UM Emergency Medicine (EM) physicians and residents
- Problem. EM physicians may sometimes provide care that is less than optimal because they have not recently reviewed current expectations for care across their scope of practice.
- Educational needs. EM physicians need periodically to review current care practices to enhance their recall of practices that remain current and identify new practices that replace previously learned ones.
- Content and format. This four-year series addresses the full spectrum of topics relevant to the practicing emergency medicine physician. This systematic review helps participants retain an active understanding regarding all relevant aspects of practice as well as assure that innovations in care are recognized and incorporated into their approaches to care. The lectures and discussion specifically address practical application of the topics being addressed, helping participants identify ways to incorporate recommendations into their delivery of care.
- Expected results. Participation in the series will result in an up-to-date knowledge of the practice of emergency medicine, better incorporation of that knowledge into the routine delivery of care, enhanced performance, and improved outcomes for patients.