AHEC Interprofessional Education

PURPOSE OF AHEC INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (IPE)

The WV Area Health Education Center IPE Rotation is a group of interprofessional students working together to address health issues within rural West Virginia communities based on Healthy People 2020 focus areas and objectives.

The focus of the AHEC IPE Rotation is to provide a solid interprofessional training experience focusing on graduate primary care education through a seamless integration of postgraduate and undergraduate health professions training in a community health initiative.

Although voluntary, participants in an AHEC rotation may be eligible for the WV Student/Resident Experiences and Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH) Program, which provides a stipend for work done on the rotation.

Each AHEC IPE Rotation consists of a team of learners that may include:

- Preceptor/mentor
- Primary care resident or osteopathic intern (preferred, but not required) plus
- One or more medical students (osteopathic or allopathic), and
- at least two of the following: nursing or nurse practitioner student, dental student or first year dental resident, PharmD candidate, MPH student, dietetic student, social work student, PA student, physical therapy student, medical technology student and/or one allied health student
- IPE leadership will be determined by the team.

THE AHEC IPE APPROACH

The AHEC IPE researches a community’s needs and selects a Healthy People 2020 Objective(s) they feel addresses one or more of those needs.

As a team, they develop a public health intervention that is service based, prevention-oriented, and community-focused, that will impact the Healthy People 2020 Objective(s) they have selected. Once implemented, the IDT’s intervention is made available for subsequent teams to build upon, use as a reference, or generate new programming, if desired.

In addition, each participant selects personal competency goals from the Pew Health Professions Commission, "Twenty-One Competencies for the Twenty-First Century." Throughout the rotation, AHEC IDT Team members work to improve their chosen competencies.

The AHEC IPE approach emphasizes:

- defining the roles and responsibilities of each member of the team;
- interaction between clinical and community problems; and
- integration of interprofessional training and community service projects
A. AHEC IPE KICKOFF

- Introduce AHEC IPE mission
- Select Healthy People 2020 focus areas
- Assess community data and/or utilize an expert’s presentation
- Define a community health problem

B. AHEC IPE CASE STUDY

- Patient-centered approach to health care, based on selected focus area

C. AHEC IPE CLOSING SESSION

- Interprofessional Team Evaluation, Reflection, and Recommendations for future teams & projects

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**Individual Expectations of AHEC IPE Members**

1) Participate in a team project that is designed to address one of the Healthy People 2020 Objectives. (http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/pdfs/HP2020objectives.pdf).

2) Select personal competency goals from the Pew Health Professions Commission, Twenty-one Competencies for the Twenty-First Century.

3) Help create an AHEC IPE Team Work Plan that will impact your team objectives and develop your chosen competencies.

4) Devote at least two sessions per week to interdisciplinary teamwork. Current technology, such as web conferencing may be utilized.

5) Help create a summary AHEC IPE Team Portfolio which includes:

   A. Healthy People 2020 Objective(s) chosen
   B. Local data that defines your community in relation to the Healthy People 2020 Objective(s)
   C. AHEC IPE Team Work Plan
   D. Minutes of each AHEC IPE Team meeting/presentation/intervention that reflects date, team members participating, and what was done
   E. Team suggestions that future teams could pursue in regards to this objective

6) Complete AHEC IPE evaluation forms, reflections, and feedback on outcomes.