

Interdisciplinary Spotlight Series

Dentistry and the OUHSC IPE Clinical Experience

The Office of Interdisciplinary Programs, and the Interprofessional Educators & Practitioners Association, at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, is hosting the 2018-2019 IPE Clinical Experience at Good Shepherd Clinic in Oklahoma City.

The Clinical Experience



The principle focus of the [OUHSC IPE Clinical Experience](#) is to provide students with an opportunity to reinforce the [IPEC Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice](#). These competencies

are Communication, Roles & Responsibilities, Values & Ethics, and Teams & Teamwork. This is accomplished by creating interprofessional teams of students drawn from 15 different degree tracks to provide team-based, patient-centered care at the [Good Shepherd Clinic](#) (GSC) in Oklahoma City. The GSC is located in the Midtown area and services hundreds of uninsured medical and dental patients from throughout central Oklahoma. The experience meets on Thursday evenings through March.

Dentistry & IPE Clinical Experience

In 2018-2019, 28 students from the College of Dentistry will participate in one of eight teams at the IPE Clinical Experience hosted at GSC. Students will provide dental interventions including evaluations and exams, cleanings, and limited treatments including restorative work and extractions. The experience also features a “Passport” function where dental students and other disciplines will travel through the clinic and have an opportunity to visit and observe other professions in action. The intention is for all disciplines to see dentistry in action while allowing dental students a chance to observe how others provide care. Dental students will also “huddle” with their teams at the beginning of the nightly encounters, and debrief together at the end.

The Division of Community Dentistry

Since its inception in 1972, the [OUHSC College of Dentistry](#) has a tradition of educating and training its students to provide the highest quality of clinical care available. In addition to clinical excellence, the curriculum is designed to prepare well-rounded practitioners who can provide dental care in a variety of clinical settings.



The Division of Community Dentistry, under the leadership of Dr. Dunn Cumby in conjunction with Dr. Karen Luce, has led the charge in creating interprofessional opportunities for students in the Doctor of Dental Surgery and the Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene programs. Both Dr. Cumby and Dr. Karen Luce are supervising dental and dental hygiene students at the clinic.

Success Stories

Dental and dental hygiene students saw three patients at their first clinic meeting on October 11, 2018. Students were able to provide an extraction to a patient in pain, provide a thorough periodontal cleaning to a hygiene patient, and provide a number of fillings to another patient with significant decay. This free dental service saved GSC patients hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars if they had gone to private providers, and assisted GSC in providing care to patients who could otherwise remain on their waitlist for untold periods of time. The work completed in the interprofessional team has a direct impact on patients, their families, and our community as a whole. While we are just getting started with the 2018-2019 IPE Clinical Experience, we can already see the year will be full of success stories!



Invitation to Visit

Faculty are invited to visit the IPE Clinical Experience to observe our student teams in action. Please contact the Assistant Director for Interdisciplinary Programs, Margaret Robinson, to schedule your visit: Margaret-Robinson@ouhsc.edu or (405) 271-5557.