Exploring Health Careers

A Case Study

Approach
How do we engage and involve students in the learning process

- Include students in the planning phase of any event
- Survey their interest areas
- Give them a role to play in the process
Benefits of a Case Study Approach

- Students can tap into prior knowledge
- Students can plan for their patient prior to the event
- Research can be built into the student’s preparation work
- Health professionals can easily prepare for the day
- The format involves an array of disciplines with a single patient/study
Case Study Formats

- Main Areas of Health Care
  - Primary
  - Allied
  - Public
  - Complementary

- Health Care Themes
  - Oral Health & Dental Health Professions
  - Pediatric/Adolescent Health Professions
  - Geriatric Health Professions
  - Business & Technical Health Professions
Key Elements for Case Studies

• **Focus question for each theme**
  – If you are providing health care to an elder population, how does that differ from other areas of health care?
  – Many young people want to work in pediatric medicine. How would you respond to working with a seriously ill child?
  – Why is there an oral health crisis in Boston?
Key Elements

• Information provided to students

• Patient Name, Age, Gender
• Reason for today’s visit
• Brief Medical history
Key Elements

• Information to be provided by student

• Diagnosis
• Treatment recommended
• Medication recommended
• Identify rehabilitation and wellness plan
Key Question specific to patient

- Why would the physician order a blood sample to be drawn from this patient?

- What is the immediate concern if a child in this situation has lips or fingernails with a bluish gray tint?
Development of case studies

Who and How ????

Resources

• Advisory members
• college partners
• school health centers
• public health commission
• community health centers
• health care training organizations
What needs to happen before the event

- Facilitator visits each class
- Students receive their case studies
- Format and cases for the day are reviewed
- Students are assigned to take on the role of a medical intern
- Begin conversation about the patient and how to prepare
What happens during the event

• Facilitators assist students with visits

• Students speak with:
  – Health care providers
  – College students
  – College representative

• Students complete patient records
What happens after the event

• Patient case study presentations
• Focus questions debate
• Disease research project
• Create a Jeopardy game format

• Lunch with health professionals
• Body Systems compare & contrast
• Pictionary/Charades format for health professionals
• Career speakers
Spin off Ideas

- Student develop their own case studies
- Create a person
- Unnatural Causes video series
- Weave throughout term, semester